



St. Louis Catholic School

8th Grade Summer Reading 2025

Dear Rising **Eighth Grade** Students,

Congratulations on becoming an eighth grader! I hope that your summer is filled with great adventures and new perspectives.

For summer reading, choose a book from each list and complete the work/project that goes along with that section.

Make sure you read the **YOUNG ADULT** versions where noted. Also, please research and find books from the lists suitable for your family's expectations. You are welcome to email me if you have any questions, but **NO WORK** will be submitted before school starts. You will have time then to ask questions and see examples.

See you in August!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Melissa Priola

mpriola@stlouismemphis.org

Pick **one** of the following books to read and complete the assignment that follows.
Also, please pick something you have not read before!

- Any Arthur Conan Doyle book
- Any Sharon Draper book
- *Any novel by Roland Smith*
- *Any novel by Mike Lupica*
- *The Running Dream* by Wendelin Van Draanen
- *Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie* by Jordan Sonnenblick
- *Ender's Game*-Orson Scott Card
- *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck
- *Jacob Have I Loved* by Katherine Paterson
- *A Wrinkle in Time* by M. L'Engle
- *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry
- *Through My Eyes: A Quarterback's Journey, Young Reader's Edition* by Tim Tebow with Nathan Whitaker
- *Boys Without Names* by Kashmira Sheth
- *White Fang* by Jack London
- *The Contender* - Lipsyte
- *And Then There Were None* -Agatha Christie
- *Salt: A Story of Friendship in a Time of War* by Helen Frost
- *Unbroken (Young Adult Edition)* -Hillenbrand
- *War Horse* - Morpurgo
- *Listening for Lions*- Whelan
- *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* by Avi
- *Boys in the Boat (Young Readers Edition)* by Daniel James Brown
- *I Am Malala : How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World (Young Readers Edition)* - Malala Yousafzai
- *Chasing Lincoln's Killer* - by Swanson
- *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind: Young Readers Edition* by William Kamkwamba

Create a **CHARACTER ALPHABET**.

Choose a character from the story and create sentences based on the alphabet scheme that demonstrate your knowledge of the character/actions he/she faces. You may skip 1 letter if needed. You will turn in a copy to me. You will receive 5 bonus points for a drawn picture that depicts a scene with the character.

Example from The Boy in the Striped Pajamas:

A is for *Auschwitz* where Bruno met Shmuel.

B is for the *banister* Bruno enjoyed sliding down in Berlin.

C is for the concentration camp where Bruno dies.

**The project is worth a QUIZ grade based on creativity and accuracy.
DUE around August 20.**

CHOOSE 1 from this list (something you haven't read before) and complete the ONE-PAGER:

- *Any novel by Tim Green*
- *Any novel by Carl Dueker*
- *Any novel by Alan Gratz*
- *Any novel by Ruta Sepetys*
- *Any novel by Gordon Korman*
- *Any book from Grisham's Theodore Boone Series*
- *Any book from the Hunger Game series*
- *I Will Always Write Back by Martin Ganda, Caitlin Alifirenka, and Liz Welch*
- *Any book from The Chronicles of Narnia Series by C.S. Lewis*
- *A Night Divided by J. Nielsen*
- *The Pigman by Paul Zindel*
- *Winterdance by Gary Paulsen*
- *Treasure Island by RL Stevenson*
- *Dark Water Rising by Hale*
- *Rocket Boys - Homer Hickam*
- *My Louisiana Sky by Holt*
- *Ghost by Reynolds*
- *Counting by 7s by H. Goldberg Sloan*
- *The Hiding Place by Corrie Ten Boom*
- *When You Reach Me by Stead*
- *Esperanza Rising by Pam Muñoz Ryan*
- *Divergent by Veronica Roth*
- *Blooming at the Texas Sunrise Motel by Kimberly Willis Holt*
- *Three Times Lucky by Sheila Turnage*
- *Zebra Forest by Adina Rishe Gewirtz*
- *Into the Killing Seas, The Enemy Above by Michael Spradlin*
- *The Light in Hidden Places by Sharon Cameron*
- *Alex Rider series or by Anthony Horowitz*
- *The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee Stewart*

One-Pager Project

A one-pager is an analytical (organized and detailed), creative, and written response to a novel that completely fills one side of a piece of paper. **For your one-pager, you'll want to focus on the big ideas from the novel including theme, symbolism, and conflict, as well as literary devices and elements.**

Required Details

1. Fill the entire page with color and text. There should not be any blank, white space. (a white background against text is okay.) WRITE IT. No typing.
2. Clearly label each element of your one-pager.
3. Include the title, author, and genre on the paper. You should try to incorporate these elements as creatively as possible.
4. Complete the grid by connecting 3 story elements together (and these 3 will be on the paper as well)

DUE around August 20. You will have time once school starts to ask questions and see examples.

MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOW DIRECTIONS!

Connect Three boxes vertically, horizontally, or diagonally to select your additional 3 required elements. USE MLA FORMAT TO CITE QUOTATIONS (example below).

<p>Quotes: Write 3 meaningful quotes and write at least 2 sentences to explain the significance of each quote. What does it infer, symbolize, suggest, relate to, etc.?</p>	<p>Fig. Lang.: Identify and illustrate 3 examples of figurative language. Each example must include the quote, an illustration, and a one sentence explanation.</p>	<p>Images: Draw 3 images that represent the book (theme, symbols, characters, or conflicts within the book). Label each image. Write at least 2 sentences to explain why this symbol is significant.</p>
<p>Images: Draw 3 images that represent the book (theme, symbols, characters, or conflicts within the book). Label each image. Write at least 2 sentences to explain why this symbol is significant.</p>	<p>Timeline: Create a timeline with 10 critical events. The timeline must be linear or follow the plot diagram. Each event must be a complete sentence.</p>	<p>Quotes: Write 3 meaningful quotes and write at least 2 sentences to explain the significance of each quote. What does it infer, symbolize, suggest, relate to, etc.?</p>
<p>Setting: Illustrate a setting from the book. The illustration must be accurate, detailed, and in full-color. Provide 3 quotes from the book to support the illustration.</p>	<p>Quotes: Write 3 meaningful quotes and write at least 2 sentences to explain the significance of each quote. What does it infer, symbolize, suggest, relate to, etc.?</p>	<p>COMIC STRIP: create a comic strip with at least 6 frames and have a caption for each. It should show a significant scene or a sequence of events.</p>

ACCURACY, NEATNESS, AND CREATIVITY MATTER!
FOLLOW DIRECTIONS!

ONE-PAGER BRAINSTORMING CHECKLIST

Use this paper as a checklist to make sure you have every element complete

REQUIRED ELEMENTS:

- ☐ The **entire page** is filled with color, images, or text
- ☐ **Every element** is clearly and neatly labeled
- ☐ My one-pager includes the **title, author, and genre**
- ☐ All of my quotes are properly cited in **MLA Format**. "quote" (Author's last name pg. no).
Example: (Smith 120).
- ☐ I included 3 elements of story options from the Connect Three board.
- ☐ My **handwriting** is neat and legible

ONE-PAGER RUBRIC

Name: _____

REQUIREMENTS	ADVANCED	PROFICIENT	ALMOST	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT
Title, author, and genre	5 All elements are present, correct, and creative.	4 All elements are present and correct.	3 One element may be missing or incorrect.	0-2 Multiple errors or not present.
Images	15 The images are labeled, detailed, thorough, and relate to the novel.	12 The images are labeled, detailed, and relate to the novel.	9 The images are labeled and relate to the novel.	0-6 There are no images or they are not related.
Elements of Story	20 All 3 elements show analysis, creativity, & insight.	16 All elements of the are present.	12 The elements are lacking depth or clarity.	0-8 Elements of Story are missing. .
Assignment Requirements	5 All aspects are labeled. There is no excess white space.	4 All aspects labeled. There is no white space.	3 Missing labels. No white space.	0-2 White space. Project seems rushed.
Mechanics	10 No grammar, spelling, or convention errors	8 1-2 minor grammar, spelling, or convention errors.	6 Several grammar, spelling, or convention errors.	0-4 Grammar, spelling, or convention errors detract from the project.
Creativity and Effort	10 Superb!	8 Above average	6 Adequate	0-4 Needs improvement
TOTAL POINTS _____ _____/65	Comments			