



St. Louis Catholic School 8th Grade Summer Reading 2026

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

YOU WILL COMPLETE 2 PROJECTS and 2 BOOKS.

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*
- *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
- *Through My Eyes: A Quarterback's Journey, Young Reader's Edition* by Tim Tebow with Nathan Whitaker
- *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

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)**

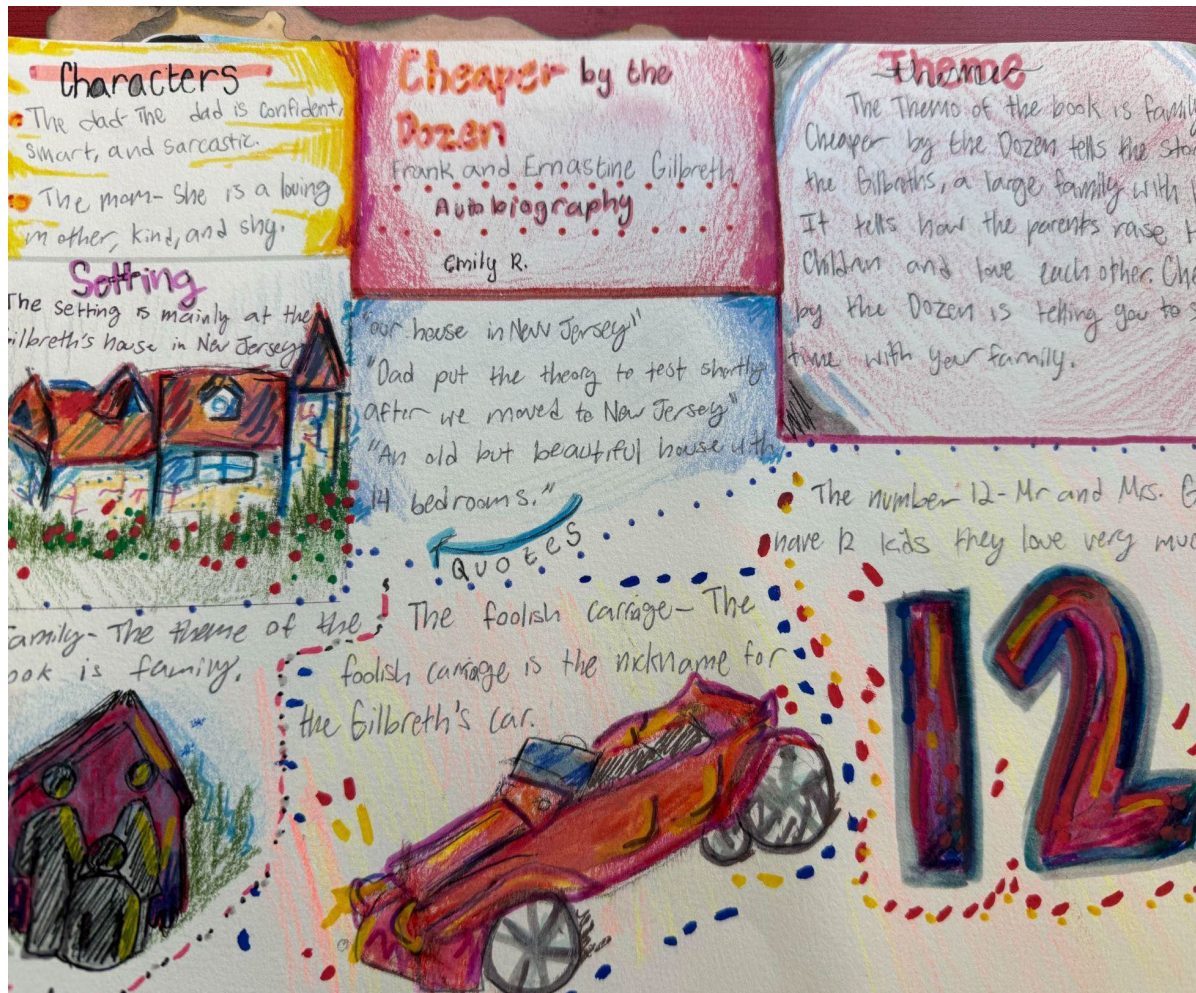
Connect Three boxes vertically, horizontally, or diagonally to select your additional 3 required elements. USE MLA FORMAT TO CITE QUOTATIONS (example below).

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.?	Fig. Lang.: Identify and illustrate 3 examples of figurative language. Each example must include the quote, an illustration, and a one sentence explanation.	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.
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.	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.	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.?
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.	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.?	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.

DUE around August 20. You will have time once school starts to ask questions and see more examples. MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOW DIRECTIONS!

Copy paper size

EXAMPLE below may have different elements than the ones you have, but it is basically the same.



ACCURACY, NEATNESS, and CREATIVITY MATTER!
FOLLOW DIRECTIONS!

One-Page 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 (required elements PLUS your chosen)
- My one-page includes the **title (underlined), 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

SECOND PROJECT:

CHOOSE 1 from the list (**something you haven't read before**) and complete a character ALPHABET:

Create a WRITTEN - not TYPED -CHARACTER ALPHABET.

Choose a **character** from the story and create sentences based on the alphabet scheme that demonstrate your knowledge of the character/actions that he/she faces.

You may skip 1 letter if needed.

Make sure you include the author and title (underlined)

It needs to include a drawn picture that depicts a symbol from the plot/theme. Use copy paper for this element. Pick 3 passages from the book to support your interpretation and write those on the paper.

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.

- Any novel by Tim Green
- 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
- *A Night Divided* by J. Nielsen
- *WinterDance* by Gary Paulsen
- *Treasure Island* by RL Stevenson
- *Dark Water Rising* by Hale
- *Rocket Boys* - Homer Hickam ** (higher level reading)
- *My Louisiana Sky* by Holt
- *Ghost* by Reynolds
- *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 Rische 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