



CSS Summer Reading 2010 – 7th and 8th Grade

CSS Students and Parents,

This packet outlines summer reading books for each grade level and course, and the accompanying assignment for each novel. (Most teachers have assigned Chapter Reading Notes, the directions for which you can find below). If you have questions about your summer reading assignment please contact the teacher who assigned that novel. PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE ARE 3 PAGES TO THIS!

I. Chapter Reading Notes:

- Your chapter notes should be about 2-3 pages in total length MAXIMUM. Note that we are not requiring 2-3 pages per chapter, but in total.
- Take brief notes for every chapter.
 - Record the chapter number and title, and underline them.
 - Write your notes after each Ch. # and title.
 - Write about 2-3 lines of notes per chapter. This, however, will vary depending on the number of chapters in a given novel.
- Your notes should:
 - Make predictions. (Prediction Questions: What do you think is going to happen to a given character or group in the next chapter? by the end of the book?)
 - Observe changes in characters, setting or plot/conflict. (Observation Questions: How would you describe or characterize this change? Is it good or bad? Why?)
 - Make connections. (Connection Questions: Can you relate to a setting or character or event? Is like something in a book you have read? How is a setting/character/event like something or someone from your life? From another book?)
- General tip: **First**, As you are reading the novel and finish each chapter, pause to write brief chapter notes. Definitely do *not* wait to complete these notes after you have finished the novel. (Then your prediction won't be genuine!) **Second**, try to make predictions, observations and connections *throughout* the book. You do not have to have one prediction, one observation and one connection per chapter, but if that format works for you, go for it! Do try to have all three in over the course of a few chapters.
- Please note: Some teachers may grade these chapter notes by evaluating your effort and the degree to which you completed the task. Other teachers may grade both your effort and completion AND grade the quality of your predictions, observations and connections. In this case, teachers will evaluate the extent to which you answered the Prediction Questions, Observation Questions and Connection Questions listed above in parentheses.

II. 7th Grade Novels and Instructions

This summer please read the following novels for your 7th grade classes. You can take these books out from your local library, purchase them, or ask an older student to borrow their copy.

- **ELA:** *The Giver* by Lois Lowry (ISBN: 0440237688)
 - Professor Ng: dariang@columbiasecondary.org
- **Social Studies:** Choose a novel from the list of "Revolutionary War fiction for Older Readers" compiled by the Madison Public Library. See the list at the end of this packet.
 - Professor Swan: megswan@columbiasecondary.org / Professor Terranova: kimterranova@columbiasecondary.org
- **Science:** *Never Cry Wolf* by Farley Mowat
 - Professor Novak: dannovak@columbiasecondary.org
- **Math:** Choose either novel. We recommend the first novel for girls and the second for boys, but choose either.
 - *Math Doesn't Suck*, Danica McKellar (ISBN: 0452289491)
 - *Why Do Buses Come in Threes?* Rob Eastaway (ISBN: 0471379077)

Instructions:

- For all subjects, take Chapter Reading Notes WHILE reading the novels. See instructions for Chapter Reading Notes on page 1 of this packet.



III. 8th Grade Novels and Instructions:

This summer please read the following novels for your 8th grade classes. You can take these books out from your local library, purchase them, or ask an older student to borrow their copy.

8th Grade Novels:

1. **ELA:** *Lord of the Flies*, William Golding ISBN: 0141800968
2. **Social Studies:** Choose a novel from the list of "Revolutionary War fiction for Older Readers" compiled by the Madison Public Library. See the list at the end of this packet. ¹
Professor Terranova: kimterranova@columbiasecondary.org
3. **Science:** Choose one of the following books –
 - a. *Water Wars: Drought, Flood, Folly and the Politics of Thirst* by Diane Ward
 - b. *Longitude* by Dava Sobel
 - c. *Science in Ancient India* by Melissa Stewart (This is a general book on all of the sciences and how they got their starts in ancient India)
 - d. *A Perfect Storm: A True Story of Men Against the Sea* by Sebastian JungerProfessor Russell: johnrussell@columbiasecondary.org
4. **Math:** Choose one of the following books –
 - a. *Kiss My Math* by Danica Mckeller (ISBN: 1594630496)
 - b. *The Numbers Devil* by Hans Magnus Enzensberger (ISBN: 0805062998)
 - c. *The Joy of Mathematics* by Theoni Pappas (ISBN: 0933174659)

Instructions:

- For all subjects, take Chapter Reading Notes WHILE reading the novels. See instructions for Chapter Reading Notes on page 1 of this packet.

¹ This year, the 7th and 8th grade students are both reading Revolutionary War Era novels because the incoming 8th grade has only had 1 semester of US History. For the academic year 2011 - 2012 incoming 8th grade students will read novels about the World Wars.



IV. Social Studies Book List: 7th and 8th Grade students should choose one book from this list to read for their Social Studies courses. Take Chapter Reading NOTES.

Revolutionary War Era Fiction for Older Readers

1. **Cast Two Shadows** by Ann Rinaldi. Harcourt Brace, 1998. In South Carolina in 1780, fourteen-year-old Caroline sees the Revolutionary War take a terrible toll among her family and friends and comes to understand the true nature of war.
2. **An Enemy Among Them** by Deborah H. DeFord. Houghton Mifflin, 1987. A young Hessian soldier questions his loyalty to his king after fighting with the British in America during the Revolutionary War and spending time as a prisoner in the home of a German American family from Pennsylvania.
3. **The Fighting Ground** by Avi. Lippincott, 1984. Thirteen-year-old Jonathan goes off to fight in the Revolutionary War and discovers the real war is being fought within himself.
4. **Guns for General Washington: a Story of the American Revolution** by Seymour Reit. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1990. Frustrated with life under siege in George Washington's army, nineteen-year-old Will Knox and his brother Colonel Henry Knox undertake the task of moving 183 cannons from Fort Ticonderoga to Boston in the dead of winter.
5. **Johnny Tremain** by Esther Forbes. Houghton Mifflin, 1943. A fourteen year-old silversmith apprentice finds himself tragically injured and fighting in the Revolutionary war. Newbery Award Winner.
6. **Mary Alice Peale, Philadelphia, 1777** by Kathleen Duey. Aladdin Paperbacks, 1996. When her wounded brother returns from battle, twelve-year-old Mary must get help for him without telling her father, a wealthy Tory, who has disowned his son for joining General Washington's Continental Army.
7. **A Message for General Washington** by Vivian Schurfranz. Silver Moon Press, 1998. Twelve-year-old Hannah accepts the challenge of sneaking behind enemy lines to deliver a message to General Washington which will result in the British surrender at Yorktown.
8. **My Brother Sam is Dead** by James Lincoln Collier. Four Winds Press, 1974. Recounts the tragedy that strikes the Meeker family during the Revolution when one son joins the rebel forces while the rest of the family tries to stay neutral in a Tory town.
9. **Night Raiders Along the Cape** by John F. Waters. Silver Moon Press, 1997. When British raids off the coast of New England become more frequent, young Asa must row through the night to warn his friends on the Massachusetts coast of an impending attack.
10. **The Rifle** by Gary Paulsen. Harcourt Brace, 1995. A priceless, hand-crafted rifle, fired throughout the American Revolution, is passed down through the years until it fires on a fateful Christmas Eve of 1994.
11. **Sarah Bishop** by Scott O'Dell. Houghton Mifflin, 1980. Left alone after the deaths of her father and brother who take opposite sides in the War for Independence, and fleeing from the British who seek to arrest her, Sarah Bishop struggles to shape a new life for herself in the wilderness.
12. **Saratoga Secret** by Betsy Sterman. Dial Books for Young Readers, 1998. In 1777, as General Burgoyne and his British troops invade the Upper Hudson River Valley, sixteen-year-old Amity must carry a secret message to the Continental army to give warning of an impending attack.
13. **The Secret of Sarah Revere** by Ann Rinaldi. Harcourt Brace, 1995. Paul Revere's daughter describes her father's "rides" and the intelligence network of the patriot community prior to the American Revolution.
14. **Thomas** by Bonnie Pryor. Morrow Junior Books, 1998. In the early years of the Revolutionary War, eleven-year-old Thomas and his family escape a bloody massacre at Wyoming Valley and endure innumerable hardships as they try to make their way to Philadelphia.