

Academy Summer Reading Project

In order to better prepare our students academically, we are incorporating a summer reading program to encourage reading and enhance language arts skills. Students will select a single book from the Children's Book Award Nominee List. Each grade level will have a specific plan to complete over the summer. The assignments will be due the first week of school next fall. This information will be posted on our school website by June 1, 2009.

Children's Book Award Nominees for 2009-2010

Recommended for the Lower Grades 4-5

Saving the Griffin by K. W. Nitz

Trading Places by C. Mills

Recommended for the Upper Grades 7-8

Uprising by M.P. Haddix

The Wednesday Wars by G. D. Schmidt

Possibly for All Grades 4-8

Bearwalker by J. Bruchac

Billy Creekmore by T. Porter

Deep and Dark and Dangerous by M. D. Hahn

Do the Math by W. Lichtman

The Entertainer and the Dybbuk by S. Fleischman

Feathers by J. Woodson

Football Genius by T. Green

Greetings From Nowhere by B. O'Connor

Hiroshima Dreams by K. Easton

Leepike Ridge by N. D. Wilson

The Puzzling World of Winston Breen by E. Berlin

The Rising Star of Rusty Nail by L. M. M. Blume

Someone Named Eva by J. M. Wolf

The Sorta Sisters by A. Fogelin

The Very Ordered Existence of Merilee Marvelous by S. C. Crowley

*Strong Rock Christian School does not necessarily endorse all the contents of these books or any book in the Strong Rock Christian School Library/Media Center. It is understood that to meet academic standards and to provide books of various fields of research and contents, Strong Rock Christian School must of necessity have many books of different types. The position of Strong Rock Christian School is well understood to be in strict adherence to the doctrines and principles taught in the Holy Scriptures.

Upcoming Fifth Grade Requirements

Read one book from the list and choose one of the approved activities. Turn this in the first week of school and receive a reward from your teacher. This project will not be counted as a part of the Language Arts grade for you this year.

Upcoming Sixth Grade Requirements

Read one book from the list and choose three different activities from the list of approved activities. Turn these in the first week of school. This will be counted as a part of your Language Arts grade.

Upcoming Seventh Grade Requirements

Read one book from the list and choose three activities from the list of approved activities. There is one required activity in addition to these three. All four activities will be due the first week of school. This will be counted as a part of your Language Arts grade this year.

*Required Activity: Make a dictionary of 20 or more difficult words from the book. Write the word, the page number where it was found in the book, the definition of the word, and an illustration.

Upcoming Eight Grade Requirements

Read one book from the list and choose three activities from the list of approved activities. There is one required activity in addition to these three. All four activities will be due the first week of school. This will be counted as a part of your Language Arts grade this year.

*Required Activity: Find at least ten examples of figurative language in your book. Write the term, the page number it was found in the book, the figurative language example, and a sentence giving the interpretation of the figurative language usage. (Ex. Metaphor, page 16, "The princess is a shining jewel, and her father is a raging bull." This means the princess is beautiful and precious and her father is very quick to anger.)

Approved Activities for grades 4-8

1. Write a letter from one character to another character.
2. Write a new conclusion or ending to the book.
3. Make a book jacket with an original blurb on the back to entice a reader to want to read this book.
4. Draw a comic book page complete with bubble-style conversations showing an event or incident in your book.
5. Make a poster advertising your book.
6. Make a travel brochure inviting tourists to visit the setting of the book. What types of activities would there be for them to attend?
7. Make a mobile showing pictures or symbols of happenings in the book.
8. Write a song or poem for your story. (Extra points if performed in class)
9. Video tape an interview with one of the characters in the book you read. Pretend that the character is being interviewed by a magazine or news reporter. You may do this project with a partner, but be sure to write out a script before taping. You will need to turn this script in with your video. (If you choose this activity, it will count as two activities)
10. Make a paper doll likeness of one of the characters in the book you read. Design at least three costumes for the character. Next, write a paragraph commenting on each outfit, tell what the clothing reflects about the character, the historical period, and events in the book.
11. Choose an interesting character from your book. Consider the character's personality, likes, and dislikes. Decide on a gift for him or her...something he or she would really like and use. Design a

greeting card to go along with your gift. In the greeting, explain to your friend from the book why you selected that gift.

12. Make ID cards which belong to the main characters. Be sure to make the cards look like the cards for that particular state. Include a picture and all information found on an ID card. Don't forget the signature. You may research to see what ID cards or Driver's licenses look like.
13. Rewrite the story as a picture book. Use simple vocabulary so that it may be enjoyed by younger readers.
14. If a journey was involved, draw a map with explanatory notes of significant places.
15. Create a diary for the main character. Write about three or four major events in the story as if you were involved in these events as the main character.
16. Create a board game based on events and characters in the book you read. By playing your game, members of the class should learn what happened in the book. Your game should include the following: a game board, a rule sheet, and clear directions, events and characters from the story. (If you choose this activity, it will count as two activities.)
17. Make a powerpoint presentation that tells the title, author, main characters, setting, and plot of your book. Be sure to have at least ten slides.
18. Make a crossword puzzle using ideas and vocabulary from your book. Must have at least 25 entries.
19. Design and make the front page of a newspaper using the material from your book.

20. Make a test for your book. Include 10 true/false, 10 multiple choice, and 10 short answer or essay questions. After writing the test, be sure to provide the answers for each of your questions.