

MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS 2011

You will be reading TWO (2) books this summer and completing assignments which will be graded as soon as you return to school in the fall. One book is assigned and the other is a book you select from the list below.

If you have ANY questions concerning the assignment, please contact me:

Lori DeVault at ldevault@tcsww.org or 304.288.8339. Thanks!

FIRST ASSIGNMENT

REDWALL BY BRIAN JACQUES

Redwall is a big book about a small mouse. Please allow ample time to finish this book. It is a GREAT read, though, and one sure to please. Your assignment for this book is as follows:

After reading *REDWALL*, write a friendly letter to your teacher, indicating that you have read the book. This letter is to be turned in to your English teacher on the first day of school.

Include the following in your letter:

- 1st paragraph: write a short introduction, including your name, a few facts about yourself, what you have done over the summer, and the date you completed the book.
- 2nd paragraph: state the title and author of the book and a description of one or two of the main characters.
- 3rd paragraph: discuss the setting and summarize the plot of the story.
- 4th paragraph: rate the book from 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest rating. State your reasons for the rating.
- 5th paragraph: closing

SECOND ASSIGNMENT

READ ONE (1) BOOK FROM THIS LIST THEN COMPLETE THE ASSIGNMENT THAT FOLLOWS

WHERE THE LILIES BLOOM BY VERA CLEAVER

In the Great Smoky Mountain region, a fourteen-year-old girl struggles to keep her family together after their father dies.

ZLATA'S DIARY BY ZLATA FILIPOVICH

A young girl from Sarajevo writes her diary during the turmoil in her country.

CALL OF THE WILD BY JACK LONDON

The classic survival story of a dog stolen from his California home and made to work as a sled dog during the Alaskan gold rush.

BUD, NOT BUDDY BY CHRISTOPHER PAUL CURTIS

Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Michigan during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes is his father—the renowned band leader H.E. (Cab) Calloway.

THE BREADWINNER BY DEBORAH ELLIS

Eleven-year-old Parvana struggles to support her family by disguising herself as a boy in Taliban-controlled Afghanistan.

A FACE FIRST BY PRISCILLA CUMMINGS

Kelly was horribly burned in an accident in the car driven by her mother. This novel provides a glimpse into the rehabilitation process for burn victims.

AMONG THE HIDDEN BY MARGARET PETERSON HADDIX

Luke is the third child in a world where the Population Police ruled that each family only allowed two children and they enforce this law with deadly force. Luke's existence puts his entire family at risk.

THE CLAY MARBLE BY MINGFONG HO

A communist group, the Khmer Rouge, takes control of Cambodia in the 1970's and treat the people with great brutality.

CHINESE CINDERELLA BY ADELINE YEN MAH

Adeline is the fifth child born to an affluent Chinese family. Her mother dies from complications of childbirth shortly after Adeline is born. In the Chinese culture, this marks her as cursed or bad luck. Her father then marries a lady who has little affection for her husband's children.

JOURNEY TO TOPAZ BY YOSHIKO UCHIDA

Eleven-year-old Yuki and her family are sent to an internment camp for Japanese Americans during World War II. She must adjust to cramped living conditions, unappealing food, and the harsh desert weather.

UGLIES BY SCOTT WESTERFIELD

A world in which a compulsory operation at sixteen wipes out all physical differences and makes everyone pretty by conforming to an ideal standard of beauty.

ASSIGNMENT—PART 1

1. Choose at least FIVE words from the book you read that were challenging or unfamiliar to you.
2. Write out each word and the sentence in which it was used in the book. Underline the word and note the page numbers at the end of each sentence.
3. Look up each word and write the definition.
4. Use each word correctly in a sentence.

EXAMPLE

Ornate

But as Peaches pointed out, it was a highway man's horse, with a very ornate saddle and bridle. Trying to sell it here could be dangerous. (pg. 26)

Dictionary Definition: ornate—elaborately or sumptuously adorned, excessively or showily

Original sentence: Her wedding dress was beautiful and ornate with its pearls and lace.

ASSIGNMENT—PART 2

Once you have completed the vocabulary assignment, write a good paragraph rating the book that you read. This paragraph is to include your personal rating of the book, from 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest. Explain your reasons for this rating.

SUMMER READING CONTEST

I know many of you read a TON of books over the summer! I want everyone to relax with a good read by the pool and get credit for it! That's why we host the Summer Reading Contest. Simply fill out the chart below and bring it to school on the first day. We'll see who has read the most book and the most pages in each grade! There will be awesome prizes! And don't forget EVERYONE can enter, because EVERYONE has to read at least two (2) books this summer!

