



Dear Parents of Rising 7th and Rising 8th Graders!

Here are the Summer Reading Assignments for the 2019-2020 School Year – Rising 7th and Rising 8th

(Two assigned books with a project or essay for each, **plus** one book of student's choice from approved reading list on <http://www.reading-rewards.com/>)

6 th Grade-Rising 7 th Grade (all students)		7 th Grade-Rising 8 th Grade (all students)
<p>ASSIGNED BOOK: <i>The Wednesday Wars</i> by Gary Schmidt (historical fiction, contemporary); book will be provided but must be returned in the fall.</p> <p>WRITING PROJECT: ESSAY on what is YOUR Wednesday War, three paragraphs, intro-body-conclusion, typed, double-spaced, proper heading (see rubric)</p>		<p>ASSIGNED BOOK: <i>Rebound</i> by Kwame Alexander (realistic fiction, novel told in verse, contemporary); book will be provided but must be returned in the fall.</p> <p>WRITING PROJECT: ESSAY on comparing and contrasting <i>Rebound</i> to <i>The Crossover</i>, three paragraphs, intro-body-conclusion, typed, double-spaced, proper heading (see rubric)</p>
6 th Grade-Rising 7 th Grade (all students)		7 th Grade-Rising 8 th Grade (all students)
<p>ASSIGNED BOOK: <i>The Old Man and the Sea</i> by Ernest Hemingway (historical fiction, parable, adventure, classic); book must be purchased (used or new).</p> <p>CREATIVE PROJECT: TRAVEL BROCHURE (6-panel, 8-1/2x11 landscape, trifold) on Havana, Cuba, featuring deep sea fishing (see rubric)</p>		<p>ASSIGNED BOOK: <i>The Pearl</i> by John Steinbeck (historical fiction, parable, classic); book must be purchased (used or new).</p> <p>CREATIVE PROJECT: TRAVEL BROCHURE (6-panel, 8-1/2x11 landscape, trifold) on La Paz, Mexico, featuring pearl diving (see rubric)</p>
<p>For all Rising 7th and Rising 8th Grade Students: One additional book of your choice from the required reading list on http://www.reading-rewards.com/.</p>		

Any questions over the summer regarding these projects or the reading assignments may be e-mailed to Mrs. Ardillo at michelle.ardillo@stjuderockville.org. I will be checking my email regularly! Have a great summer, and remember, read-read-read!!!

MRS. ARDILLO/MIDDLE SCHOOL LANGUAGE ARTS
SUMMER 2019 READING ASSIGNMENTS Rising 7th Graders

Why read? Some people read for pleasure, some people read to experience new things. Some people read because reading will increase your vocabulary and reinforce the grammar and punctuation you learn in English class. A broader vocabulary and better grammar and punctuation will make you a better writer. Better writing skills will improve your grades in all subjects. So, the question really is “Why not read?”

There are two required books for 7th grade and one assignment for each. All assignments are due on the first day of school. The essay will be graded as “essay”, weighted at 20%. The travel brochure will be graded as “homework”, weighted at 10%. Rubrics for all summer work are attached and may be found on the school’s website.

RISING 7TH GRADERS: *You will be given a copy of **The Wednesday Wars** to use over the summer and in the fall as a class novel. You will have to purchase a copy of **The Old Man and the Sea**. You will need it in the fall as a class novel as well. If you use a library book to read one of these, you will have to check it out again when we study the book in class. You may purchase these books on your e-reader and use that at school when we discuss the books. There are also several very good used book stores in the Rockville/Silver Spring/Gaithersburg area where these books can usually be purchased for a very low price.*

The Wednesday Wars by Gary D. Schmidt (272 pages)

ESSAY: Read the book, and then write a one-page, three-paragraph, **personal narrative** essay (**non-fiction, in first person**) about the school subject that would be your own “Wednesday War” instead of the Shakespeare lessons in the book. (Maybe you would feel that it would be “war” to have an extra period of a different subject on Wednesday instead of literature as does the character in the book. For me, I would write about how having an extra period of math would be my “Wednesday War”.) This is not a book report or summary of the book; it is an essay based upon what school subject you would most hate to have an extra period of each Wednesday and why. This not a short story or a made-up story. You must select one **REAL** school subject from 6th grade to write about as your Wednesday War. Your paper must be typed with proper middle school heading and format. It should be written in first person. It should have a title, an introduction, one body paragraph, and a conclusion. Put the “word count” at the bottom of your last page on the left hand margin. For example: (325 words).

The Old Man and the Sea by Ernest Hemingway (approximately 127 pages)

DISPLAY: Make a travel brochure advertising Cuba as a tourist destination. Use a piece of white printer paper “landscape” (hotdog) and fold it like a brochure, a tri-fold brochure. This will give you six panels (front and back of the paper) to use for different aspects of visiting the island of Cuba: food, weather, religion, accommodations, culture or sports, etc. **Deep sea fishing must be featured on one of the panels of your brochure.** Include clip art, clippings from magazines or your own drawings to create your travel brochure. You must cite on the back of your brochure any copyrighted material that you “borrow” from the internet, both photos and text. Be creative! **These will be displayed in the hallway for Back to School Night in the fall.** For any written parts, you can write it neatly or type it on the computer, print it out and cut it to fit on your brochure. Be creative!

<p>THESE ASSIGNMENTS ARE MY WORK AND MY WORK ALONE. I DID NOT RECEIVE HELP WITH THESE PROJECTS. I DID NOT GIVE HELP TO ANOTHER STUDENT ON THESE PROJECTS.</p>	
<p>_____</p> <p>STUDENT SIGNATURE</p>	<p>_____</p> <p>PARENT SIGNATURE</p>

Any questions over the summer regarding these projects or the reading assignments may be e-mailed to Mrs. Ardillo at michelle.ardillo@stjuderockville.org. I will be checking my email regularly! Have a great summer, and remember, read-read-read!!!

DATE: _____
7TH LITERATURE/MRS. ARDILLO

NAME/CLASS: _____
RUBRIC/2019 SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS

The Wednesday Wars by Gary D. Schmidt

PERSONAL NARRATIVE THREE PARAGRAPH ESSAY (20%-ESSAY GRADE)

_____/1 Formatting: proper middle school heading, proper format, catchy title, word count displayed at bottom left hand margin of last page-for example like this: (325 words)

_____/2 Introduction: non-fiction personal narrative, creativity, strong intro with “hook” first sentence, thesis statement stating topic and writer’s position/argument (your school subject “Wednesday War” clearly identified). This must be an actual school subject that you had in 6th grade.

_____/3 Body paragraph with supporting details, comparison of your school subject “Wednesday War” to the character (Holling Hoodhood) in novel. You must mention Holling and English as his “War”. You must have at least three details from the novel.

_____/1 Conclusion: strong conclusion restating thesis in a different way, resolving argument, wrapping up paper nothing new introduced, reflecting back on writer’s perspective

_____/1 Proofreading: grammar, punctuation, spelling

_____/2 Sentence structure: in first person, grade level sentence structure displaying varied sentences, descriptive writing, good transitions, flow of paper between paragraphs, correct and consistent use of tense

_____/10 Total Points

The Old Man and the Sea by Ernest Hemingway

TRAVEL BROCHURE (10%-HOMEWORK GRADE)

_____/2 Creativity

_____/3 Graphics/photographs/drawings: at least two graphic images per panel (6 panels)

_____/1 Panel 1: Deep sea fishing

_____/1 Panel 2: Weather

_____/1 Panel 3: Food

_____/1 Panel 4: Accommodations (where to stay, hotels, Airbnb, rentals, resorts, etc.)

_____/1 Panel 5: Religion

_____/1 Panel 6: Sports or Arts (theatre, concerts, museums, cultural activities, etc.)

_____/1 Accurate information for Havana, Cuba, for 2019, with sources listed on separate sheet

_____/1 Size of brochure is normal 8-1/2 x 11 white printer paper, (folded hotdog) tri-fold brochure style with six panels, each panel with a different aspect of travel to Havana, Cuba. 1 point deduction for out-sized paper or paper not folded (hotdog) brochure-style.

_____/2 Neatness, spelling, punctuation, grammar, with sources listed on separate sheet

_____/15 Total Points

PLEASE NOTE: DEDUCTION OF 1 POINT PER PROJECT for not:

(1) writing honor code on project

(2) turning in list of sources (be sure your list has proper heading) used for ideas, text, or graphics (this is **plagiarism** if you use someone else’s materials and don’t list them as a source, projects with evidence of plagiarism will earn a zero as a grade)

(3) including this rubric with your projects

PROJECTS ARE DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. Late projects will get a 10% deduction per day the project is late.

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