

Summer Reading Projects!

Directions:

7th Grade:

1. Restart by Gordon Korman- Pick one of the options below to complete once you have finished reading. Projects are due on the first day of school.
2. Stargirl by Jerri Spinelli- Read carefully and take notes to help you follow along. There will be a short discussion in class followed by a test during the first week of school.
3. Free Read- Once you have read your free book of choice, pick one of the options below to complete. Do not complete the same project that you picked for Restart. Make sure you are completing a different book project. Projects are due on the first day of school. Be prepared to share your project during class!

8th Grade:

1. Absolutely Almost by Lisa Graff- Pick one of the options below to complete once you have finished reading. Projects are due on the first day of school.
2. Falling Over Sideways by Jordan Sonnenblick- Read carefully and take notes to help you follow along. There will be a short discussion in class followed by a test during the first week of school.
3. Free Read- Once you have read your free book of choice, pick one of the options below to complete. Do not complete the same project that you picked for Absolutely Almost. Make sure you are completing a different book project. Projects are due on the first day of school. Be prepared to share your project during class!

Design a New Book Cover

You are to design a new book cover for the novel you have read. Your main task is to make the book look attractive in order to attract readers! You can either draw it or design it using a computer. You CANNOT simply print the novel's actual cover page and submit it.

Your new design must include:

- The title of the novel
- The Author's name –
- “Cover designed by (your name)”
- Include a quote from the book that you think is most eye catching
- A review written by you on the back cover. Use some type of rating system (5 stars, scale of 1-10, etc.)
- On the inside of the book cover, write a short summary (5-8) sentences of your book
- Your cover design must include a picture of at least one of these things: the main character, other characters, an important word or more than one word besides the title, a symbol, an animal, the setting, etc. It MUST be RELEVANT
- BE CREATIVE!

Book Advertisement

You will write a speech about your novel, which you will present to the class. The speech must “sell” the book. Think of this project as writing a commercial for your book. You must write a minimum of three paragraphs (5-8 sentences each paragraph, excluding the conclusion). You must hand in the writing assignment. It must be typed (12-point font, double-spaced). Your actual speech should be about 2-4 minutes.

You must include the following:

- A Title for your Speech
- **Introduction** (This should be exciting): Find an original way to introduce your novel (This could be a question)
- State the book title and author
- State the genre, publisher, and publication date
- Why is this a good read
- **Body Paragraph:** Write a brief summary of the novel without giving away the ending but saying just enough to make the audience want to read it
- Make sure to include the theme, setting, and plot
- Describe the main character(s)
- Describe your favorite part
- Write about what you learned from this book
- State who you would recommend it to and why
- **Conclusion:** This only needs to be 1-2 sentences. Make a final statement about why this book is a great read. Remind the audience about what they have to gain from reading this book. Think of this part as your last chance to “sell” the book to the audience.

Letter to the Author

Write a letter to the author that includes two well-developed paragraphs.

In the first paragraph, explain what you liked about the book. Be specific!! Include your favorite quote and explain why this quote has significance in your eyes.

In the second paragraph, make connections to the characters, their experiences, etc. Think about what you took away from the characters or plot in general. What impacted you, what moved you, what did you learn? Develop each paragraph into 5-8 sentences.

In the third paragraph, provide a special message to the author about your overall opinion of their book. How has this book prepared you for the school year ahead?

Remember the proper format of a letter. Your letter must include:

- A letter head
- “Dear (author’s name)”
- “From (Your name)”
- Pay attention to spelling and grammar

**Do you want to mail the author your letter? See if the author has a web site with contact information, or try the author's publishing company found in the front of the book. However, only mail the letter once you have brought it to school!

Talk Show Interview

You are now the host of your very own talk show. You have been assigned the role to interview one character of your choice from your book. The character can be the main character or a supporting role. Your interview needs to be typed. Remember that an interview is set up between two people, the host (you) asks a question and the character answers. See example below. Your interview with your character needs to include the following:

- Introduction to the book and your character, including title and author
- Tell whether or not this character is the protagonist or the antagonist
- A short synopsis of the book, including the role of the character being interviewed
- A personal story about the character (this is usually when a person being interviewed tells viewers a detail about themselves)
- Ask your character what their favorite part of the book was, and follow up with your favorite part of the book
- Ask your character 3 additional questions of your choice. Make sure these are underlined in your interview so that I can tell these are additional questions. You may ask more than 3

Example:

Ms. Tripp: Hello everyone, today we are going to be interviewing Harry Potter from Harry Potter and the Sorcier's Stone by JK. Rowling. Welcome Harry.

Harry Potter: Welcome Ms. Tripp, thank you so much for having me on the show today.