



## Middle School Summer Reading List 2010

### Grade 6

Summer of the Monkeys Wilson Rawls

The Great Wide Sea M.H. Herlong (great supporting website [www.thegreatwidesea.com](http://www.thegreatwidesea.com))

**Sixth Grade Summer Reading Project** for Summer of the Monkeys:

**Choose one** of the following projects to complete for Summer of the Monkeys. This project is due on Monday, August 16. If you have any questions, email me at [lamarshall@valwood.org](mailto:lamarshall@valwood.org). I hope you enjoy the book and the project.

1. Using a 5X8 index card, create a business card for Jay Berry that includes an appropriate company name or slogan, Jay Berry's complete name, his job title, his address, phone number, and email. Personalize the card with a small illustration that relates to the job. On the back, explain why you chose this particular job for Jay Berry, using facts and information about him that you learned from the book. Write your name on the back of the business card.
2. Write a letter to the author of the book, telling him what you liked about the book, what you didn't like, etc. Be very specific and cite specific incidents from the book. Your letter must use the correct format for a friendly letter.
3. Sequentially list five **major** events that take place in the book and describe the details of the event. Cut six footprints from construction paper. Put the title and author on the first footprint. The remaining footprints will have one of your events and its description written on them and should be numbered in

the order the events occurred in the story. Decorate at least two footprints with an illustration of the event described. Put your footprints in order on a poster board and write your name on the back of the board.

4. On a blank piece of paper, draw a picture of an event that occurred between two characters in the book. Give your picture an appropriate title. On the back, describe the two characters in detail. Next describe their relationship. Be specific and cite specific evidence from the book.

### **Grade 7 (select 2)**

The Giver Lois Lowry

Ice Drift Theodore Taylor

Zach's Life Roland Smith

Kiss the Dust Elizabeth Laird

I am David Anne Holm

A Single Shard Linda Sue Park

The Hound of the Baskervilles Sherlock Holmes

The Time Machine H.G. Wells

**Seventh Grade Summer Reading Project:** Choose a different assignment for each book that you have read.

1. Find six different literary devices used by the author. Write the exact words of the author with the name of the device and the page number where you found it. Then explain it in your own words.

Example: hyperbole - "In all of the bedrooms there was going to be zillions of cribs and little beds, and we would have one big room full of nothing but toys, and outside there would be swings and see-saws and such." page 122 Rabble Starkey by Lois Lowry. Rabble is exaggerating the fact that she and her best friend Veronica will have many children and adopt as many as possible when they get older. They plan on buying this great big house that Veronica's father is trying to sell to be able to attain this dream. No one can have a zillion children, but I know that these girls love children and want to give as many as possible a good home.

2. Describe the settings of the book. Draw a picture of each one (you may use stick figures), or you may find pictures that you imagine these places to look like.

3. Write a summary of the plot. (Remember you are reading a 150 + page book; it is impossible

to write a one paragraph summary.) Do not write a book, but write an overview of the book from beginning to end.

4. Write a characterization of each main character. Then choose the character that you relate to the most and give five ways that you relate to them. (A characterization includes a physical appearance, their attitude, what others think of them, and what they think of themselves.)

### **Grade 8 (select 2)**

Summer of My German Soldier Bette Green

The Devil's Arithmetic Jane Yolen

Goodbye Vietnam Gloria Whelan

The Watsons Go To Birmingham Christopher Paul Curtis

Year Down Yonder Richard Peck

Let the Circle Be Unbroken Mildred Taylor

Roll of Thunder, Hear Me Cry Mildred Taylor

Out of Dust Karen Hesse

### **Eighth Grade Reading Project Instructions:**

**Choose one** of the following projects to complete for **one of your books**. This project is due on Monday, August 16.

1. Write a letter to the author of the book. Tell him/her what you liked about the book, what you did not like, etc. Be very specific.
2. Write a journal entry in which you pretend to be the main character after a conflict. Next, reflect in writing how you might respond differently to the same type of conflict in your own life.
3. Explain the significance of the title of the book. Next, rename your book. Explain why you chose this new title over the existing one.
4. Describe the setting of the novel. Draw a picture of the setting to accompany your description. Find five things that happened in the world during the period of time that your book takes place.
5. Write a letter to a character in the book. Make sure your letter is meaningful and relates to the book.
6. Describe two of the main characters in the book. Next, describe the relationship between the two characters.

For the other book you read, do the following:

Write a one page summary of the book. Include what makes the book "historical fiction."

If you have any questions, email Ms. Vallye Blanton [vblanton@valwood.org](mailto:vblanton@valwood.org).