

## Summer Reading Assignment for Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Graders

The summer slide: it sounds like fun, but it can make the transition from sixth to seventh grade really difficult. LSA students can start strong in the fall if their reading habits don't slide away during the summer. The more students read, the stronger their skills in all subject areas.

**Students must read at least 2 books this summer to complete the assignment.**

Don't forget that summer should still be fun! Summer reading is the opportunity for students to relax and enjoy themselves. If you get to pick your books, you will be more likely to spend more time reading, not because you have to, but because you want to. You can read any books you want this summer.

Readers should pick books that appeal to them, not books that frustrate them. If you have to check the dictionary every five minutes, how can you get lost in a book? Use the five-finger rule: find a book that looks good, open it to any page, and hold up a finger every time you find a word you don't know. At the end of the page, if you have four or five fingers up, you're in the wrong book.

Writing about a book can help you understand it better, and if we write about the books we read, we can share our experiences with other people. **When you finish a book this summer, you can write about it in any of the following ways:**

**Option A:** Write a book review. Do you recommend this book to other readers? Why or why not? (Check newspapers, in print or online, and magazines for examples of book reviews.)

**Option B:** Do some creative writing. Your creative work can be anything that relates to the book: a song, a poem, a short story, a play, a film, or any combination of genres. You can re-write a scene from the perspective of another character. You could re-imagine the plot in a different setting. You could re-write the ending. You could write a poem that deals with a theme or character in the book. Whatever kind of text you write, include an explanation that links your creative work back to the book you read. Explain how your work is related to the author's work.

**Option C:** Write a letter to the author about the book. The content of the letter is up to you. You can talk about your favorite parts of the book. You can ask the author how he came up with the idea for the book or why he chose to develop the plot, characters, or theme in a certain way. You can explain ways you think the book relates to your own life, or you can make connections between the book and the real world.

Please bring this summer reading assignment with you on the first day of school. I will collect it when you come to my room. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me: [bspillman@lee-scott.org](mailto:bspillman@lee-scott.org)

I look forward to teaching you in August!

-Brittany Spillman