

Doane Academy
2011 Upper School
7th & 8th Grade Summer Reading List



Dear Students:

Reading is vital. As we read, we test our own values and experiences with those of others. By the end of a book we have encountered new experiences, new ideas, and new people. Hopefully, we know our world and ourselves a little better.

Reading is exciting. Like people, books can be intriguing, melancholy, frightening, and sometimes complicated. Books share feelings and thoughts, moods and interests. Books put us in other times, other places, other cultures. Books place us in situations, ordeals, and dilemmas we might never otherwise encounter. Books help us dream, make us think.

Nothing develops your verbal skills like book reading. We teach grammar and usage, vocabulary and spelling in our classes. Yet these efforts pale by comparison with what you can absorb naturally and painlessly if you read frequently on your own.

Year in and year out, the students who read with the greatest understanding, write with the greatest clarity and purpose, and excel in national testing tend to be those who read widely. Reading confers tangible benefits as well as a variety of pleasures.

Some books are simply better than others. Some authors see more deeply into that strange creature, man, and describe what they see more vividly and effectively. Their works may ask more of us as readers: awareness of things implied rather than merely stated, sensitivity to the nuances of language, patience with ambiguous situations and complicated characters, willingness to think deeply about issues. But the effort is worth it, for these authors give us adventures in reading that can remain with us for a lifetime.

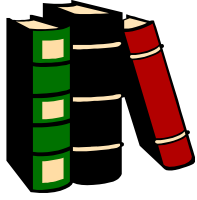
In compiling this list, we have done our best to provide you with reading experiences of true quality. We have also sought to include a variety of books to ensure that each of you will find something of personal interest.

You are required to read three books over the summer--the one listed as required for your grade level, any one from the Optional List for your grade level, and any one from the Suggested List for your grade level.

Entering Seventh Grade:

Required: Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry, by Mildred Taylor

Optional: An Acquaintance With Darkness, by Ann Rinaldi
Diary of a Young Girl, by Anne Frank
Kon-Tiki;Across the Pacific by Raft, by Thor Heyerdahl



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Entering Eighth Grade:

Required: The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain

Optional:

Fahrenheit 451, by Ray Bradbury

Little Women, by Louisa May Alcott

No Promises In The Wind, by Irene Hunt

At the beginning of the school year, you will have an objective test on the required book and reports will be due on the other two books (selected from Optional List and Suggested List).

Start early! Don't put off your reading until August!

Suggested Titles for 7th and 8th Grades:

20,000 Leagues Under The Sea, by Jules Verne

All Creatures Great and Small, by James Herriott

The Watsons Go to Birmingham-1963, by Christopher Paul Curtis,

Captains Courageous, by Rudyard Kipling

David Copperfield, by Charles Dickens

Monster, by Walter Dean Meyers

From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil T. Frankweiler, by E. L. Konigsburg

Homeless Bird, by Gloria Whelan

I, Juan de Pereja, by de Trevino

Jackaroo, by Cynthia Voight

Kidnapped, by R. L. Stevenson

The Prince and the Pauper, by Mark Twain

Habibi, by Naomi Shihab Nye

North To Freedom, by Anne Holm

Brian's Winter, by Gary Paulsen

One Fat Summer, by Robert Lipsyte

The Shakespeare Stealer, by Gary L. Blackwood

Souder, by William Armstrong

The Book of Dragons, by E. Nesbit

The Cat Ate My Gymsuit, by Paula Danzinger

The Chosen, by Chaim Potok

The Hiding Place, by Corrie Ten Boom

The Hobbit, by J. R. R. Tolkien

The Other Side of the Mountain, by E. G. Valens

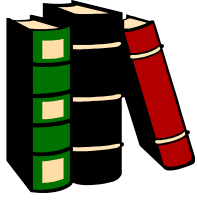
The Slave Dancer, by Paula Fox

Treasure Island, by R. L. Stevenson

Watership Down, by Richard Adams

White Fang, by Jack London

Any Book for the "Battle of Books" list.



Doane Academy

2011 - 2012 Battle of the Books 7th & 8th Grades



June 2011

Dear Seventh and Eighth Grade Students,

I'm excited to let you know that I will be your advisor to the Seventh and Eighth Grade Battle of the Books Team this year. It will be great working with those of you I've already had in class and fun getting to know those of you who were not in my sixth grade class. I would love as many of you as possible to participate in the Battle of the Books this year. I know we can have a great team or even two and have lots of fun reading and discussing books. I think you will enjoy the great selection of books on the list this year.

As you know it's important to read as many of the books on the Battle of the Books list as possible. I know you will be quite busy with your schoolwork once school begins in September, so now is a great time to begin reading. (I know I will be very busy reading and writing questions for the **THIRTY** books for both the 5th & 6th grade and the 7th & 8th grade teams!). At least you only have 15 books on your list! You may also want to write some questions as you read, that way you will be even more ahead of the game once we begin meeting late in the fall. When you write your questions, try to write them on 3 x 5 file cards in the following format:

The format is: In which book (IWB)

For Example: IWB does a MC (main character) find a trail and decide to spend her summer clearing it?

Be sure to list the title of the book, the author and page # (of the question) along with each question on one side of each card. If you have any questions, please send me an email. I would also love to hear from you if you think you are interested in participating on the team.

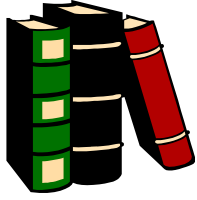
My email address is: msilcox@doaneacademy.org.

Happy reading,

Mrs. Marsha Silcox

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Lower School Dean/Sixth Grade Teacher



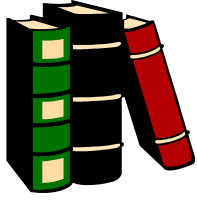
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2011 - 2012 Battle of the Books 7th & 8th Grades



<u>TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>
After Ever After	by Jordan Sonnenblick
Among the Hidden	by Margaret Peterson Haddix
Chains	by Laurie Halse Anderson
Code Orange	by Caroline B. Cooney
Dunk	by David Lubar
Elephant Run	by Roland Smith
Every Soul A Star	by Wendy Mass
The Hunger Games	by Suzanne Collins
Never Trust a Dead Man	by Vivian Vande Velde
Peeled	by Joan Bauer
Savvy	by Ingrid Law
Seer of Shadows	by Avi
The Wednesday Wars	by Gary D. Schmidt
When My Name was Keoko	by Linda Sue Park
When You Reach Me	by Rebecca Stead





Doane Academy
2011 Summer Reading Report Form



Directions:

Using this sheet as your cover sheet, you are to write a book report on each of two books. One of these is to be chosen from the Optional List for your grade level. The other is selected from the Suggested List for your grade level.

Parts 1, 2, 3, and 4 should be answered in the spaces provided on this sheet. Parts 5, 6, and 7 will need to be done on lined notebook paper or word processed **in 12 pt. using the Times New Roman font**. Staple all pages together with a single staple in the top left-hand corner. Do not use a construction paper, plastic, or cardboard cover.

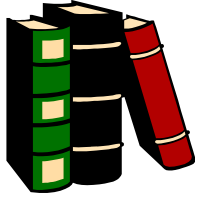
1. Title of the book _____
2. Author of the book _____
3. Publishing company _____
4. Date of publication (most recent if there are several) _____

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING ON SEPARATE PAPER:

5. Write a one-paragraph description of each of the two most important characters. Your paragraph should be 6-10 sentences long.
6. Write two or three paragraphs explaining what the main problem in the story is and how it is solved. Be sure to include any help that is received and who gives it. Each paragraph should be at least six sentences long.
7. In a brief paragraph of three to six sentences, describe the setting of the story, including both the time and the place, as specifically as possible.

STUDENT'S NAME: _____

ENTERING GRADE: _____



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