

****All students must read one book, complete the project and skills packet by August 17, 2018****

Sarasota School of Arts and Sciences

8th GRADE Summer Reading Assignment



Dear Students, Parents and Guardians,

REQUIREMENT #1:

Welcome to your new English Language Arts classroom! Attached is a list of novels from which you are to choose your summer reading books. **Every student must read one novel from the below list and complete the trifold project for the novel.** You may choose a book that appeals to you.

Our program is designed to promote the skills for effective reading and learning. A reading list and corresponding assignments can be found on the school's website, www.ssas.org. The intent of this list is to give you assistance in directing your child to some quality literature.

Some novels listed contain mature themes, situations, and language. We included these novels because we believe that they make a valuable contribution to literature and should be available to young adult readers. If you have any questions about the appropriateness of a novel for your student, you are encouraged to visit <http://www.common sense media.org/book-reviews>.

You can search books by title to determine if the content is appropriate for your child.

Books will be available at Barnes and Noble and Books-A-Million in Sarasota. ***In addition, there is an Amazon.com link on the school website that allows SSA+S to earn money back on all Amazon purchases!***

Upon returning from summer vacation, each child will be required to hand in a project on their free choice book. This project will be due the on the first Friday of the school year. Students will have a writing assessment on the chosen novel during the first week of school and will also be presenting the book to the class; therefore, it is suggested that students take notes on important literary elements.

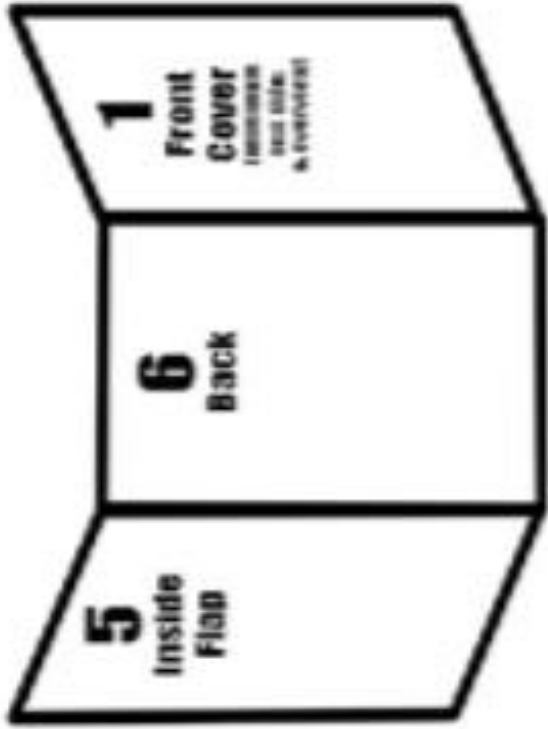
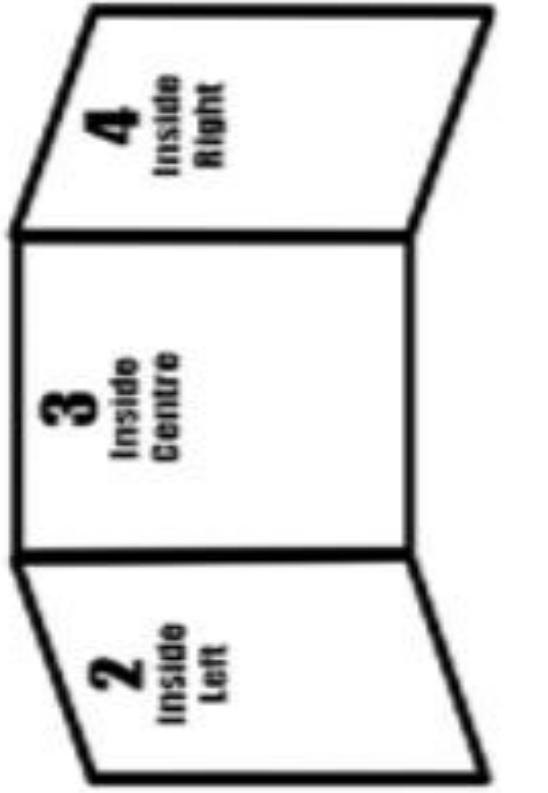
REQUIREMENT #2:

Students also must complete a skills packet during the summer to reinforce and build their Language Arts skills!

Sincerely,

The Language Arts Department





SSAS Summer Reading Project

- A) You must read one book from the Summer Reading list and create one trifold project.
- B) You must complete the language arts skills packet.

Trifold Brochure



Create a tri-fold brochure including 6 panels as demonstrated in the sample image. Your brochure can be digital, using a program such as Microsoft Word or Publisher OR handwritten. IF you choose to create a digital brochure, you **MUST PRINT** a copy to turn in! The brochure must be typed or neatly handwritten in ink and should include color, images or graphics, creativity and neatness!

Tip: You could also use a large piece of construction paper to complete this project, but we are trying to avoid poster board sized projects.

Use the illustration on the previous page to set up your brochure panels.

Cover Page and Illustration

1. Front Panel- Create a colorful and creative cover page for your brochure, including the following: book title, book author, genre and your name.

Setting

2. Content Panel- Illustrate the setting or different settings in the novel. Below the illustration, include four direct quotes from the novel that describe the setting. Please include page citations for each quote. EX: "It was a beautiful summer day in Sarasota in 1945," (Author, pg. #).

Conflict

3. Content Panel- Pick five conflicts that occur in the story. Describe each conflict in detail and how it affects the main character or plot within the story.

Characterization

4. Content Panel- Create a Question and Answer interview with the main character of the novel. This interview should include at least 3 questions and 3 answers. The character answers should be full and reflective of the main character's personality.

Written Responses- Use complete sentences and be specific in your examples.

- 5. a) What do you think the author's purpose was in writing this book?
- b) What did you like/dislike about the story? Explain WHY. Give examples with page #'s.
- c) What is the theme of this story? Why would you pick this as the theme? (Give examples from the book.

Creative Writing

6. Back Panel- Write an alternate ending for the novel. Make sure to resolve the novel's main conflict through the new ending and consider the character's personality and previous actions. The ending should make sense based on the overall storyline. **BE CREATIVE, USE DESCRIPTIVE LANGUAGE AND GO FOR IT!**

RUBRIC: BROCHURE FOLDABLE

Category	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Excellent	Total
Neatness and Organization, Cover Page and Binding	The brochure is haphazardly done and appears to have minimal or no effort placed in it. 5 points	The brochure is not neatly done and appears to be either partially done well or looks like it received minimum effort. 6 points	The brochure is neatly done and it appears that the student has put good effort to make the project look presentable. 8 points	The brochure is neatly done. It appears that the student has put maximum effort to make the project look presentable. 10 points	_____/10
Characterization	The character questions and answers do not demonstrate any comprehension of the way the author is portraying the character's personality. 0 points	The character questions and answers demonstrate slight comprehension of the way the author is portraying the character's personality. 15 points	The character questions and answers demonstrate partial comprehension of the way the author is portraying the character's personality. 20 points	The character questions and answers demonstrate full comprehension of the way the author is portraying the character's personality. 25 points	_____/25
Setting and Conflict	The student's responses barely convey the setting or conflicts within the story. 0 points	The student's responses minimally convey the setting and conflicts within the story. 15 points	The student's responses convey, for the most part, the novel's settings and conflicts within the story. 20 points	The student's responses thoroughly convey the novel's settings and conflicts within the story. 25 points	_____/25
Comprehension and Creativity	Student does not demonstrate much knowledge of main conflict and storyline by creating an ending that does not tie into novel. Student put no creative effort into ending. 10 points	Student demonstrates slight knowledge of main conflict and storyline by creating an ending that loosely ties into novel. Student put little creative effort into ending. 20 points	Student demonstrates adequate knowledge of main conflict and storyline by creating an ending that somewhat relates to the novel. Student put some creative effort into ending. 25 points	Student demonstrates good knowledge of the main conflicts and storyline by creating an ending that closely relates to the novel. Student put excellent effort into ending. 30 points	_____/30
Punctuation, Spelling, Grammar	The student has more than 12 errors. 2 points	The student has 9-12 errors. 5 points	The project has some errors. (5-8) 7 points	The project has minimal errors. (0-4) 10 points	_____/10

8th Grade Reading List

<p><i>The Absolutely True Story of a Part-Time Indian</i> Alexie, Sherman (Realistic Fiction)</p>	<p>Junior is a misfit in his new school. He befriends Gordy, another outsider, and Penelope, a beautiful girl who opens up to Junior about her bulimia. When Penelope discovers that Junior is poor, she encourages him to seek help from Roger, a popular boy who often drives Junior home to the reservation after school. A series of tragedies, including the death of his grandmother, the murder of his dad's best friend, and the death of his sister Mary, leave Junior devastated. He struggles to understand his place in the world. This book contains some mature themes.</p>
<p><i>Once Upon a Quinceañera</i> Alvarez, Julia (Non-fiction)</p>	<p>The <i>quinceañera</i>, a celebration of a Latina girl's fifteenth birthday, has become a uniquely American trend. This lavish party with ball gowns, multi-tiered cakes, limousines, and extravagant meals is often as costly as a prom or a wedding. But many Latina girls feel entitled to this rite of passage, marking a girl's entrance into womanhood, and expect no expense to be spared, even in working-class families. But what are the consequences of treating teens like princesses?</p>
<p><i>The Impossible Knife of Memory</i> Anderson, Laurie (realistic Fiction)</p>	<p>For the past five years, Hayley Kincaid and her father, Andy, have been on the road, never staying long in one place as he struggles to escape the demons that have tortured him since his return from Iraq. Now they are back in the town where he grew up so Hayley can attend school. Perhaps, for the first time, Hayley can have a normal life, put aside her own painful memories, even have a relationship with Finn, the hot guy who obviously likes her but is hiding secrets of his own. Will being back home help Andy's PTSD, or will his terrible memories drag him to the edge of hell, and drugs push him over? This book contains mature content.</p>
<p><i>Nothing but the Truth</i> Avi (Realistic Fiction)</p>	<p>In this thought-provoking examination of freedom, patriotism, and respect, ninth-grader, Philip Malloy, is kept from joining the track team by his failing grades in English class. Convinced that the teacher just doesn't like him, Philip concocts a plan to get transferred out of her class. Breaking the school's policy of silence during the national anthem, he hums along, and ends up in a crisis at the center of the nation's attention.</p>
<p><i>Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl</i> (Autobiography)</p>	<p>In 1942, with the Nazis occupying Holland, a thirteen-year-old Jewish girl and her family fled their home in Amsterdam and went into hiding. For the next two years, until their whereabouts were betrayed to the Gestapo, the Franks and another family lived hidden in the "Secret Annex" of an old office building. Cut off from the outside world, they faced hunger, boredom, the constant cruelties of living in confined quarters, and the ever-present threat of discovery and death. This is a compelling self-portrait of a sensitive and spirited young woman whose promise was tragically cut short. This book contains mature content.</p>
<p><i>A Long Walk to Water</i> Park, Linda Sue (Non fiction)</p>	<p>The <i>New York Times</i> bestseller <i>A Long Walk to Water</i> begins as two stories, told in alternating sections, about two eleven-year-olds in Sudan, a girl in 2008 and a boy in 1985. The girl, Nya, is fetching water from a pond that is two hours' walk from her home: she makes two trips to the pond every day. The boy, Salva, becomes one of the "lost boys" of Sudan, refugees who cover the African continent on foot as they search for their families and for a safe place to stay. Enduring every hardship from loneliness to attack by armed rebels to contact with killer lions and crocodiles, Salva is a survivor, and his story goes on to intersect with Nya's in an astonishing and moving way.</p>
<p><i>Between Shades of Gray</i> Sepetys, Ruta (historical fiction)</p>	<p>Fifteen-year-old Lina is a Lithuanian girl living an ordinary life--until Soviet officers invade her home and tear her family apart. Separated from her father and forced onto a crowded train, Lina, her mother, and her young brother make their way to a Siberian work camp, where they are forced to fight for their lives. Lina finds solace in her art, documenting these events by drawing. Risking everything, she imbeds clues in her drawings of their location and secretly passes them along, hoping her drawings will make their way to her father's prison camp. But will strength, love, and hope be enough for Lina and her family to survive? This book contains mature content.</p>

<p><i>Most Dangerous: Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War</i> Sheinkin, Steve (non-fiction)</p>	<p>On June 13, 1971, the front page of the New York Times announced the existence of a 7,000-page collection of documents containing a secret history of the Vietnam War. Known as The Pentagon Papers, these files had been commissioned by Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara. Chronicling every action the government had taken in the Vietnam War, they revealed a pattern of deception spanning over twenty years and four presidencies, and forever changed the relationship between American citizens and the politicians claiming to represent their interests. This book contains mature content.</p>
<p><i>I Am Scout: The Biography of Harper Lee</i> Shield, Charles J. (Non- Fiction)</p>	<p><i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> is one of the most widely read novels in American literature. It's also a favorite in English classrooms across the nation. Yet onetime author Harper Lee is a mysterious figure who leads a very private life in her hometown of Monroeville, Alabama, refusing to give interviews or talk about the novel that made her a household name. Lee's life is as rich as her fiction, from her girlhood as a rebellious tomboy to her days at the University of Alabama and early years as a struggling writer in New York City.</p>
<p><i>The Unlikely Hero of Room 13B</i> Toten, Teresa (Realistic Fiction)</p>	<p>The instant Adam Spencer Ross meets Robyn Plummer in his Young Adult OCD Support Group, he is hopelessly, desperately drawn to her. She's also just been released from a residential psychiatric program—the kind for the worst, most difficult-to-cure cases; the kind that Adam and his fellow support group members will do anything to avoid joining. Adam immediately knows that he has to save Robyn, <i>must</i> save Robyn, or die trying. But is it really Robyn who needs rescuing? And is it possible to have a normal relationship when your life is anything but? This book contains some mature content.</p>
<p><i>I Am Seal Team 6</i> Wasdin, Howard E. (Non- Fiction)</p>	<p>When the Navy sends their elite, they send the SEALs. When the SEALs send their elite, they send SEAL Team Six—a secret unit made up of the finest soldiers in the country, if not the world. <i>I Am a SEAL Team Six Warrior</i> is the dramatic tale of how Howard Wasdin overcame a tough childhood to live his dream and enter the exciting and dangerous world of U.S. Navy SEALs and Special Forces snipers. This is Howard Wasdin's story of overcoming abuse and beating the odds to become an elite American warrior. This book contains some mature content.</p>
<p><i>Code Name Verity</i> Wein, Elizabeth (Historical Fiction)</p>	<p>Oct. 11th, 1943-A British spy plane crashes in Nazi-occupied France. Its pilot and passenger are best friends. One of the girls has a chance at survival. The other has lost the game before it's barely begun. When "Verity" is arrested by the Gestapo, she's sure she doesn't stand a chance. As a secret agent captured in enemy territory, she's living a spy's worst nightmare. Her Nazi interrogators give her a simple choice: reveal her mission or face a grisly execution. This book contains some mature content.</p>
<p><i>Pride and Prejudice</i> Austen, Jane (Classic)</p>	<p>Elizabeth Bennet is the second of five daughters of a country gentleman living near, near London. <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> tells the story of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet's five unmarried daughters after the rich and eligible Mr. Bingley and his friend, Mr. Darcy. While Bingley takes an immediate liking to the eldest Bennet daughter, Jane, Darcy has difficulty adapting to local society and repeatedly clashes with the second-eldest Bennet daughter, Elizabeth.</p>
<p><i>Zero Day</i> Gangsei, Jan (Realistic Fiction)</p>	<p>Eight years ago, Addie Webster was the victim of the most notorious kidnapping of the decade. Addie vanished-and her high-profile parents were forced to move on. Mark Webster is now president of the United States, fighting to keep the Oval Office after a tumultuous first term. Then the unthinkable happens: the president's daughter resurfaces. Addie is brought back into her family's fold... but who is this sixteen-year-old girl with a quiet, burning intelligence now living in the White House? There are those in the administration who find her timely return suspicious. Addie has come home with a mission...but will she choose to complete it?</p>

End of 8th Grade List

SSA+S

Summer Language Arts

Skills Packet

GRADE 8



This packet belongs to:

Please complete the language arts skills packet after you do your book project.

You will be practicing:

- Vocabulary**
- Reading comprehension**
- Essay writing**

Look up the definitions to these words, either in the dictionary or the internet. Write them down. Use these definitions to help you with the lesson worksheets.

Lesson 1	Definition
goals	
asteroid	
establish	
retreat	
suspend	
treacherous	
demonstrate	
meteor	
galaxy	
resolve	
Lesson 2	
comprise	
overall	
reaction	
compound	
bond	
compress	
combustion	
monitor	
coincide	
luminous	

Lesson 4	Definition
displaced	
founder	
enhance	
occupied	
ration	
prominent	
harmony	
moral	
restrained	
illusion	
Lesson 5	
verdict	
indication	
agency	
radical	
bondage	
isolation	
periodical	
trace	
contradiction	
condemn	