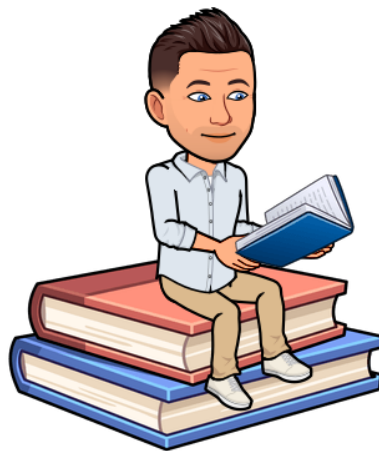


*Incoming*  
8th Grade  
Regular Language Arts  
Summer Reading Project



- 1) Read a book from the enclosed list.
- 2) Create a brochure.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* All students must read ONE book, complete the brochure project by the first Friday when we come back from vacation.**

**Sarasota School of Arts and Sciences**  
*Regular Language Arts Summer Reading Assignment*  
**Grade 8**



Dear Students, Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to your new 8<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts classroom! Attached is a list of novels from which you are to choose your summer reading books. **Every future eighth grader must read one novel from the below list.** You may choose a book from the list that appeals to your interest!

Our program is designed to promote the skills for effective reading and learning. The reading list and corresponding assignments can also be found on the school's website, [www.ssas.org](http://www.ssas.org). The intent of this list is to give you assistance in directing your child to 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.

**\*\*SUMMER READING CAMP:** We will be offering an AM and a PM summer reading camp at SSA+S. Students who sign up will be able to complete their project with a teacher and have the rest of the summer to relax! Please see the school website to sign up.

Upon returning from summer vacation, each child is required to hand in a project on his/her free choice book. **This project is due the first Friday of the school year.** We may have a writing assessment/book exam /or presentation on the novel during the first week of school, so it is suggested that students take notes on the important elements of the novel they have chosen to read.

Sincerely,

The Language Arts Department

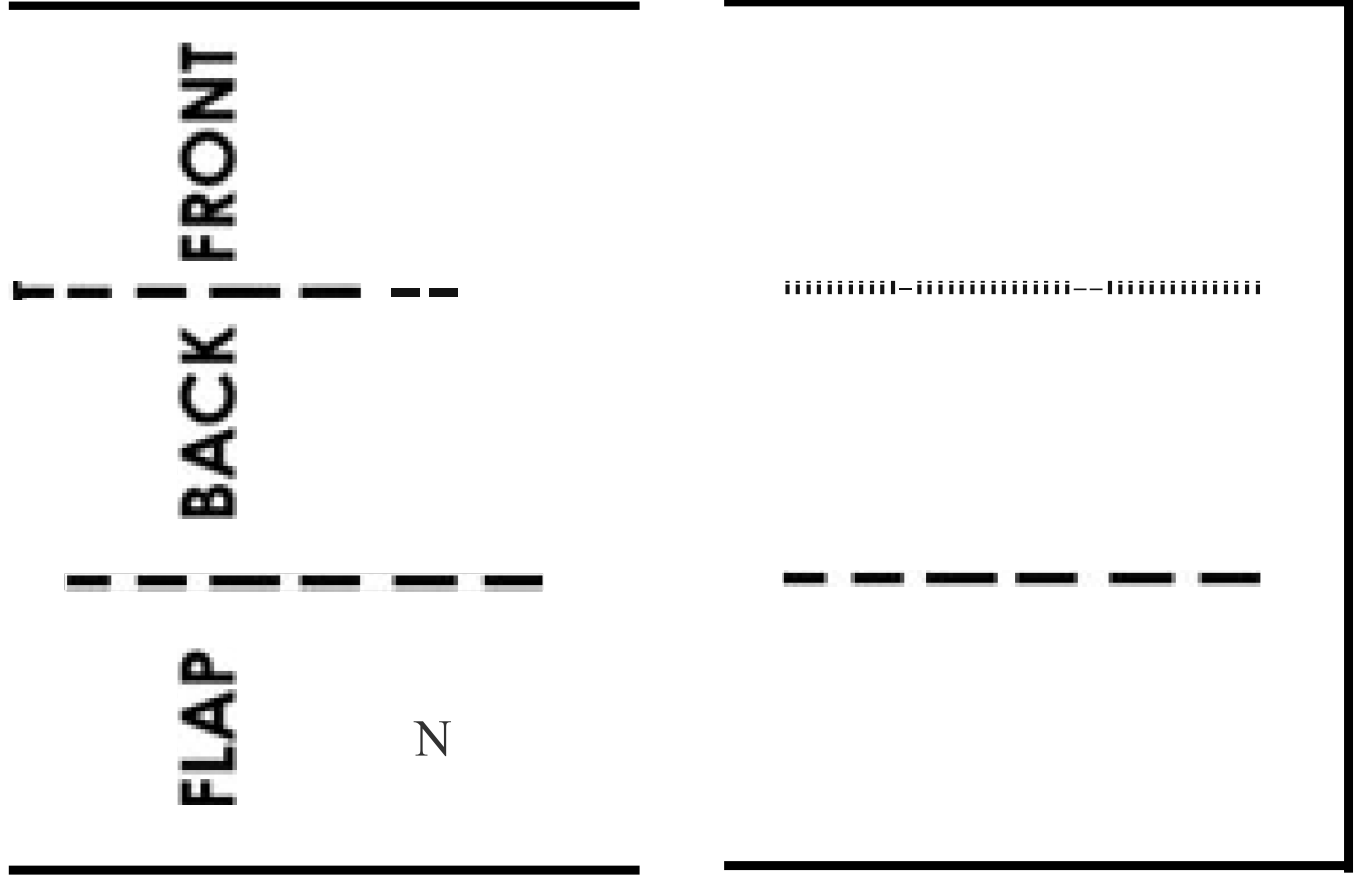
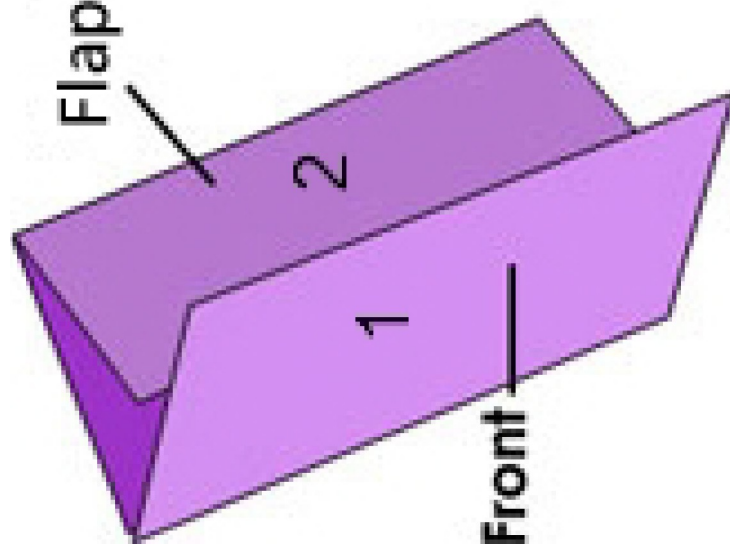
## 8th Grade List

<p><b><i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i></b> Alexie, Sherman. (Realistic Fiction)</p>	<p>Junior lives on an Indian reservation and is a misfit in his new school. He befriends Gordy, another outsider, and Penelope, a beautiful girl who has bulimia. A series of tragedies, including the death of his grandmother and sister, and the murder of his dad's best friend, leave Junior devastated. <b>This book contains mature themes.</b></p>
<p><b><i>The Impossible Knife of Memory</i></b> Anderson, Laurie (Realistic Fiction)</p>	<p>For the past five years, Hayley Kincaid and her father have been on the road, never staying long in one place as he struggles with the demons that have tortured him since his return from Iraq. Can Hayley have a normal life and put aside her own painful memories? Will her dad's PTSD get better? <b>This book contains mature themes.</b></p>
<p><b><i>Nothing but the Truth</i></b> Avi (Realistic Fiction)</p>	<p>Ninth grader Philip Malloy is kept from joining the track team by his failing grades in English 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><b><i>Between Shades of Gray</i></b> 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. Lina, her mother, and her young brother make their way to a Siberian work camp, where they are forced to fight for their lives. But will strength, love, and hope be enough for Lina and her family to survive? <b>Mature Content</b></p>
<p><b><i>The Leaving</i></b> Altabrando, Tara. (Mystery)</p>	<p>Eleven years ago, six kindergartners went missing without a trace. Until today. Today "five" of those kids return. They're sixteen, and they are. . . fine They're entirely unable to recall where they've been or what happened to them. Neither of them remember the sixth victim, Max--the only one who hasn't come back. Which leaves Max's sister, Avery, wanting answers. But as details of the disappearance begin to unfold, no one is prepared for the truth.</p>
<p><b><i>I am a Seal Team Six Warrior</i></b> Wasden, Howard E. (Non-fiction)</p>	<p>When the Navy sends their elite, they send the SEALs. <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. Soon he was fighting for his life in The Battle of Mogadishu. <b>Mature Content.</b></p>
<p><b><i>Code Name Verity</i></b> 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 Her Nazi interrogators give her a simple choice: reveal her mission or face a grisly execution. But will trading her secrets be enough to save her from the enemy? <b>Mature Content.</b></p>
<p><b><i>Zero Day</i></b> 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. Then the unthinkable happens: the president's daughter resurfaces. 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>
<p><b><i>The Secret Life of Bees</i></b> Sue Monk Kidd (Realistic Fiction)</p>	<p>Set in 1964 in the fictitious town of Sylvan, South Carolina, <i>The Secret Life of Bees</i> tells the story of a 14-year-old white girl, Lily Melissa Owens, whose life has been shaped around the blurred memory of the afternoon her mother was killed. Lily lives in a house with her abusive father, whom she refers to as T. Ray.</p>
<p><b><i>Summer of My German Soldier</i></b> Greene, Bett (Realistic Fiction)</p>	<p>The summer that Patty Bergen turns twelve is a summer that will haunt her forever. When her small hometown in Arkansas becomes the site of a camp housing German prisoners during World War II, Patty learns what it means to open her heart. Even though she's Jewish, she begins to see a prison escapee, Anton, not as a Nazi, but as a lonely, frightened young man with feelings not unlike her own.</p>
<p><b><i>Momentous Events in the Life of a Cactus</i></b> Bowling, Dusti (Realistic Fiction)</p>	<p>Just as Aven starts to feel comfortable in Stagecoach Pass, with her friends and schoolmates accustomed to her lack of "armage", everything changes once again. She's about to begin high school...with 2,300 new kids to stare at her. And no matter how much Aven tries to play it cool, nothing prepares her for the reality. In a year filled with confusion, humiliation, fears, loss, and just maybe love, can Aven manage to stay true to herself?</p>

<p><b><i>Parvana's Journey</i></b> Ellis, Debrah (Realistic Fiction)</p>	<p>In <i>Parvana's Journey</i>, the Taliban still control Afghanistan, but Kabul is in ruins. Parvana's father has just died, and her mother, sister, and brother could be anywhere in the country. Parvana knows she must find them. Despite her youth, Parvana sets out alone, masquerading as a boy. She soon meets other children who are victims of war – an infant boy in a bombed-out village, a nine-year-old girl who thinks she has magic powers over landmines, and a boy with one leg. The children travel together, forging a kind of family out of sheer need. The strength of their bond makes it possible to survive the most desperate conditions. Royalties from this book will go toward an education fund for Afghan girls in Pakistani refugee camps.</p>
<p><b><i>Perks of Being a Wallflower-</i></b> <b>MATURE CONTENT</b> <b>WARNING</b> Stephen Chbosky (Realistic Fiction)</p>	<p>Socially awkward teen Charlie (Logan Lerman) is a wallflower, always watching life from the sidelines, until two charismatic students become his mentors. Free-spirited Sam (Emma Watson) and her stepbrother Patrick (Ezra Miller) help Charlie discover the joys of friendship, first love, music and more, while a teacher sparks Charlie's dreams of becoming a writer. However, as his new friends prepare to leave for college, Charlie's inner sadness threatens to shatter his newfound confidence. <b>Mature Content.</b></p>
<p><b><i>Of Mice and Men</i></b> John Steinbeck (Realistic Fiction)</p>	<p><i>Of Mice and Men</i> is a novella written by John Steinbeck. Published in 1937, it narrates the experiences of George Milton and Lennie Small, two displaced migrant ranch workers, who move from place to place in California in search of new job opportunities during the Great Depression in the United States.</p>
<p><b><i>Killer Angles</i></b> <b>MATURE</b> <b>CONTENT</b> <b>WARNING -War</b> <b>scenes</b> Shaara, Michael (Historical Fiction)</p>	<p>In the four most bloody and courageous days of our nation's history, two armies fight for two conflicting dreams. One dreams of freedom, the other of a way of life. More than rifles and bullets are carried into battle. The soldiers carry memories. Promises. Love. And more than men fall on those Pennsylvania fields. Bright futures, untested innocence, and pristine beauty are also the casualties of war.</p> <p><i>The Killer Angels</i> is unique, sweeping, unforgettable—a dramatic re-creation of the battleground for America's destiny</p>
<p><b><i>Stupid Fast</i></b> <b>MATURE</b> <b>CONTENT-</b> <b>sexual</b> <b>situations/drugs</b> Harbach, Geoff Darer (Realistic Fiction/Sports)</p>	<p>Bullied and teased most of his young life, Felton has anxiety caused by his dad's death by suicide. Now, he grows huge and fast, joins the football team, and gains new jock friends and a smart, talented girlfriend named Aleah.</p>



# ROLL FOLD



## **SSAS Summer Reading Project**

You must read one book from the Summer Reading list and create one trifold project.

### **Trifold Brochure Instructions:**

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

#### **Panel #1- Front Page and Illustration**

Create a colorful and creative cover page that shows your understanding of the main theme(s) of the novel for your brochure, including the following: **book title, book author, genre and your name.**  
**The cover should be an original piece of work.**

#### **Panel #2-Setting**

Illustrate the setting(s) in the novel. Below the illustration, include six direct quotes from the novel that describe the setting(s). Please include page citations for each quote. EX: "It was a beautiful summer day in Sarasota in 1945," (Author, pg. #).

#### **Panel #3-Conflict**

Pick six conflicts (problems) that occur in the story.

- 1) Identify + Describe each conflict/problem in detail and
- 2) how it affects the main character or plot within the story.

#### **Panel #4- Characterization**

Create a Question and Answer interview with the main character(s) of the novel. This interview should include at least 5 questions and 5 answers. The character answers should be full and reflective of the main character's personality.

Hint: You can **infer (guess)** how the character may have felt. EX: (Q1: How did you feel when...)  
(A1: I felt so terrified because...)

#### **Panel #5- Written Responses**

Use complete sentences and be specific in your examples use TE to support.

- a) What do you think the author's purpose was in writing this book? (To inform, entertain, persuade express) Why?
- 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). **Theme** is **defined** as a main idea or an underlying **meaning** of a literary work, which may be stated directly or indirectly.

#### **Panel #6- Creative Writing**

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. This should be multiple paragraphs. BE CREATIVE, USE DESCRIPTIVE LANGUAGE AND GO FOR IT!

# RUBRIC: BROCHURE FOLDABLE

Category	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Excellent	Total
<b>Neatness and Organization, Cover Page and Binding</b>	The brochure is haphazardly done and appears to have <b>minimal or no effort</b> placed in it.  5 points	The brochure is not neatly done and appears to be either <b>partially done</b> well or looks like it received minimum effort.  6 points	The brochure is neatly done and it appears that the student has put <b>good effort</b> to make the project look presentable.  8 points	The brochure is neatly done. It appears that the student has put <b>maximum effort</b> to make the project look presentable.  10 points	_____/10
<b>Characterization</b>	The character questions and answers <b>do not demonstrate any</b> comprehension of the way the author is portraying the character's personality.  0 points	The character questions and answers demonstrate <b>slight</b> comprehension of the way the author is portraying the character's personality.  15 points	The character questions and answers demonstrate <b>partial</b> comprehension of the way the author is portraying the character's personality.  20 points	The character questions and answers demonstrate <b>full</b> comprehension of the way the author is portraying the character's personality.  25 points	_____/25
<b>Setting and Conflict</b>	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
<b>Comprehension and Creativity</b>	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
<b>Punctuation, Spelling, Grammar</b>	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