

**Commonwealth Academy
Summer Reading List
Middle and High School
2009-2010**

Each student is required to read two books from the list for their class. Every student **MUST** read the novel with the asterisk (*) in front of it; **it is required and the school year will begin with a unit on this novel.** Students may choose from the other novels on the list for their second novel. Upcoming 6th through 8th graders have a Literary Response Journal for EACH novel that must be turned in on the first day of school. Directions and requirements for the writing portion are attached by grade. Upcoming 9th through 12th graders have an essay for EACH novel that must be turned in on the first day of school. The two essays are worth a test grade. Ten points per day will be deducted from the grade if they are late.

In addition to the Literature Response Journals and essays, each student is required to select one project from the list below to complete based on one of the two summer reading books. The project will be shared as a class at the beginning of the school year and will count as a project grade.

Students may not substitute from the given list.

Project Options:

1. Complete a scrapbook based on the events in the novel.
2. Design and draw a mural of the events in the novel or of one particular scene.
3. Write and perform a rap/song about the characters, plot, theme, or setting of the novel.
4. Design and complete a Power Point presentation.
5. Design and create a board game or computer game based on the novel.
6. Write a journal from the perspective of one of the characters.
7. Develop a short scene from the novel into a short play. Include set design, costumes, props, and written dialogue.

Sixth and Seventh Grade English:

***REQUIRED:** Ghosts I have Been by Richard Peck

Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett

The Acorn People by Ron Jones

Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

Freak the Mighty, Rodman Philbrick

The Incredible Journey, Sheila Burnford

Eighth Grade English

***REQUIRED:** Night by Elie Wiesel

The Outsiders, Susan Hinton

Into Thin Air, Jon Krakauer

The Young Man and the Sea, Rodman Philbrick

Ender's Game, Orson Scott Carl

The Cay by Theodore Taylor

The House of Dies Drear by Virginia Hamilton

Haveli by Suzanne Fisher Staples

White Fang by Jack London

Literary Genres (9th Grade):

***REQUIRED:** Jonathan Livingston Seagull, Richard Bach

The Pigman, Paul Zindel

A Day No Pigs Would Die, Newton Peck

The Hobbit by JR Tolkein

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer

Universal Themes (10th Grade):

REQUIRED: Nickled and Dimed, Ehrenreich

Blessings, Anna Quindlen

The Bean Trees, Kingsolver

Things Fall Apart, Chinua Achebe

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn, Betty Smith

Into the Wild, Jon Krakauer

American Literature (11th Grade):

***REQUIRED:** The Woman Who Owned the Shadows, Paula Gun Allen

I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings, Angelou

The Bluest Eye, Morrison

If I Die in the Combat Zone, O'Brien

The Old Man and the Sea, by Ernest Hemingway

The Awakening by Kate Chopin

World Literature (12th Grade):

***REQUIRED:** The Glass Castle, Walls

The Metamorphosis, Kafka

Snow Falling on Cedars, Guterson

The Kitchen God's Wife, Tan

Tess of the D'Urbervilles, Hardy

Catch-22, Heller

Anna Karenina, Tolstoy

Dracula, Stoker

The Handmaid's Tale, Atwood

Frankenstein, Shelley