

Welcome to 5<sup>th</sup> grade! We look forward to a fun-filled year of learning with you! Incoming 5<sup>th</sup> grade students have three reading assignments to complete over the summer. Please follow the directions listed in each of the three sections below.

**Section I** – Choose any of the following novels. Following the directions below, prepare a hand-written report.

**The Fighting Ground (Grades 4-7)** by Avi

13-year-old Jonathan goes off to fight in the Revolutionary War and discovers the real war is being fought within himself.

**Night Journeys (Grades 4-7)** by Avi

In the spring of 1768, 12-year-old Peter, living with his Quaker guardian near the Pennsylvania-New Jersey border, joins in the search for two runaway indentured servants.

**Betsy Zane, The Rose of Fort Henry (Grades 5-8)** by Lynda Durrant

Lynda Durrant

In 1781, 12-year-old Elizabeth Zane, great-great-aunt of novelist Zane Grey, leaves Philadelphia to return to her brothers' homestead near Fort Henry in what is now West Virginia, where she plays an important role in the final battle of the American Revolution.

**Hope's Crossing (Grades 5-8)** by Joan Goodman

Joan Goodman

During the Revolutionary War, 13-year-old Hope finds herself enslaved in a Tory household on Long Island and uses all her resources to escape and make it home.

### **First Paragraph**

Include title of the book (underlined), author's name, and identify the type of book--fiction, fantasy, historical fiction, nonfiction. This is a brief paragraph (3 sentences).

### **Second Paragraph**

This is a summary of the book. Your summary should be approximately **six** sentences and should include the following:

- the setting
- the main characters
- the problem or situation.
- steps the main character takes to resolve the problem or situation.

Do not include details or dialogue in your summary.

### **Third Paragraph**

Identify the main character(s). Provide two important personality traits (these are character qualities learned from the text). Support these personality traits with specific examples from the book. These examples should support your observations.

### **Fourth Paragraph**

Name two minor characters from the book. Explain their relationship to the main character(s). Give two personality traits for these characters. Support your personality traits with specific examples from the book. These examples should support your observations.

### **Fifth Paragraph**

Do you recommend this book? In a paragraph, explain your reasons and provide at least three examples for your choice.

**Section II** – Choose any of the following books for your visual report.

- 100 Cupboards by N.D. Wilson
- The Fizzy Whiz Kid by Maiya Williams
- From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler by E. L. Konigsburg
- Gregor the Overlander by Suzanne Collins
- Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt

You will present a visual aid that should be created on 8 ½ x 11 paper or card stock. Please don't buy full sized or tri-fold boards as they are too big and expensive.

Visual component must include:

- Title of the book, name of author, student's name. This should be on the top right-hand corner of the **front** of the paper.
- Students will draw a total of 4 pictures. 3 of these will depict important events or scenes from the book. These pictures should be hand drawn, "fill a page," and be fully colored. Under each picture, students should have a two-three sentence explanation of the importance/meaning.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> picture will depict the main character(s). Include a one paragraph description of the character(s) including personality traits.
- Please only put pictures on FRONT SIDE of the paper.
- Work should be of a high quality showing a student's best effort.

### **Section III: Required Reading**

All students must read *Bud, Not Buddy*, by Christopher Paul Curtis. I suggest reading this towards the end of the summer as students will have a test over this novel the first week of school.

Remember, summer reading assignments are due on the first day of class. Happy reading, and have a wonderful summer!