

Grading Rubric

****All projects and completed rubrics are due Thursday, September 4th****

	4-- Proficient	3-- Developing Proficiency	2-- Emerging Proficiency	1-- Unsatisfactory
<p>Novel #1</p> <p>Title:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>I read a non-fiction book and completed this activity: _____</p> <p>_____.</p> <p>The activity is an example of my best work.</p>	<p>I read a non-fiction book and completed this activity: _____</p> <p>_____.</p>	<p>I read a non-fiction book but did not do an activity.</p>	<p>I did not read a non-fiction book.</p>
<p>Novel #2</p> <p>Title:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>I read a novel of my choice and completed this activity: _____</p> <p>_____.</p> <p>The activity is an example of my best work.</p>	<p>I read a novel of my choice and completed this activity: _____</p> <p>_____.</p>	<p>I read a novel of my choice but did not do an activity.</p>	<p>I did not read a novel of my choice.</p>

	4-- Proficient	3-- Developing Proficiency	2-- Emerging Proficiency	1-- Unsatisfactory
Writing Journal	I wrote at least 10 paragraphs this summer. Each paragraph has 5-8 good sentences. Each paragraph has a hook, detailed sentences, and a conclusion. I read over my paragraphs and corrected any mistakes. My paragraphs are examples of my best work.	I wrote at least 10 paragraphs this summer. Each paragraph has 5-8 good sentences. Each paragraph has a hook, detailed sentences, and a conclusion.	I wrote 10 paragraphs this summer.	I did not write 10 paragraphs this summer.

I think I earned a letter grade of _____ on my summer READING because...

I think I earned a letter grade of _____ on my summer WRITING because...

****If you did not complete a summer reading/ writing project, write your teacher a one-page letter explaining why. In the letter, also tell me about your summer and if you read any books, saw any movies, about your interests, etc. Turn the letter in with your blank rubric.****

Teacher Grade: READING _____/50

WRITING _____/50

Teacher Comments:

Summer Reading & Writing Guide:

Rising 6th Through 8th Grades



@talbertscurriculumcorner

1. **Read any novel of your choice!**

- Your novel should be at least 150 pages long and be a first-time read for the student.
- Take notes as you read. This can be done on sticky notes, a piece of notebook paper, “bookmark,” etc. Be sure to write at least one thing for each chapter as a reference tool. For example: “The most important thing to remember from this chapter was...” You can also record words you are unfamiliar with (with page numbers) or your own thoughts, predictions, info about characters, etc.
- **Complete a plot diagram.** You can hand draw it onto a piece of paper, or you can print one from the internet and fill it out directly. If you do not know what the story elements are, look them up online.
- Bring your novel (if you own a physical copy), notes, and plot diagram to class on Thursday, September 4th!

2. **Choose one novel you read over the summer and complete an activity from the choices below.** Activity is due on **Thursday, September 4th.**

Suggested Fictional Novels: Maze Runner series, Matched series, Eragon series, Series of Unfortunate Events series, Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry, Rad Girls Can, No Summit Out of Sight, Uprising, The Lemonade War, Any kid novel by Carl Hiaasen, Number the Stars, Bridge to Terabithia, Out of the Dust, The Crossover, Jason Reynold’s Track Series, Wonder, Where the Red Fern Grows, Lost in Outer Space, Soul Surfer, etc...

Reading Activity Choices

Choose an activity for the non-fiction book and an activity for the novel of your choice. It is strongly recommended that you do a first draft or plan and final draft to be sure your work is well done.

<p>Write a poem about a character, an event, the theme, etc. in the book. It can be any kind of poem. Be sure your poem is neatly written. **Kinds of poems—Free verse, rhyming, acrostic, haiku, cinquain, diamante, “I Am” poem, etc. (Google “kinds of poems” for samples, directions, or ideas.)**</p>	<p>Write a sequel or prequel to the book you read or change the ending! Story should be at least 3 paragraphs long. Be sure to proofread for correct capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.</p>	<p>Make a board game for the book. Be sure to include the important terms or events in the book, as well as characters if there are any in the book.</p>
<p>Create trading cards for each character in your book. Illustrate the front of the card. Be sure to include character traits about each character on the back of the card such as their appearance, feelings, actions, flaws, and any specifics for that character.</p>	<p>Create a Power Point, YouTube video, TikTok video, etc., summarizing your book. You will need email or share with your teacher and parent.</p>	<p>Make a trifold. Answer one of the following questions on each section of the trifold. Illustrate your trifold. Who were the main characters? What was the problem that had to be solved? How was the problem resolved? How did the characters change over time during the book? What was your favorite part of the book? What did you learn while reading this book?</p>

3. Summer Writing Journal—due, Thursday, September 4th!

Instructions: Write a journal entry at least once a week. Each entry should be at least one paragraph long (5-8 GOOD, DETAILED sentences). You should have a **minimum of ten pieces** of complete writing. (This does not mean write ten times in August). You may choose to use the suggested topics below or choose topics of your own. Be as creative as you want. 😊

More information...

- a. Journals can be handwritten or typed. If typed, print it out and put it in a prong folder or presentation folder. Handwritten journals can be kept in composition or spiral notebook.
- b. Do not rush through these writing assignments. Each piece should be an example of quality work. Reread your work and then reread it again later. Make corrections as needed.
- c. Remember to start paragraphs with a “hook” or interesting introductory sentence, include 3-5 detail sentences and end the paragraph with a concluding sentence.
- d. Students know that sentences begin with capital letters and end with punctuation. Students also know that sentences fragments or sentences without a subject and/or predicate are not acceptable. Do not guess how to spell words...look them up or use spell check!
- e. If you do any research, cite your book, newspaper, and/or internet sources. Also, write your findings in your own words. Do not plagiarize!
- f. Make it fun! Write about things you love, activities you enjoy doing, things that matter to YOU.

Writing Topic Suggestions:

- During school breaks, many families embark on vacations. Share your experience of a recent vacation or, if you haven't been on one, describe the dream vacation you'd like your family to take.
- Nature walk reflection: Take a leisurely stroll in nature and document your observations of plants and animals in a well-structured paragraph.
- News article summary: Select a news article and provide a concise summary including the who, what, when, where, why, and how aspects, as relevant.
- Flag Day exploration: Investigate the origins of Flag Day, celebrated on June 14, to gain insights into its historical significance. Write a paragraph explaining why this holiday is commemorated.
- Juneteenth speech: Compose a speech expressing your personal understanding of freedom in commemoration of Juneteenth, a day that marks the end of slavery in the United States in 1865.
- Favorite summer activity: As the first day of summer approaches on June 21, reflect on and describe your preferred summer activity.
- Summer recipe collection: Compile a notebook displaying your beloved summer recipes, complete with detailed instructions and ingredients.
- Movie review: Immerse yourself in the role of a movie critic and write a captivating review of a film, offering your perspective on its merits.
- Fireworks history: With July 4th being Independence Day in the United States, explore the history of fireworks. Pen a paragraph or two to convey your discoveries about this fascinating tradition.

- Postcard design and note: On July 6, the first picture postcard was created. Design a postcard featuring one of your favorite destinations and write a descriptive note to a friend, vividly portraying the place depicted on the postcard. Remember to include greetings, addresses, and a closing.
- Ultimate sugar cookie description: Celebrate "National Sugar Cookie Day" on July 9 by crafting an enticing paragraph that describes the perfect sugar cookie. Engage your reader's senses with tantalizing details about taste, touch, smell, sight, and even sound. Accompany your description with a mouthwatering sketch of this delectable treat.
- Space travel exploration: Reflect on the Apollo 11 mission, which lifted off to the moon on July 16, 1969. Share your perspective on whether humans will ever inhabit the moon, reasons for or against it, the potential economic costs, and the wisdom of allocating resources to this endeavor.
- Disneyland and Disney World: Discuss the opening of Disneyland in 1955 and compare it to the opening of Disney World. Examine which park receives more visitors and share your favorite activities at Disney. Lastly, contemplate the future plans for each park.
- Poem honoring American history: In honor of Francis Scott Key, who wrote "The Star-Spangled Banner," create your own poem commemorating a significant event in American history.
- Characteristics of a great friend: Ponder the qualities that make a friend truly exceptional. Craft a "want ad" describing the traits you seek in a "Great Friend" and highlight the actions and characteristics that define an ideal friendship.
- Smokey the Bear's history: Delve into the story behind Smokey the Bear, the iconic safety-conscious character born on August 9, 1944. Research and write about the historical background of Smokey the Bear.
- Impact of computers and technology: Reflect on the influence of computers and technology on our lives. Explore the ways they have enhanced our daily experiences and consider potential drawbacks or negative impacts they may have caused.

