

Incoming Seventh Grade Summer Reading

Middle School Summer Reading Activities:

1. Read the mandatory novel that is listed for your grade level. Students will discuss this book in class during the first week of school and will be tested on this novel.
2. Choose and read one book from the optional list that is provided for your grade level. Students will be required to take the Accelerated Reader test on this book during the first week of school.
3. In lieu of a project, students will complete a reading skills packet that will cover basic comprehension skills. This packet will be provided on the SCS website for each grade level. The skills packet will be due Friday, the first week of school and will count as a homework grade. If the student does not complete the skills packet, he/she will lose 10 points from his/her homework grade. The skills packet will be reviewed in class and then the material from the skills packet will be assessed on the same test as the mandatory novel on Friday, the second week of school. The AR test for the optional novel selection is due Wednesday, the second week of school.

*The mandatory novel section of the teacher-made test will be worth 60 points, and the skills section of the teacher-made test will be worth 30 points. The AR test on the optional book will be worth 10 points.

*The score from the teacher-made test (on the mandatory novel and skills) will be combined with the score from the AR test (on the optional novel) and will count as a 100 point test grade.

*Please remember to check reviews on amazon.com before choosing a novel from the optional list. These reviews will help to guide you in your selection of a novel.

7th Grade List

Mandatory Novel:

The Wednesday Wars

By: Gary D. Schmidt

Historical Fiction: Meet Holling Hoodhood, a seventh-grader at Camillo Junior High, who must spend Wednesday afternoons with his teacher, Mrs. Baker, while the rest of the class has religious instruction. Mrs. Baker doesn't like Holling — he's sure of it. Why else would she make him read the plays of William Shakespeare outside class?

Gary D. Schmidt offers an unforgettable antihero in *The Wednesday Wars* — a wonderfully witty and compelling novel about a teenage boy's mishaps and adventures over the course of the 1967–68 school year.

Excerpt from Scholastic.com Book Wizard Review

Optional Novels:
Fiction

1. *Double Identity*

By: Margaret Peterson Haddix

Science Fiction: Bethany's parents have always been overprotective, but when they suddenly drop out of sight, leaving her with an aunt she never knew existed, Bethany uncovers shocking secrets that make her question everything she thought she knew about herself.

2. *Rules*

By: Cynthia Lord

Realistic Fiction: Frustrated at life with an autistic brother, twelve-year-old Catherine longs for a normal existence, but her world is further complicated by a friendship with a teenage boy in a wheelchair.

3. *Last Shot: A Final Four Mystery*

By: John Feinstein

Mystery: After winning a basketball reporting contest, eighth graders Stevie and Susan Carol are sent to cover the Final Four tournament in New Orleans, where they discover that a talented player is being blackmailed into throwing the final game.

4. *The Cay*

By: Theodore Taylor

After the freighter on which Phillip and his mother were traveling from wartime Curacao to the U.S. is torpedoed, the boy finds himself dependent on an old West Indian for survival.

Nonfiction

5. *Children of The Great Depression*

By: Russell Freedman

Nonfiction: Russell Freedman illuminates the lives of the American children affected by the economic and social changes of the Great Depression. Middle-class urban youth, migrant farm laborers, boxcar kids, children whose families found themselves struggling for survival. Even so, life had its bright spots--like favorite games and radio shows--and many young people remained upbeat and optimistic about the future.

6. *The Tarantula Scientist*

By: Sy Montgomery

Nonfiction: This book describes the research that spider scientist Samuel Marshall and his students are doing on tarantulas.

7. *Orphan Train Rider: One Boy's True Story*

By: Andrea Warren

Nonfiction: This book gives information about orphan trains carrying homeless children to be placed in the West. It tells the heartrending story of one boy's life before and after he experienced a new way of life.

Course Reading

****Materials will be ordered by St. Catherine; do not purchase separately****

Seventh Grade Required Reading (Non-Honors)

1st Quarter – *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton

2nd Quarter – *And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie

3rd Quarter – Short Stories & Poetry Anthology

4th Quarter – *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

Seventh Grade Required Reading (Honors)

1st Quarter – *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton

2nd Quarter – *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by *William Shakespeare*

3rd Quarter - *A Separate Peace* by John Knowles

4th Quarter - *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

St. Catherine of Siena
Middle School Summer Reading Packet
7th Grade

NAME _____

The reading packet is to be completed by the student during the summer to reinforce skills learned in previous grades. The packet is to be turned in on the designated due date.

A. SKILL- PREFIX AND SUFFIX

Rewrite each word by breaking apart the root word from the prefix or suffix. The first one has been done as an example.

- | | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------|-------|--|---|--|-------|
| 1. | Fanciful = | fancy | | + | | ful |
| 2. | Breakable= | _____ | | + | | _____ |
| 3. | Smokiness= | _____ | | + | | _____ |
| 4. | Happily= | _____ | | + | | _____ |
| 5. | Bicycle= | _____ | | + | | _____ |
| 6. | Mistreat= | _____ | | + | | _____ |
| 7. | Submarine= | _____ | | + | | _____ |
| 8. | Interact= | _____ | | + | | _____ |
| 9. | Friendship= | _____ | | + | | _____ |
| 10. | React= | _____ | | + | | _____ |

B. SKILL- CONFUSING WORDS

Circle the word that correctly completes each sentence.

- Remember to use a (capital, capitol) letter to begin each sentence.
- Jacob is taller (then, than) Michael.
- Be careful not to (loose, lose) your textbooks.
- Everyone was asked to stay seated (accept, except) Kevin.
- Eating right has a positive (effect, affect) on your body.
- I live (further, farther) from the school than Ashley.

7. Which movie did you (choose, chose) to see?
8. Please send me a (recent, resent) picture to put in the file.
9. The athlete was (confidant, confident) that his team had won.
10. The surprise birthday party turned out (good, well).

C. SKILL- CONTEXT CLUES

Read each dictionary entry below. Then read each sentence and decide which definition of the word is meant. Write the number of the correct definition next to each sentence.

Extract:	a. to draw or pull out b. a product such as a juice made by withdrawing from a source
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1. The dentist needed to extract the bad tooth. _____
2. I used vanilla extract in the recipe. _____

Monitor:	a. a student assistant b. a screen used for viewing c. to check or test
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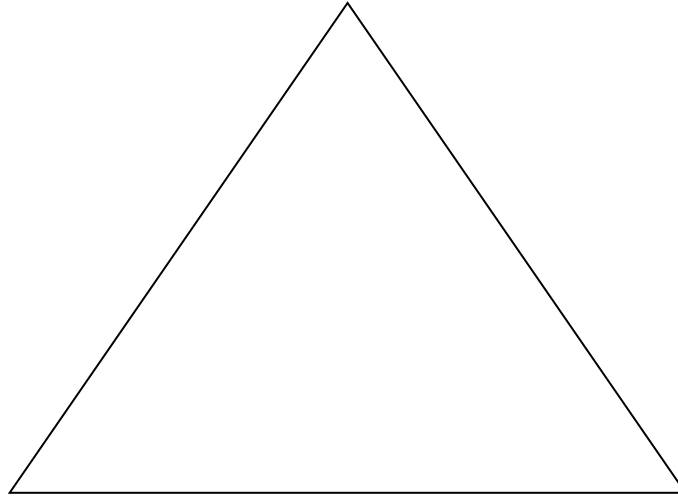
1. Mr. Henderson will monitor our progress on the project. _____
2. I am having trouble with the monitor on my computer. _____

Draft:	a. the act of drawing b. the selection of a person for a military service c. a current of air d. an early sketch, outline, or version
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1. Martha finished the rough draft of her paper. _____
2. The architect will draft the blueprints of our house. _____
3. Please shut the window to keep out the draft. _____

D. SKILL- FREYTAG'S TRIANGLE

Label the 5 parts of Freytag's Plot Triangle correctly. (Think: What are the five parts of plot?)



E. SKILL- SEQUENCING

Read the passage, which describes how to repot a plant. Then, number the steps below the story in the proper order.

Repotting a plant that has grown too large for its container is important. First, you will need to purchase a pot that is two times larger than the base of the plant. Check this carefully. Then purchase potting soil and peat moss. Mix the two together in a wheelbarrow, and fill the new container halfway with the mixture. Carefully move the plant from the old pot into the new one. Fill the pot to the top with the remaining mixture, and then water it.

- _____ Buy potting soil and peat moss.
- _____ Water the plant.
- _____ Mix the potting soil with the peat moss.
- _____ Purchase a new pot.
- _____ Move the plant from the old pot to the new one.
- _____ Fill the pot to the top with the soil mixture.
- _____ Put half of the soil mixture into the pot.

F. SKILL- CAUSE AND EFFECT

Read each set of effects and circle the letter of the most likely cause of these effects.

1. Amy’s phone and television were taken away from her, and she has to come straight home from school. What most likely caused this?
 - A. She earned a reward.
 - B. She was grounded.
 - C. She had to babysit her little brother.

2. Cole won first place in the district speech competition. What most likely caused this?
 - A. He made up his speech at the competition.
 - B. His competitors were not prepared.
 - C. He chose a good topic and held the judge’s attention.

3. Sheila did not know any answers on the test, and she had a funny feeling in her stomach. All she could think about was the movie she stayed up late to watch. What most likely caused this?
 - A. Sheila did not study for this test.
 - B. Sheila was well-rested.
 - C. Sheila had a bad cold.

G. SKILL- SUMMARIZING

Read each movie summary and then answer the questions on the next page.

Professional Dreamer	Polar Ice Cap
Mike becomes a star basketball player, but only when he is sleep-walking. This comedy follows Mike through the championship game and helps him to see that he has more than just dreams of a basketball career.	This documentary follows two explorers through a year-long expedition to the polar ice cap. Beautiful images and amazing facts about the history of the region will keep you interested for hours.
It Does Come Back	Wild, Wild West
This thriller will keep you on the edge of your seats. Three friends explore a scary house, only to discover visitors from another planet. And they are NOT friendly.	This historical drama tells the story of one family’s journey West. The focus of this tale is the family’s struggle with the harsh climate and rugged trail. The beauty of the Old West is almost another character in this moving and heart-filled story.

1. If you love a good scare, you would go see _____.
2. People who like nature would go see _____.
3. If you want a good laugh, you would go see _____.
4. History lovers will want to see _____.
5. Which movie is probably NOT appropriate for young children? _____.

H. SKILL- POINT OF VIEW

Read each sentence. Write **F** if it is written in the first person point of view and write **T** if it is written in the third person point of view.

1. _____ She bought a newspaper on her way to work.
2. _____ The children followed the fire truck in the parade.
3. _____ I don't think we should waste time arguing.
4. _____ We celebrated the holiday at my aunt and uncle's cabin.
5. _____ Her cat jumped on the table and broke my glass.
6. _____ She said, "I don't know what I am going to do."
7. _____ The boy broke his arm when he fell from the tree.
8. _____ Why did you take my favorite notebook?
9. _____ Our soccer team won a trophy for first place.
10. _____ The star basketball player made the winning shot just as the buzzer sounded.

I. SKILL- MAIN IDEA AND SUPPORTING DETAILS

Read the main idea statement. Draw an **X** next to the detail that does **NOT** support it.

Proper cleanup of your campsite is important.

- _____ You must be sure that your campfire is completely extinguished.
- _____ Never leave food lying around because it will attract wild animals.
- _____ Camping trailers are a good way to enjoy the outdoors.
- _____ Be sure to pick up all garbage and dispose of it properly.

I (CONT). SKILL- MAIN IDEA AND SUPPORTING DETAILS

Read each story from a school newspaper. Identify the main idea and write the matching title above the article.

One Student's Triumph
Future Plans Announced

Lunch Room Rules
History Brought to Life

1. _____

A local theater group visited Greenburg School on Friday to present a play called *The Way It Was*. The play is a collection of stories about the founding of our town. Local historians interviewed 25 citizens to gather information and memories about events that brought our town together. The play was a real lesson from our past.

2. _____

Megan Rider returned to school today after recovering from a terrible bike accident. Megan broke her leg and arm in the collision that left her unconscious for a brief time. After six weeks of difficult rehab, Megan is walking without the assistance of her crutches. She wants to thank everyone who sent cards and letters while she was away.

3. _____

Students are no longer permitted to bring soda into the cafeteria. School officials are hoping to promote a healthier diet by making this restriction. Students will be allowed to bring milk, juice, and bottled water.

4. _____

The buildings committee unveiled the drawings for the new gymnasium yesterday. The new building will be twice the size of the current one. A new scoreboard and locker rooms will also be added. The sports program will greatly benefit from these changes.

J. SKILL- USING REFERENCE MATERIALS

Read the summaries of the reference books. Then tell which reference book you might use to find the information below.

Almanac- year publication with lists, charts and tables which summarizes information from many different fields

Atlas- book of maps and often contains population information

Book of Quotations- listing of well-known sayings, usually by famous people

Thesaurus- a book of synonyms and antonyms

1. The name of the mountain ranges in Colorado- _____
2. Who said "live and let live"- _____
3. Number of gold medalists from China in the 2000 Olympics- _____
4. Synonym of the word unique- _____
5. Population of Chicago, IL- _____

