

DGCS JR. HIGH SUMMER READING LIST

All students are required to do two things:

1. Choose one book to read from the following list of fiction. After reading the book, print out and answer the "Book Discussion Questions." This will be due the first day of class.
2. Choose one non-fiction book from the appropriate ***Rising Grade*** list. Read the book and be prepared to discuss it the first week of school.

Fiction Choices

Fantasy/Sci-Fi

The Always War by Margaret Peterson Haddix

Anomaly by Krista McGee

Dragon's Tooth by N.D. Wilson

The Game by Monica Hughes

The Hero and the Crown by Robin McKinley

The Mark of the Thief by Jennifer Nielsen

Once Was a Time by Leila Sales

On the Edge of the Dark Sea of Darkness (The Wingfeather Saga) by Andrew Peterson

The Prince Warriors by Priscilla Shirer

The Outcasts (Brotherband Chronicles) by John Flanagan

The Ranger's Apprentice by John Flanagan

Under Their Skin by Margaret Peterson Haddix

The Unwanteds by Lisa McMann

Historical Fiction

Angel on the Square by Gloria Whelan

Private Peaceful by Michael Morpurgo

Full Cicada Moon by Marilyn Hilton

A Night Divided by Jennifer Nielsen

Genevieve's War by Patricia Reilly Giff

Catherine Called Birdy by Karen Cushman

Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson

Homecoming by Cynthia Voigt

Heart of a Samurai by Margi Preus

The Merchant's Daughter by Melanie Dickerson

Echo by Pam Munoz Ryan

Mystery

Book Scavenger by Jennifer Bertman

The Case of the Missing Marquess: An Enola Holmes Mystery by Nancy Springer

Realistic Fiction

Almost Paradise by Corabel Shofner

Beyond the Bright Sea by Lauren Wolk

The Goldfish Boy by Lisa Thompson

Summer Promise (Christy Miller) by Robin Jones Gunn

As Brave as You by Jason Reynolds

A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park

Non-Fiction Choices

Rising 6th Non-fiction

The Boys in the Boat (Young Readers' Edition) by Daniel Brown

Boy on the Wooden Box by Leon Leyson

No Summit out of Sight: The True Story of the Youngest Person to Climb the Seven Summits by Jordan Romero

Untamed: The Wild Life of Jane Goodall by Anita Silvey

I am Malala (Young Readers' Edition) by Malala Yousafzai

Rising 7th Non-fiction

Eleanor's Story: An American Girl In Hitler's Germany by Eleanor Garner

The Longitude Prize by John Harrison

Samurai Rising: The Epic Life of Minamoto Yoshitsune by Pamela S. Turner

No Better Friend: A Man, a Dog, and their Incredible True Story of Friendship and Survival in World War II (Young Readers' Edition) by Robert Weintraub

Guts by Gary Paulsen

Rising 8th Non-fiction

Chinese Cinderella by Adeline Yen Mah

All Creatures Great and Small by James Herriot

Within Reach: My Everest Story by Mark Pfitzer

The Plot to Kill Hitler: Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Spy, Unlikely Hero by Patricia McCormick

The Family Romanov by Candace Fleming

“...What a miracle it is that out of these small, flat, rigid squares of paper unfolds world after world after world, worlds that sing to you, comfort and quiet or excite you. Books help us understand who we are and how we are to behave. They show us what community and friendship mean...”—Anne Lamott

BOOK DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Describe the setting of the story (time, place, season, year, etc).
2. Why is the time period important to the story? Explain using an example.
3. Who was your favorite character? What did you appreciate about him/her?
4. Consider the main character: What does he/she believe in? What is he/she willing to fight for? What is important to him/her?

5. Pick one minor character and explain why this character is important to the story.

6. What was more important, the characters or the plot? In other words, was this book more about what people were doing or what people were thinking? Explain your answer with three (3) specific examples.

7. What events in the story stand out to you as memorable? List three.

8. How did the author build suspense in the story? Did he/she incorporate foreshadowing? Explain your answer.

9. From whose point of view is the story told? **How** do you think it might have been different if another character was telling the story?

10. Give at least four specific examples where the author used concrete or specific descriptions of people, places, and events. Please copy the sentences from the book and include page numbers.

11. What mood did the book convey? Write out at least three lines from the book that show the mood of the story.

12. What were some of the major themes of the book? List three.