

Middle School/English 8

The Lakeway Christian Academy English Department is excited to share information about the Summer Reading Program, an effort to encourage ongoing learning and student growth beyond the confines of the school year. By participating in the Summer Reading Program, students actively combat the educational regression that naturally occurs over the summer months. Reading over the summer months is an important opportunity for students to stay engaged and to develop a lifelong commitment to reading and learning.

The Lakeway English Department requires all students to read at least one book over the summer. The titles were selected with the purposes of student engagement and preparation for the coming year. Families will find the specific information for the eighth grade attached to this letter. The books cover a variety of genres, topics, difficulty, and length. It is mandatory that Honors English students read two books on the attached list and complete the accompanying assignments for them. Students in Regular English will choose any book from the attached list and complete the assignment for Regular English. All books are available for purchase in stores and online, as well as through the public library.

Students must complete and turn in a hard copy of their summer reading assignment word document by the first day of the first week of school. After this time, teachers will incorporate activities into their lessons that address the required summer reading. Note that though all assignments are due in hard copy, online document submissions will be made in class through Turnitin, our school's plagiarism detection service.

Plagiarism is a very serious issue in the academic world. Sometimes labeled as "literary theft," plagiarism is defined by the Council of Writing Program Administrators (WPA) as follows: "In an instructional setting, plagiarism occurs when a writer deliberately uses someone else's language, ideas, or other original (not common-knowledge) material without acknowledging its source." This definition applies to texts published in print or on-line, to manuscripts, and to the work of other student writers. As Christians, we are called to a high standard of living. "Be holy, because I am holy," our Heavenly Father commands us. Students are expected to know and abide by the above definition of plagiarism. This definition is binding on any and all writing assignments students may complete for any class, whether it be formal or informal. Written work should reflect the individual student's ideas and writing; if ideas are shared between students, those ideas should be cited in an individual's papers.

Thank you for continuing to invest in reading and education. Remember, the most important part of Summer Reading is that you enjoy it! The attached books contain fantastic stories and interesting characters. Have a great summer and happy reading!

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CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS



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English 8 and Advanced English 8 Reading List 2023-2024

Lakeway Christian Academy Middle School

Step-by-Step to Summer Reading

1. Choose a book from the list below. *Advanced classes must complete two books and finish the book summary assignment for each. The book selfie assignment is only required for one.* It must be a book that you have not yet read.
 - a. *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle
 - b. *Murder on the Orient Express* by Agatha Christie
 - c. *Soul Surfer* by Bethany Hamilton
 - d. *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* by Jules Verne
 - e. *White Fang* by Jack London
 - f. *Lyddie* by Katherine Patterson
2. Read the book over the summer.
3. Complete the assignments on the following page and be prepared to turn them in on Tuesday, August 15th.

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS

I. Book Summary Assignment

Complete the following questions in a word document, print and turn in the hard copy.

Short answer questions:

1. What is the setting?
2. Who are the main characters?
 - a. What are the character traits of one of the main characters?
 - i. What is the motivation of this main character?
3. What is the inciting incident?
4. What is the rising incident?
5. What is the main conflict in the story?
 - a. Is this conflict internal or external?
 - i. Is the conflict man vs man, man vs self, man vs a greater force
6. What is the climax?
7. What is the falling action?
8. What is the resolution?

Choose one of the following questions and answer in a complete paragraph. Your paragraph should be 5-7 sentences long and contain a topic sentence and conclusion/clincher sentence. Thoroughly explain the answer in your paragraph including references to the book. Finally, proofread and revise for grammar, punctuation, or spelling errors.

1. How do you relate to the main character?
2. How does the conflict compare to something you have experienced?
3. What can you learn from this story?

II. Book Selfie Project

Book Selfie Instructions:

Please take a Book Selfie with your summer book! Choose a location that is special to you. It could be your favorite place to read or a beautiful location outside. Your selfie may be taken with a camera, cell phone, ipad, etc. It must be taken vertically ↑, not horizontally. Once you have taken your selfie, you will need to have it printed out. This can be done at a local Walgreens, CVS, or WalMart for a very small fee. The Book Selfie should be a 5"x7" color print with a glossy finish. Following directions matters!

In addition to taking a Book Selfie and having it printed, you will complete the Book Selfie information page that goes along with it. The selfie should then be glued onto the information page.

Have fun! 😊