

BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
SUMMER 2017 MIDDLE SCHOOL READING ASSIGNMENTS



Students are to complete an assignment of their selection below of the assigned book and another project on the any of the remaining two self-selected choices.

Summer Reading Projects:

Once you have finished reading your novels and you are ready to get creative, complete 1 project (6<sup>th</sup> Grade & On-Level Language Arts) or 2 projects (Honors Language Arts) from the list below. A description of the projects can be found below. Follow these requirements:

- You must complete the required number of projects.
- Project is due THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL (teacher discretion will determine late credit)
- Creativity is a MUST!

Writer's Corner:

- Write an alternative ending
- Author "interview"
- Write a book review
- Newspaper article

Tech Savvy

- Create a Powerpoint
- Create a Brochure
- Create a VoiceThread
- Character Expose

Artist's Nook

- Create a diorama
- Design a movie poster
- Design an alternative book cover
- Create a comic strip

Performance Art

- \* These must be performed in front of the class
- Compose a song/rap about your book
- Write a monologue
- Create a news report about the conflict

WRITER'S CORNER

**Re-write the Ending:** Have you ever LOVED a book but HATED the ending? Well, this is your chance to make things right. For this summer reading project, you get to step into the shoes of the author and re-write the ending. Show the author of your book how it is done!

Requirements:

- Re-write is at least one paragraph (SEVEN sentences)
- Re-write is original (does not resemble original ending)
- Re-write is easy to read and follow (grammatical errors do not impede understanding)
- Typed

**Create an Interview:** This is your chance to ask all of the questions that you have ever wanted to ask your favorite author. Not only do you get to ask the questions, you get to use your creative juices to come up with possible answers! So, get ready to let the reporter in you go wild!

Requirements:

- Compose five questions
- Compose five plausible (possible) answers (at least THREE SENTENCE answers)
- Questions and answers are clear (grammatical errors do not impede understanding)
- Typed

**Book Critique:** Everyone has an opinion, and this is your chance to let yours be known. Whether you loved your book, or hated it, we want to know. Give us an honest critique of a book of your choice, and don't hold back. Who knows? Your critique could influence future reading lists!

Requirements:

- Critique must be at least one paragraph (SEVEN sentences)
- Critique gives clear, specific reasons (at least three) for loving (or hating) the book
- Critique is easy to read and follow (grammatical errors do not impede understanding)
- Typed

**Newspaper Article:** Are you a journalist trapped in the body of a middle schooler? Take this chance to let your inner journalist shine! Identify the major conflict (problem) in your book of choice. Then, turn that conflict into an action packed news story.

Requirements:

- Article is at least one paragraph (SEVEN sentences)
- Article includes the 5 W's (who, what, when, where, why)
- Article is clear and easy to read (grammatical errors do not impede understanding)
- Typed

## **TECH SAVVY**

**Create a Powerpoint:** Start thinking out of the box and into the Powerpoint! Using Microsoft Powerpoint, create a slideshow presentation using animations and timers between slides that discuss the literature elements of your novel. (i.e. theme, point of view, style, etc.)

Requirements:

- Slideshow should be no more than 3 minutes in length
- You should not read from your slides but instead use them only for presenting to your audience
- Last slide should be used for discussion questions.
- Slideshow should include the cover title and author of the book (include a picture of the cover of the book)
- Be creative

**Create a Brochure:** Tired of boring posters made with markers and crayons? Time to take posters to a new level using Microsoft Publisher and create a brochure that would encourage everyone to read your book

Requirements:

- Brochure includes main pieces of the plot (exposition, rising action, conflict, climax, falling action, resolution)
- Brochure will include at least three pictures
- Brochure is colorful

**Create a Storybook using Voicethread:** Tell a story in a whole new way using Voicethread. Pick your pictures, use your own words, and make the story your own! Check out [www.voicethread.com](http://www.voicethread.com) to get started.

Requirements:

- Voicethread includes a slide for each part of the plot (exposition, rising action, conflict, climax, falling action, resolution)
- Each slide includes at least one picture
- Each slide includes at least three sentences (may be typed in or read aloud using microphone)

**Character Expose:** Time to meet the characters you love (or love to hate), and Prezi is the tool to help you do it! Using [www.prezi.com](http://www.prezi.com), allow us to take a closer look at the characters in a novel of your choice.

Requirements:

- Prezi must include expose on FIVE characters
- Each expose must include: name, three character traits with PROOF from the text, picture (use descriptions from the book to find a picture to match what the character *could* look like)
- Prezi is colorful and easy to follow

### **ARTIST'S NOOK**

**Diorama:** Bring your favorite scene to life! Using a leftover shoebox, or a discarded box top, create a miniature version of the scene that you LOVED from your book of choice. Don't forget to be as detailed as possible; let the viewer "see" your scene.

Requirements:

- Diorama accurately depicts a scene from the novel
- Paragraph (SEVEN sentences) description of the scene is included
- Diorama includes specific details from the novel

**Design a Movie Poster:** It's official; the book that you just read is going to be made into a movie and YOU have been chosen to create the poster that will advertise its' release. Let those creative juices flow, and make use want to see that movie!

Requirements:

- Title of the book and rating of the movie is included (R, PG-13, PG, etc.)
- Poster accurately depicts a scene from the book
- Poster is colorful and neat (no ripped edges, smeared colors, etc.)
- FULL SIZE poster is used

**Alternative Book Cover:** The saying may go “don’t judge a book by its’ cover”, but that is exactly what most people do. Well, it’s time to remedy that problem with a little bit of creativity. Create a new and fresh cover for your book of choice; a cover that can allow viewers to accurately judge the book.

Requirements:

- Book cover includes the title and author
- Book cover is colorful and includes picture/s
- Book cover is no smaller than a standard sized piece of computer paper

**Comic Strip:** Who says comics are for kids? Take your novel of choice, and turn it into an artistic masterpiece! Use this template (click “template” to access) to get yourself started.

Requirements:

- Comic includes at least six scene squares
- Each scene square represents a piece of the plot (exposition, rising action, conflict, climax, falling action, resolution)
- Each scene square includes pictures AND speech bubbles
- Comic is colorful

## **PERFORMANCE ART**

**Create a Song or a Rap:** For years, stories were told through song. So, let’s get old school! Compose a song, or write a rap, that describes the plot of a novel of your choice. When you present your song or rap, we should be able to hear exactly what happened in the story, without actually reading it.

Requirements:

- Song/rap includes each piece of the plot (exposition, rising action, conflict, climax, falling action, resolution)
- Song/rap is at least fifteen lines (at least five words per line)
- Typed

REMEMBER, YOU MUST BE WILLING TO PERFORM YOUR SONG/RAP IN FRONT OF THE CLASS.

**Monologue:** Time to step into the shoes of a character in a novel of your choosing. Identify EITHER the protagonist (“good guy”) or the antagonist (“bad guy”) in your novel. Then, compose a monologue (speech by one character in a play) that describes the main conflict from your character’s point of view. Remember, the protagonist and antagonist will often view the same situation in very different way.

Requirements:

- Monologue must be at least a paragraph (SEVEN sentences) long
- Monologue must be from the point of view of the chosen character (protagonist or antagonist)
- Monologue must clearly identify the main conflict in the novel
- Typed monologue must be turned in to teacher

Remember, you must be willing to PERFORM your song/rap in front of the class.

**Newscast:** Extra! Extra! Hear all about it! For this project, you need to identify the most EXCITING part of your novel of choice. Then, dressed in your best, create and video tape the story. Try watching some evening news for ideas on how to make your video as authentic as possible.

Requirements:

- Newscast must clearly identify the 5 W's (who, what, when, where, why) of the most exciting part of the novel
- Wardrobe is authentic (business suit, not bathing suit)
- Newscast sounds well-rehearsed and professional. Remember, you must be willing to allow the class to view your newscast.