



## Middle School Summer Reading 2009-2010

Summer reading is meant to be enjoyable as well as a means for keeping skills sharp. This will be the case, however, only if you really understand the books you read. Don't rush through your reading. As you read, consider the questions found below. Be able to answer these questions as they apply to each book you read in class discussions beginning the first day of school. Takes notes on the story elements contained in each question, and bring these notes with you to class on the first day of school. These notes will not be collected or graded, but they will help you as the books are reviewed in class.

1. What is the setting of the story? Does the setting change during the course of the story? Is the setting important to the plot?
2. Who are the main characters in the story? Do the characters change during the story? Do they change for the better based on things they have learned?
3. What is the main conflict in the story?
4. How is the main conflict resolved?

6<sup>th</sup> grade choose two books from the following list:

*The Great Gilly Hopkins* by Katherine Paterson  
\*\**Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life* by Wendy Mass  
*Wild Man Island* by Will Hobbs  
*The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* by Avi  
*Things Not Seen* by Andrew Clements  
*Marley, a Dog Like No Other* by John Grogan  
*A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle

7<sup>th</sup> grade choose two books from the following list:

*Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan  
*Nowhere to Call Home* by Cynthia de Felice  
*The Sea of Monsters* by Rick Riordan (any sequel to *The Lightning Thief* is fine)  
\*\**Touching Spirit Bear* by Ben Mikaelson  
*The Shakespeare Stealer* by Gary Blackwood  
*Uglies* by Scott Westerfeld

8<sup>th</sup> grade choose two books from the following list:

\*\**The House of the Scorpion* by Nancy Farmer  
*Big Mouth, Ugly Girl* by Joyce Carol Oates  
*I Am David* by Anne Holm  
*This Side of Paradise* by Steven Layne  
*Olive's Ocean* by Kevin Henkes  
*Pretties or Specials* by Scott Westerfeld (sequels to *Uglies*)

\*\*Historically a top pick by teachers and students