



**SAIL High School**

## Steps To Success

# Summer of 2024 Summer Reading Projects

All students and teachers will read at least one book from the enclosed book list. After reading the book, students will complete one project (see choices and rubric on page 4). **Remember that all projects include a writing component.**

Summer reading counts as a significant grade for English class. During the second week of school, students and teachers will meet in book groups to discuss the book and share student projects. Discussion groups give both students and teachers the chance to connect to the literature by sharing their reactions, questions, and insights.

*Per School Board Policy 2240, Leon County Schools recognizes that certain instructional materials may conflict with a student's or parent's value system. In such cases, a parent may request in writing an alternative Summer Reading Assignment. Please direct inquiries to Emily Bell at [belle@leonschools.net](mailto:belle@leonschools.net)*

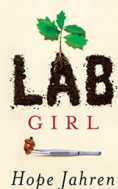
- Choose one book to read from the list.
- Read the book.
- Choose one project from the list.
- Complete the project.
- Come to school the first week ready to discuss the book and present your project.

## Be prepared to answer the following types of questions in your discussion group:

1. What surprised or intrigued you about the book? How did this keep you involved/interested in the book?
2. What did you like/dislike about the book?
3. What is one of your favorite parts of the book and why is it your favorite? Be Specific!
4. What dialogue and/or descriptions exemplified the author's style as it relates to setting, theme, or characterization?
5. Compare an experience you have had to the experience of one of the characters in the book. Use details from both the story and your own experiences in the comparison.
6. What would you have done in the main character's place?
7. Choose one character from the book. What influenced or inspired the character to act the way they did or say what they said?

**Summer Reading counts as a significant grade for your English Class.**

## 2024 Summer Reading Choices

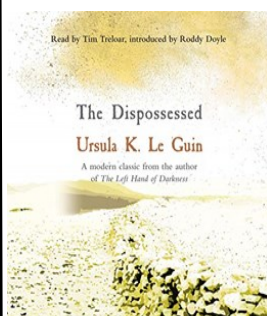


### Lab Girl by Hope Jahren

In these pages, Hope takes us back to her Minnesota childhood, where she spent hours in unfettered play in her father's college laboratory. She tells us how she found a sanctuary in science, learning to perform lab work "with both the heart and the hands." She introduces us to Bill, her brilliant, eccentric lab manager. And she extends the mantle of *scientist* to each one of her readers, inviting us to join her in observing and protecting our environment.

### And the Earth did not devour him by Tomas Rivera

Tomas Rivera's classic novel about the migrant worker experience. Rivera's masterpiece recounts the experiences of a Mexican-American community through the eyes of a young boy. Forced to leave their home in search of work, the migrants are exploited by farmers, shopkeepers, even other Mexican Americans, and the boy must forge his identity in the face of exploitation, death and disease, constant moving and conflicts with school officials.

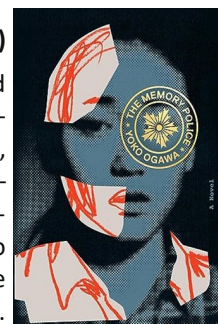


### The Dispossessed: A Novel by Ursula K. Le Guin

A profound and thoughtful tale of anarchism and capitalism, individualism and collectivism, and one ambitious man's quest to bridge the ideological chasm separating two worlds. A bleak moon settled by utopian anarchists, Anarres has long been isolated from other worlds, including its mother planet, Urras—a civilization of warring nations, great poverty, and immense wealth. Now Shevek, a brilliant physicist, is determined to reunite the two planets, which have been divided by centuries of distrust. He will seek answers, question the unquestionable, and attempt to tear down the walls of hatred that have kept them apart.

### The Memory Police: A Novel by Yoko Ogawa (Author), Stephen Snyder (Translator)

*The Giver* for Adults. Finalist for the International Booker Prize and the National Book Award. A haunting Orwellian novel about the terrors of state surveillance, from the acclaimed author of *The Housekeeper and the Professor*. On an unnamed island, objects are disappearing: first hats, then ribbons, birds, roses. . . . Most of the inhabitants are oblivious to these changes, while those few able to recall the lost objects live in fear of the draconian Memory Police, who are committed to ensuring that what has disappeared remains forgotten. When a young writer discovers that her editor is in danger, she concocts a plan to hide him beneath her floorboards, and together they cling to her writing as the last way of preserving the past. Powerful and provocative, *The Memory Police* is a stunning novel about the trauma of loss.



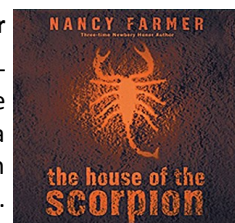
### The Color of Magic Terry Pratchett

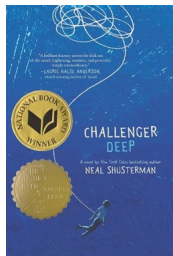
*Imagine, if you will . . . a flat world sitting on the backs of four elephants who hurtle through space balanced on a giant turtle. In truth, the Discworld is not so different from our own. Yet, at the same time, very different . . . but not so much.*

In this, the maiden voyage through Terry Pratchett's divinely and recognizably twisted alternate dimension, the well-meaning but remarkably inept wizard Rincewind encounters something hitherto unknown in the Discworld: *a tourist!* Twoflower has arrived, Luggage by his side, to take in the sights and, unfortunately, has cast his lot with a most inappropriate tour guide—a decision that could result in Twoflower's becoming not only Discworld's first visitor from elsewhere . . . but quite possibly, portentously, its very last. And, of course, he's brought Luggage along, which has a mind of its own. And teeth.

### The House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer

Matt Alacrán wasn't born. He was harvested. His DNA came from El Patrón, the drug-lord ruler of the country of Opium. Most people hate and fear clones like Matt—except for El Patrón. El Patrón loves Matt as he loves himself, because Matt *is* himself. As Matt struggles to understand his existence, he is threatened by a sinister cast of characters, and realizes escape is his only chance to survive. But escape from the Alacrán Estate is no guarantee of freedom.

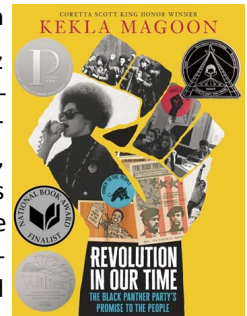




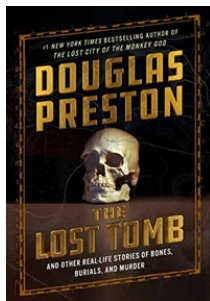
### **Challenger Deep by Neil Schusterman**

Caden Bosch is on a galleon that's headed for the deepest point on Earth: Challenger Deep, the southern part of the Marianas Trench. Bosch is a brilliant high school student whose friends are starting to notice his odd behavior. He is designated the ship's artist in residence to document the journey with images. Bosch pretends to join the school track team but spends his days walking for miles, absorbed by the thoughts in his head. He is split between his allegiance to the captain and the allure of mutiny. He is torn. He is dealing with schizophrenia... and as fantasy and paranoia begin to take over, his parents have only one choice left.

### **Revolution in Our Times by Kekla Magoon**



A National Book Award Finalist; A Coretta Scott King Author Award Honor Book; A Michael L. Printz Honor Book. With passion and precision, Kekla Magoon relays an essential account of the Black Panthers—as militant revolutionaries and as human rights advocates working to defend and protect their community. In this comprehensive, inspiring, and all-too-relevant history of the Black Panther Party, Kekla Magoon introduces readers to the Panthers' community activism. Revolution in Our Time puts the Panthers in the proper context of Black American history, from the first arrival of enslaved people to the Black Lives Matter movement of today. Kekla Magoon's eye-opening work invites a new generation of readers grappling with injustices in the United States to learn from the Panthers' history and courage, inspiring them to take their own place in the ongoing fight for justice.

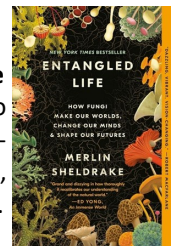


### **The Lost Tomb: And Other Real-Life Stories of Bones, Burials, and Murder by Douglas Preston**

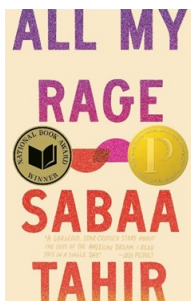
Douglas Preston, the #1 bestselling author of The Lost City of the Monkey God, presents jaw-dropping true stories of Egyptian burial chambers, prehistoric ruins, pirate treasure, bizarre crimes, and more...

What's it like to be the first to enter an Egyptian burial chamber that's been sealed for thousands of years? What horrifying secret was found among the prehistoric ruins of the American Southwest? Who really was the infamous the Monster of Florence? The Lost Tomb brings together an astonishing and compelling collection of true stories about buried treasure, enigmatic murders, lost tombs, bizarre crimes, and other fascinating tales of the past and present.

### **Entangled Life: The Illustrated Edition: How Fungi Make Our Worlds by Merlin Sheldrake**



When we think of fungi, we likely think of mushrooms. But mushrooms are only fruiting bodies, analogous to apples on a tree. Most fungi live out of sight yet make up a massively diverse kingdom of organisms that supports and sustains nearly all living systems. Fungi provide a key to understanding the planet on which we live, and the ways we think, feel, and behave.



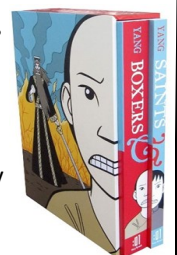
### **All My Rage by Sabaa Tahir**

National Book Award WINNER, Printz Award for Excellence in Young Adult Literature WINNER. "All My Rage is a love story, a tragedy and an infectious teenage fever dream about what home means when you feel you don't fit in." — New York Times Book Review. Sal scrambles to run the family motel as his mother Misbah's health fails and his grieving father loses himself to alcoholism. Noor, meanwhile, walks a harrowing tightrope: working at her wrathful uncle's liquor store while hiding the fact that she's applying to college so she can escape him—and Juniper—forever.

When Sal's attempts to save the motel spiral out of control, he and Noor must ask themselves what friendship is worth—and what it takes to defeat the monsters in their pasts and the ones in their midst.

### **Boxers and Saints ( 2 graphic novels) by Gene Luen Yang, the author of American Born Chinese**

In two volumes, Boxers & Saints tells two parallel stories. The first is of Little Bao, a Chinese peasant boy whose village is abused and plundered by Westerners claiming the role of missionaries. Little Bao joins a violent uprising against the Western interlopers. Against all odds, their grass-roots rebellion is successful. But in the second volume, Yang lays out the opposite side of the conflict. A girl whose village has no place for her is taken in by Christian missionaries and finds, for the first time, a home with them. As the Boxer Rebellion gains momentum, Vibiana must decide whether to abandon her Christian friends or to commit herself fully to Christianity.



# Project Guidelines

## 1. Artistic Work, i.e. Quilt Square, Needlework, Painting, Sculpture, Mixed Media Art, etc.

As you read the book, think about the important concepts, images, or themes of the book. Design a piece that incorporates these ideas, images, or themes and reflects the book. The piece should measure at least 9 x 9 inches. **In a paragraph explain why you chose the images, colors, media, etc. for your work, include at least 5 quotations that influenced your artistic choices.**

## 2. Alternative Ending

How many times have you wished you could rewrite the ending of a book? Here's your chance to tie up all of the loose ends and resolve the story in a way you like. **Write at least five paragraphs to retell the ending and include at least 5 specific references to quotations that influenced your new ending.**

## 3. Book Map (Ideal for Non-fiction)

Create a map or collection of maps that reference important locations in the book. You can create a poster or digital map. You may use your illustrations, art, photos, collages from actual maps, etc. **You must include at least 5 significant quotations from the book and explain how these impacted your maps.**

## 4. Video Book Talk (Ideal for Non-fiction)

Design and produce a commercial to “sell” your book and hook readers. The video should be at least 5 minutes long. Review the book, explaining its strengths as well as your own recommendations or similar/related books. Be sure to explain what type of reader will enjoy this book and why.

**You must choose at least 5 quotations from the book and in a paragraph explain their significance and how these passages affected the review.**

## 5. Museum Exhibit (Ideal for non-fiction)

Create a museum exhibit, or a digital version of a museum exhibit, to explain, demonstrate, or illustrate key ideas or concepts from your book. Your exhibit must include at least 5 elements. Elements can include objects, pictures of objects, demonstrations, videos, photos, primary documents, etc. **You must include a paragraph for each element explaining what it is and how it relates to the topic.**

## 6. Original Play

Continue the story line or show interactions between characters outside the story. Write a script including dialogue, stage directions, scenery, and any necessary commentary in proper format. **In a paragraph explain why you have chosen to write the scene, include at least 5 quotations from the book, and show how these influenced your play/scene.**

## 7. Postcards From There

Create a series of four or more postcards that one of the characters has written throughout the course of the story to a friend. The front side should have an artistic image that represents the storyline. **The back side should include an address and stamp side, along with a message (minimum 1 paragraph) from one of the novel’s characters.**

# Summer Reading Project Grading Rubric

	<b><u>4 points</u></b>	<b><u>3 points</u></b>	<b><u>2 points</u></b>	<b><u>1 point</u></b>
<b>Understanding of the Text</b>	The product reflects thorough understanding of complex ideas and concepts in the text.	The product reflects understanding of the text beyond just the recall of facts.	The product reflects a basic understanding of the text.	The product reflects limited understanding of the text; there is little evidence that the text was
<b>Mechanics of Writing</b>	The writing reflects appropriate spelling, grammar, punctuation, and sentence formation.	The writing has few spelling, grammar, punctuation, or sentence formation errors which do not interfere with comprehension.	The writing has many spelling, grammar, punctuation, or sentence formation errors. The errors interfere with comprehension.	The writing reflects minimal control of spelling, grammar, punctuation, and/or sentence formation. It is difficult to read.
<b>Writing/Art/Video Product</b>	The product reflects careful attention to detail and effort, and guidelines were completely followed.	The product reflects some attention to detail and effort, and guidelines were followed.	The product reflects minimal attention to detail and effort, and guidelines were not followed.	The product reflects poor effort, and the guidelines were not followed.
<b>Group Discussion</b>	The student participates and his/her contribution to the discussion reflects a thorough understanding of the concepts and themes of the text.	The student participates and his/her contribution to the discussion reflects an understanding of the text beyond just the recall of facts.	The student participates and his/her contribution to the discussion reflects a basic understanding of the text.	The student does not participate or his/her contribution reflects a limited understanding of the text; there is little evidence that the text was even read.