



Summer Reading Program

Summer is just around the corner, and among other things vacation, family time, outdoor activities, and hopefully relaxation. We want you to take advantage of this time and enjoy yourself. In addition, we want you to be a successful student. A summer reading program has been shown to enhance your reading development. We hope that you take this opportunity to explore literature through analysis and thoughtful interpretation.

Requirements

For this program, students must read **one** of the grade level novels listed below. Complete the prewriting activity and turn in by **Tuesday, August 22, 2017**. This activity may be found on the Montford Webpage www.leonschools.net/montford. A writing prompt related to the novel will be assigned at the start of the school year, and a test on the novel will be administered.

Book Selections

8th grade: *Under a War Torn Sky* by L.M. Elliott

Airborn by Kenneth Oppel

The Running Dream by Wendelin Van Draanen

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 Joyce Madsen.

MONTFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL 2017/2018 SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Required Activity—Rising Eighth Graders

*This activity must be completed by all students entering the eighth grade at Montford in preparation for an assignment in Language Arts class. **The assignment is due before or on Tuesday August 22, 2017.***

Name _____ Date _____
Period _____

Circle the novel you chose:

The Running Dream by Wendelin Van Draanen ***Under a War Torn Sky*** by L.M. Elliott ***Airborn*** by Kenneth Oppel

***You may need to use a separate sheet of paper to write or type your answers.**

All responses should be written in complete sentences. Please be specific with your answers to ensure that you will be able to respond to a classroom writing assignment.

1. Characterization.

a. Tell all about the protagonist (main character). Be specific about appearance, age, name, personality qualities, and character traits. _____

b. A character's motivation is what drives him or to behave, think, and interact in a particular way. What is the protagonist's motivation? _____

c. How did the main character change or progress from the beginning to the end of the book? To gather clues about changes in a character's personality, notice a character's words, actions, reactions, feelings, movements, thoughts, mannerisms, and what other characters say about or react to him or her.

2. Conflict.

a. Describe the conflict or central problem in the novel. **This novel explores external conflict among forces outside the characters, and internal conflict which occurs inside the characters.**

b. How were the conflicts resolved? _____

c. Tell whether or not the resolution was satisfactory to the main character and why.

3. Plot and setting.

a. What is the setting of your novel?

b. List at least **five** important events from the book in chronological order. Be sure to include events from the beginning, middle, and end of the book.

c. What is the climax of the novel? _____

d. What is a theme, or life lesson, in the novel? _____

4. Life Lessons

a. Briefly describe a life lesson that can be learned from this novel. Perhaps the protagonist learns a lesson from one of his experiences that you could use.

b. Choose a key passage from one of the chapters that offers clues to the novel's life lesson you listed above. Copy the passage word for word. (This passage should be at least one paragraph.) Include the page number (or chapter location if reading on an electronic device) where you found this passage in the book.

c. Explain why you selected this passage as an example of the life lesson.

5. Recommendation. Would you recommend this book for others to read? Write a brief review of the book expressing your opinion about it, and tell why others should or should not read it.

REMEMBER: THIS ASSIGNMENT IS DUE BEFORE OR ON TUESDAY AUGUST 22, 2017.