



Suggested Summer ELA Assignment 2020

Dear Viking Families;

During the summer months, it is important that students continue their learning to prevent academic summer loss. The Christina School District will continue its literacy initiative for students by encouraging all students in grades 6-8 to read a novel during the summer months. Summer reading should be fun and enjoyable and participation will support student growth in the upcoming year.

Students may choose a book from the list below or from one of the links provided. In addition to the reading, students will complete tasks that will challenge them to reflect and make connections to self and community. The summer assignments are optional for students and they will not be completing work for a grade. If students elect to complete the tasks, he or she will receive a homework pass that can be used during the marking period listed, on a standard homework assignment (not to be used on major assignments or projects). In order to receive the homework passes, students must turn in the summer reading tasks to the ELA teacher, tentatively by 9/9/20. Please try to challenge yourself with the book you select!

Students will be asked to obtain books at local bookstores, online, or the public library.

All information regarding the summer reading at <https://www.christinak12.org/domain/2022> under the 'Summer Assignment' tab.

Choose your own book from one of these links

- <http://time.com/100-best-young-adult-books/>
- <https://www.npr.org/2012/08/07/157847723/top-100-teen-books>
- <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/best-fiction-young-adults>

Local Books Stores:

Barnes & Noble

Concord Mall
Wilmington, DE
302-478-9677

Barnes & Noble

Christiana Mall
Newark, DE
302-369-7050

Local Libraries:

Bear Public Library

101 Governors Pl
Bear, DE 19701
302-838-3300

Kirkwood Library

6000 Kirkwood Hwy
Wilmington, DE 19808
302-995-7663

New Castle Public Library

424 Delaware St
New Castle, DE 19720
302-328-1995

Delaware City Public Library

250 5th St
Delaware City, DE 19706
302-834-4148

Newark Free Library

750 Library Ave
Newark, DE 19711
302-731-7550

Wilmington Public Library

10 E 10th St
Wilmington, DE 19801
302-571-7400

Book	Description
<p>A Girl Named Disaster by Nancy Farmer Realistic Fiction (750L)</p>	<p>Eleven-year-old Nhamo lives in a traditional village in Mozambique, where she doesn't quite fit in. When her family tries to force her into marrying a cruel man, she runs away to Zimbabwe, hoping to find the father she's never met. But what should have been a short boat trip across the border turns into a dangerous yearlong adventure, and Nhamo must summon her innermost courage to ensure her survival.</p>
<p>Hatchet by Gary Paulson Fiction (1020L)</p>	<p>Thirteen-year-old Brian Robeson, haunted by his secret knowledge of his mother's infidelity, is traveling by single-engine plane to visit his father for the first time since the divorce. When the plane crashes, killing the pilot, the sole survivor is Brian. He is alone in the Canadian wilderness with nothing but his clothing, a tattered windbreaker, and the hatchet his mother had given him as a present.</p> <p>At first consumed by despair and self-pity, Brian slowly learns survival skills—how to make a shelter for himself, how to hunt and fish and forage for food, how to make a fire—and even finds the courage to start over from scratch when a tornado ravages his campsite. When Brian is finally rescued after fifty-four days in the wild, he emerges from his ordeal with new patience and maturity, and a greater understanding of himself and his parents.</p>
<p>The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien Fantasy Fiction (1000L)</p>	<p>Bilbo Baggins is a hobbit who enjoys a comfortable, unambitious life, rarely traveling any farther than his pantry or cellar. But his contentment is disturbed when the wizard Gandalf and a company of dwarves arrive on his doorstep one day to whisk him away on an adventure. They have launched a plot to raid the treasure hoard guarded by Smaug the Magnificent, a large and very dangerous dragon. Bilbo reluctantly joins their quest, unaware that on his journey to the Lonely Mountain he will encounter both a magic ring and a frightening creature known as Gollum.</p>
<p>Aru Shah and the End of Time by Roshani Chokshi Fantasy Fiction (630L)</p>	<p>Aru Shah, in an attempt to impress some friends from school, lights a cursed lamp and frees an ancient demon intent on awakening the God of Destruction. To stop the demon and save the world, Aru must find the reincarnations of the Pandava brothers, heroes of Hindu myth, and travel through the Kingdom of Death.</p>
<p>Macy McMillian and the Rainbow Goddess by Shari Green Fiction in Prose (870L)</p>	<p>Sixth grade is coming to an end, and so is life as Macy McMillan knows it. Soon her mother will upend their little family, adding an unwelcome stepfather and pesky six-year-old twin stepsisters. But then Macy meets an odd friend. And this friendship, odd and unexpected, may be just what Macy needs to face the changes in her life.</p>
<p>Refugee by Alan Gratz Historical Fiction (800L)</p>	<p>A Jewish boy living in 1930s Nazi Germany. A Cuban girl in 1994. A Syrian boy in 2015. All three kids go on harrowing journeys in search of refuge. All will face unimaginable dangers -- from drownings to bombings to betrayals. But there is always the hope of tomorrow. And although Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud are separated by continents and decades, shocking connections will tie their stories together in the end.</p>
<p>The Eye of Minds (The Mortality Doctrine, Book One) by James Dashner Fiction (790L)</p>	<p>The VirtNet offers total mind and body immersion, and the more hacking skills you have, the more fun it is. Why bother following the rules when it's so easy to break them? But some rules were made for a reason. Some technology is too dangerous to fool with. And one gamer has been doing exactly that, with murderous results.</p> <p>The government knows that to catch a hacker, you need a hacker. And they've been watching Michael. If he accepts their challenge, Michael will need to go off the VirtNet grid, to the back alleys and corners of the system human eyes have never seen—and it's possible that the line between game and reality will be blurred forever.</p>
<p>The Witch of Blackbird Pond By Elizabeth George Speare Fiction (850L)</p>	<p>Sixteen-year-old Kit Tyler is marked by suspicion and disapproval from the moment she arrives on the unfamiliar shores of colonial Connecticut in 1687. Alone and desperate, she has been forced to leave her beloved home on the island of Barbados and join a family she has never met. Torn between her quest for belonging and her desire to be true to herself, Kit struggles to survive in a hostile place. Just when it seems she must give up, she finds a kindred spirit. But Kit's friendship with Hannah Tupper, believed by the colonists to be a witch, proves more taboo than she could have imagined and ultimately forces Kit to choose between her heart and her duty.</p>

<p>The Boys in the Boat By Daniel James Brown (1260L)</p>	<p>Out of the depths of the Depression comes an irresistible story about beating the odds and finding hope in the most desperate of times—the improbable, intimate account of how nine working-class boys from the American West showed the world at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin what true grit really meant.</p> <p>It was an unlikely quest from the start. With a team composed of the sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers, the University of Washington’s eight-oar crew team was never expected to defeat the elite teams of the East Coast and Great Britain, yet they did, going on to shock the world by defeating the German team rowing for Adolf Hitler. The emotional heart of the tale lies with Joe Rantz, a teenager without family or prospects, who rows not only to regain his shattered self-regard but also to find a real place for himself in the world. Drawing on the boys’ own journals and vivid memories of a once-in-a-lifetime shared dream, Brown has created an unforgettable portrait of an era, a celebration of a remarkable achievement, and a chronicle of one extraordinary young man’s personal quest.</p>
<p>Seabiscuit By Laura Hillenbrand (990L)</p>	<p>Seabiscuit was one of the most electrifying and popular attractions in sports history and the single biggest newsmaker in the world in 1938, receiving more coverage than FDR, Hitler, or Mussolini. But his success was a surprise to the racing establishment, which had written off the crooked-legged racehorse with the sad tail. Three men changed Seabiscuit’s fortunes: Charles Howard was a onetime bicycle repairman who introduced the automobile to the western United States and became an overnight millionaire. When he needed a trainer for his new racehorses, he hired Tom Smith, a mysterious mustang breaker from the Colorado plains. Smith urged Howard to buy Seabiscuit for a bargain-basement price, then hired as his jockey Red Pollard, a failed boxer who was blind in one eye, half-crippled, and prone to quoting passages from Ralph Waldo Emerson. Over four years, these unlikely partners survived a phenomenal run of bad fortune, conspiracy, and severe injury to transform Seabiscuit from a neurotic, pathologically indolent also-ran into an American sports icon.</p>
<p>Malala By Malala Yousafzai (830L)</p>	<p>I Am Malala. This is my story.</p> <p>Malala Yousafzai was only ten years old when the Taliban took control of her region. They said music was a crime. They said women weren't allowed to go to the market. They said girls couldn't go to school.</p> <p>Raised in a once-peaceful area of Pakistan transformed by terrorism, Malala was taught to stand up for what she believes. So she fought for her right to be educated. And on October 9, 2012, she nearly lost her life for the cause: She was shot point-blank while riding the bus on her way home from school.</p> <p>No one expected her to survive.</p> <p>Now Malala is an international symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest ever Nobel Peace Prize winner. In this Young Readers Edition of her bestselling memoir, which has been reimagined specifically for a younger audience and includes exclusive photos and material, we hear firsthand the remarkable story of a girl who knew from a young age that she wanted to change the world -- and did.</p> <p>Malala's powerful story will open your eyes to another world and will make you believe in hope, truth, miracles and the possibility that one person -- one young person -- can inspire change in her community and beyond.'</p>
<p>Brown Girl Dreaming By Jacqueline Woodson (990L)</p>	<p>Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child’s soul as she searches for her place in the world. Woodson’s eloquent poetry also reflects the joy of finding her voice through writing stories, despite the fact that she struggled with reading as a child. Her love of stories inspired her and stayed with her, creating the first sparks of the gifted writer she was to become.</p>
<p>Speak By Laurie Halse Anderson (690L)</p>	<p>"Speak up for yourself--we want to know what you have to say." From the first moment of her freshman year at Merryweather High, Melinda knows this is a big fat lie, part of the nonsense of high school. She is friendless, outcast, because she busted an end-of-summer party by calling the cops, so now nobody will talk to her, let alone listen to her. As time passes, she becomes increasingly isolated and practically stops talking altogether. Only her art class offers any solace, and it is through her work on an art project that she is finally able to face what really happened at that terrible party: she was raped by an upperclassman, a guy who still attends Merryweather and is still a threat to her. Her healing process has just</p>

	<p>begun when she has another violent encounter with him. But this time Melinda fights back, refuses to be silent, and thereby achieves a measure of vindication. In Laurie Halse Anderson's powerful novel, an utterly believable heroine with a bitterly ironic voice delivers a blow to the hypocritical world of high school. She speaks for many a disenfranchised teenager while demonstrating the importance of speaking up for oneself.</p>
<p>Flipped By Wendelin Van Draanen (720L)</p>	<p>The first time she saw him, she flipped. The first time he saw her, he ran. That was the second grade, but not much has changed by the seventh. Juli says: "My Bryce. Still walking around with my first kiss." He says: "It's been six years of strategic avoidance and social discomfort." But in the eighth grade everything gets turned upside down: just as Bryce is thinking that there's maybe more to Juli than meets the eye, she's thinking that he's not quite all he seemed.</p>
<p>The Crossover By Kwame Alexander (750L)</p>	<p>"With a bolt of lightning on my kicks . . . The court is SIZZLING. My sweat is DRIZZLING. Stop all that quivering. 'Cuz tonight I'm delivering," raps twelve-year-old Josh Bell. Thanks to their dad, he and his twin brother, Jordan, are kings on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood—he's got mad beats, too, which help him find his rhythm when it's all on the line.</p> <p>As their winning season unfolds, things begin to change. When Jordan meets a girl, the twins' bond unravels. Told in dynamic verse, this fast and furious middle grade novel that started it all absolutely bounces with rhythm and bursts with heart.</p>
<p>The Boy in Striped Pajamas By John Boyne (1000L)</p>	<p>Berlin, 1942: When Bruno returns home from school one day, he discovers that his belongings are being packed in crates. His father has received a promotion and the family must move to a new house far, far away, where there is no one to play with and nothing to do. A tall fence stretches as far as the eye can see and cuts him off from the strange people in the distance.</p> <p>But Bruno longs to be an explorer and decides that there must be more to this desolate new place than meets the eye. While exploring his new environment, he meets another boy whose life and circumstances are very different from his own, and their meeting results in a friendship that has devastating consequences.</p>
<p>Small Steps: The Year I got Polio By Peg Kehret (830L)</p>	<p>In a riveting story of courage and hope, Peg Kehret writes about months spent in a hospital when she was twelve, first struggling to survive a severe case of polio, then slowly learning to walk again.</p>
<p>Batman Science: Real World Science By Agnieszka Józefina Biskup & Tammy Enz Fiction (930L)</p>	<p>Batman conquers crime with brains, brawn, and a whole lot of high-tech gadgetry. Batman Science explores the surprising ways the Caped Crusader's gear and gadgets actually connect to reality. Accessible text, real-world photos, and Batman illustrations team up to reveal the real science and engineering behind Batman's fictional world.</p>

Tasks

Marking Period 1 Homework Pass

Task 1 – Gist Challenge

Give the gist (main idea) of the story in exactly 25 words. Place a small number above each word to count them.

Marking Period 2 Homework Pass

Task 2 – Theme and Events

Create a cover for your novel on a sheet of blank paper or construction paper. Include images, memes, or pictures that depict the major themes and events in your novel. On the back or the cover, explain what each visual represents.

Marking Period 3 Homework Pass

Task 3 – Making Connections

Write a one to two page reflection that addresses the following questions. As you write be sure to include evidence from the text to support your reflections.

- Explain your reactions to the novel. What did you enjoy, dislike, favorite characters, etc...
- What lessons did you learn from the book and how can they be applied to the world and/or other young people?

Marking Period 4 Homework Pass

Task 4 – Challenge

It is important that as readers we are able to make connections and relate to the material that we read. Your challenge is to find a 2018 or 2019 published article that you think connects to the themes, characters or events in your novel in some interesting, meaningful way, and explain how in 450 words or less. Be sure to include the article/source with your essay.

You can choose any article, Op-Ed, image, video, graphic or podcast, or anything else you like, as long as it was published between 2018 or 2019.

Helpful links: delawareonline.com, nytimes.com, usatoday.com

***** Be sure to include your name, grade, book title and author on all Tasks. BE CREATIVE!**