

Summer Reading Requirements for All Rising 7th Graders

The seventh grade English and Language Arts teachers want to further our students' already voracious appetite for reading by having them explore the newest contemporary writers available as well as allowing them to continue reading from the well-established literary canon. Please read the instructions below and follow them to be successful on your first book project in seventh grade. This book project will be included in your first quarter grade.

Summer Reading Assignment:

1. Select and read *at least* one book from the 2022-23 South Carolina either the [Junior](#) or [Young Adult](#) Book Award Nominee list; students should **not** select a book from the Picture or Children's list for this project. Both lists can be accessed by visiting www.scasl.net and clicking on the link for [NEW! 2022-2023 Book Award Nominees](#)

****Important Note for Parents & Students:** Charleston School of the Arts recognizes that all readers need a variety of books from which to choose. Some books on these lists may contain mature subject matter. The **Young Adult** category suggests more mature content and may not be suitable for all students, whereas the **Junior** list is geared towards the middle school student. We encourage all parents to have conversations with their children about book choices.

2. Design and create a full page (8 ½" by 11) new dust cover for one of the books you read from the SC Book Award Nominee lists. Watch this YouTube video on [Inside Random House: "The Art of Cover Design"](#) to better understand book cover designs. The cover should be designed to attract readers to the book, but it should also give potential readers enough information -- both in imagery and in words-to help them decide whether it is a book they think they would enjoy reading, which includes:

- **Front Cover:** features the **title** and **author** of the book in a clear and obvious way. The front cover of a book includes **illustrations** that feature any of the following: one or more characters, the setting, a specific event, or an important symbol in the book.
- **Back Cover:** Include any information that might interest readers in the book. Some books have the **illustrations** from the front cover wrap all the way around the book, so you can see a continuation of this scene from the front of the book extended across the back. Besides your illustrations, you also need more information -- an enticing **summary** of the book of 5 to 11 sentences and a 1 or 2 **reviews** either by you or by you *pretending* to be a famous author.
- **Book's Spine:** Although small, it is often the most important part because it is the first thing a reader sees when browsing books lined up on a bookshelf or stacked in a pile. It includes the **author, title, & publisher**.
- Do not download pictures of the *existing* novel's cover or use clip art.
- Draw by hand or create cover using a computer program, but it must be colorful and neatly composed showing effort.
- Samples of Student Examples from last year can be viewed [here](#).

3. Answer the questions that follow and place them in your protective sleeve along with your new dust cover. Students who clearly answer all components of the task in complete sentences, respond with relevant support (citing textual evidence), use engaging vocabulary, offer meaningful explanations, and apply correct grammar will earn full credit for each question.

4. Place your dust cover project, your questions, and your Summer Reading Log & Rubric inside a **clear protective sleeve**.

5. Bring your project to class on **August 17, 2022, the first day of school**. You will present your cover to the class. You must also be able to explain to the class the setting, main characters, genre, and the significance of the title you chose.

6. Record all of your summer reading. The purpose of summer reading is to continue to lose yourself in great books and to develop a life-long love of reading, no matter the genre. To continue Charleston County's initiative, we would like you to log ALL of the books you read over the summer months (see attached **Reading Log** on last page) and turn in along with your project.

Mrs. Horschel & Mrs. Viscidi wish you a fun-filled summer & adventures in reading!

“One benefit of Summer was that each day we had more light to read by.”

— Jeannette Walls, *The Glass Castle*

Name: _____ Book Title: _____ Author: _____

Describe in detail and depth who the **main character(s)** is.
How can you relate to this character?

Find an example of textual support (a quote) from the book that supports the description of the **character**. (*Cite page number).

Explain when and where the book takes place. In other words, describe the setting or time period of the text. How does the setting impact the text?	Find an example of textual support (a quote) from the book that supports the description of setting . (*Cite page number).
What is the story's central problem or conflict ? In what ways have you had to deal with issues similar to these?	Find an example of textual support (a quote) from the book that supports the description of conflict . (*Cite page number).
What do you think is the text's central theme or idea? Defend your response.	Find an example of textual support (a quote) from the book that supports your description of the theme . (*Cite page number).

Rubric for Summer Reading Project:

Criteria	A	B	C	D	F
Front Cover	Creative & vividly	Creative &	Depicts the story	Somewhat	Does not show

