



# St. Joseph School

## Middle School Language Arts Assignments READING Assignment & WRITING Assignment

### READING Assignment

Every student will be required to complete two reading assignments – #1. A Teacher assigned book and #2. A fiction book of their choice. Each assignment is described below. The assignments are due on **September 7, 2018**.

#### # 1 Required Reading

Students will be assessed on the book when they return to school in September.

- **Entering Grade 6**

*Bud, not Buddy* by Christopher Paul Curtis

- **Entering Grade 7**

*Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred Taylor

- **Entering Grade 8**

*The Wednesday Wars* by Gary Schmidt

#### #2 Fiction Book Assignment (Your book choice)

**Assignment: Read the book and choose ONE of the below.**

- You are to create a **diorama** of a scene you found to be the most important in the novel. With your diorama, you must include a typed write-up explaining what is happening in the scene and any background information preceding that scene that your audience might need to know. Then, you will explain why this scene was important to the novel. You must be specific in your write-up.
- Your book is being turned into a movie! Create a **movie trailer** of a storyboard reflecting some of the highlights of your novel. This should not be from books that are already a movie or trailers online.
- Create a **Book Jacket**- the “book jacket” that tells about the book you have read, highlighting the story elements such as setting, characters, conflicts, climax, and resolution.

**For book suggestions, please check out the Baltimore County Public Library links:**

[www.bcpl.info/kids-teens-parents-teachers/stories#book-lists](http://www.bcpl.info/kids-teens-parents-teachers/stories#book-lists)

Another helpful website in picking out books with plenty of reviews and parent feedback is Common Sense Media: [www.common Sense Media.org](http://www.common Sense Media.org)

#### **Finding a Book that “FITS”**

1. Go to [lexile.com](http://lexile.com)
2. Choose - select books
3. **The student’s lexile score can be found on their standardized testing report**

PLEASE SEE WRITING ASSIGNMENT BELOW



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### **WRITING Assignment**

All students entering 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades are required to research a place of interest they would like to visit and write a three-paragraph essay. Describe the location (climate etc), explain historical and religious landmarks and why you selected this location. Remember to organize your information and write an essay using the rubric below. The assignment should be typed and is due by **September 7, 2018**.

### **Summer Writing Rubric:**

<b>Element</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Total</b>
Main/idea topic is clearly stated and correctly placed (10)		
All paragraphs have three or more supporting details that relate to the main idea(10)		
Supporting details are well written and informative(10)		
COPS (5) Capitalization, organization, punctuation, spelling		
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>35</b>