



Knox Summer Reading Program 2018-2019



8th Grade Language Arts

Belief Statement

In Conroe ISD, we encourage all students to read over the summer in order to enrich learning and provoke thought. Summer reading strengthens reading skills, increases academic achievement, fosters a love for reading, and empowers students to become life-long learners.

Additionally, students who enroll in a Pre AP or AP English course are expected to engage in summer reading as it prepares students for the upcoming school year and creates an initial common framework for classroom discussion and instruction.

Students will choose **ONE** novel from the following titles*:

- *Ghost* by Jason Reynolds
- *Crossover* by Kwame Alexander
- *Crash* by Jerry Spinelli
- *The Screaming Staircase* by Jonathan Stroud
- *The Book Jumper* by Mechthild Gläser
- *The Alchemist* by Michael Scott
- *Cinder* by Marissa Meyer
- *Dread Nation* by Justina Ireland
- *Project 1065* by Alan Gratz
- *Restart* by Gordon Korman
- *Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli

Parent Note: Please review this information with your child to help him/her choose a book that fits with your family's values. Websites such as goodreads.com, commensensemedia.org, and scholastic.com/teachers/bookwizard offer reviews that might help you make this decision as a family.

*Students will need to use a hard copy of the book for this assignment.

Please plan to start bringing your book with you the first week of school to help you prepare for graded activities over the summer reading.

(See the other side of this handout for instructions about the assignment you will do as you read the novel you have chosen.)

Summer Reading Mad Libs Notes

Mad Libs is a fill-in-the-blank-story game. As you read the novel you have chosen, you will be making "mad lib" notes to interact with the story.

- Divide the book into three equal sections (beginning, middle, & end).
- Choose the **4** most important moments in each section.
- For each moment, think about which of the "mad lib" sentences fits best with your thoughts about that moment.
- Write it on the sticky note, filling in the blanks with your thoughts.
- Then place the sticky note on that page in your book.
- Write the page number on your sticky note. (See example at the bottom.)

Mad Lib Sentences
It is important when _____ realizes _____ because _____. <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-size: small;"> (character) (important idea) (reason) </div>
It is important when _____ changes from _____ to _____ because _____. <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-size: small;"> (character) (trait) (trait) (reason) </div>
It is important when _____ struggles with _____ because _____. <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-size: small;"> (character) (problem) (reason) </div>
It is important when _____ helps _____ understand _____ because _____. <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-size: small;"> (character) (character) (idea) (reason) </div>
It is important when _____ remembers _____ because _____. <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-size: small;"> (character) (idea) (reason) </div>
It is important when _____ reacts with _____ again and again because _____. <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-size: small;"> (character) (emotion) (reason) </div>

Example for novel *Ungifted*

<p><u>Sticky Note Example</u></p> <p>It is important when Donovan remembers his pranks because it shows how he never thinks anything through. (2)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Page from Book</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">They were all right. But, when the <i>thing</i> is right there in front of me, and I can kick it, grab it, shout it out, jump into it, paint it, launch it, or light it on fire, it's like I'm a puppet on a string, powerless to resist. I don't think; I <i>do</i>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">It can be little things, like throwing darts at a pool float to test my sister's swimming skills, or spitting back at the llamas at the zoo. It can be more creative-a helium balloon, a fish hook, and Uncle Mark's toupee.</p>
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