



# Knox Summer Reading Program 2019-2020



## 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](http://goodreads.com), [commensensemedia.org](http://commensensemedia.org), and [scholastic.com/teachers/bookwizard](http://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 Connections Assignment

One skill strong readers practice is making connections as they read. Sometimes we make connections to our personal experiences, to other things we have read, or to the world around us.

- Divide the book into three equal sections (beginning, middle, & end).
- Choose the **3** most meaningful moments in each section.
- For each moment, think about why it was meaningful to you.

Does it connect to an important experience in your own life?	<b>Text to Self</b>
Does it remind you of important ideas in something else you have read such as a book, song, or article?	<b>Text to Text</b>
Does it relate to an important idea or event out in the real world?	<b>Text to World</b>

- Choose one of the sentence stems below and complete it with your thoughts. Write it on the sticky note and place the sticky note on that page in your book.
- Write the page number on your sticky note AND write the type of connection (Text to Self, Text to Text, or Text to World). (See example at the bottom.)
- You should have a minimum of ONE of each type of connection (text to self, text to text, text to world) for each of the three sections of the book (beginning, middle, & end).

### Sentence Stems

**(first blank= detail from story last blank=connection)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ reminded me of \_\_\_\_\_ because...
- \_\_\_\_\_ made me think of \_\_\_\_\_ because...
- When \_\_\_\_\_ happened, I thought of \_\_\_\_\_ because...
- \_\_\_\_\_ is similar to \_\_\_\_\_ because...
- When I read the part about \_\_\_\_\_, I was reminded of a time when \_\_\_\_\_ because...

#### Sticky Note Example

The way Donovan acts without thinking reminded me of when Tony Stark creates Ultron because neither of them think about the consequences of their choices.

(Text to Text- page 2)

#### Example for novel *Ungifted*

##### Page from Book

They were all right. But, when the *thing* 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 *do*.

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.