

Saint James Middle School

2017-2018

Summer Reading:  
English & History

Eighth Grade

SAINT JAMES MIDDLE  
SCHOOL  
READING PROGRAM

2017-2018

The reading program at Saint James Middle School is designed to broaden our students' knowledge of good literature and to provide them additional background for the coming school year. We encourage our students to read and to discuss the texts that are read. Research has shown consistent connections between proficiency with reading comprehension and certain activities, for example:

- The availability of reading material in the home.
- Parental modeling of good reading habits.
- Reading and/or being read to regularly for enjoyment.
- Discussing what you have read with someone or otherwise responding to what you have read.

We believe our summer reading program truly emphasizes the love of reading. Our program provides 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders with a wide range of reading choices. Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade summer reading program complements the history and advanced literature curriculum. Our focus in 8<sup>th</sup> grade requires more detailed application, which will hopefully provide our 8<sup>th</sup> graders with a smoother transition into the high school the following year.

Our ultimate goal is to encourage students to read appropriate selections that can challenge and improve their reading comprehension. We believe our summer reading program will help our students reach this goal while also providing them with a greater appreciation for reading. We hope each student will find these reading assignments will enhance his/her summer experience.

JB Copeland

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

### 8th Grade Summer Reading:

8th grade summer reading has several purposes. One purpose is to encourage reading. Readers are ALWAYS better writers and have larger vocabularies. Another purpose is to encourage critical thinking. The Summer Reading Assessment takes students through all stages of Bloom's Taxonomy to go deeper and to go beyond simple reading comprehension. We will continue to work through these levels as we read all year long in 8th grade to prepare for high school and college level reading. One last, but important, purpose is to blend reading with writing. Students are required to not only recall events from the novels, but to think about events, characters, and situations and to form written responses that require skills in grammatical structure and mechanics. Most of all, through this process, we hope that you will find a book and fall in love with it! There are lots of titles from which to choose. Happy Reading!

\*Incoming 8th graders taking grade level English will select ONE book from the attached summer reading list for their summer reading requirement. Each student must complete the assignment below and give it to the student's Vocabulary teacher on the first day of school for a quiz grade in Vocabulary. Advanced English students will not complete this assignment. Advanced students will read *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and will complete a different assignment. See assignment at the bottom of this packet.

\*In choosing a book, you may find it helpful to visit a website to read a brief synopsis of each selection. Although you will NOT take an AR test on this book, [www.arbookfinder.com](http://www.arbookfinder.com) gives a brief summary of most of the books, which you may find helpful in finding a book that interests you. You are responsible for borrowing (from the local library, or a friend) or purchasing your summer reading book.

## **Questions for Summer Reading Assessment (Grade Level English)**

Directions: Answer **all questions from each section (Knowledge, Comprehension, Analysis, Synthesis, Evaluation)** below to answer about your book. You will *answer a total of ten questions*. **Answer each question in complete sentences**. Make sure to answer the questions completely (all parts of the question). Write your answers on notebook paper in pencil or blue or black ink and number the questions you are answering. You will give your work to your vocabulary teacher on the first day of school.

### **Section 1: Knowledge**

1. What is the time period in which this story takes place? Tell how you know by giving examples from the book that support your answer. If you don't know a specific date or decade, give a general answer (ancient times, colonial times, future, etc.).
2. Describe the main character of the book. Be sure to include actions, looks, general attitude, age, etc.

### **Section 2: Comprehension**

3. What genre (realistic fiction, historical fiction, science fiction, fantasy, mystery, non-fiction, etc.) of book is this? Give three evidences of this from the text.
4. How does the protagonist (main character) change throughout the course of the book? Give at least three examples to support your answer.

### **Section 3: Analysis**

5. In a paragraph of no less than five sentences, state the theme (for fiction) or main idea (for non-fiction) of the book and tell how you know this...give examples from the text. *Remember that theme in fiction is the message that the author is trying to get across to the reader.*
6. In a solid paragraph of no less than five sentences (you may write more), compare and contrast two of the main characters in the book.

### **Section 4: Synthesis**

7. What part of the story would you change in the story and why? Be sure to answer in complete sentences.
8. Identify one conflict (problem) in the book and give an alternative solution, not one given by the author. Tell what you would have done differently and WHY.

## **Section 5: Evaluation**

9. If you could save one character from your book in the event of a disaster (think tornado, hurricane, tsunami, fire, flood, etc...), which one would it be and why. Make sure you give specific reasons ("I like him" is not good enough). Answer in at least three good sentences.
  
10. Did you like the way the story ended? Why or why not? Tell how the story ended in two or three sentences, then explain how you feel about the ending and give a solid reason for your opinion.

## Summer Reading for 8th Grade English

Adams, Douglas	The Restaurant at the End of the Universe
An, Na	*The Fold
Anderson, M.T.	*Jasper Dash and the Flam Pits of Delaware
Avi	*The Traitor's Gate
Avi	*True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle
Barber, Tiki	*Go Long!
Barry, Dave	Peter and the Sword of Mercy
Bartoletti, Susan Campbell	*The Boy Who Dared: A Novel Based on the True Story of a Hitler Youth
Becker, Tom	*Lifeblood
Bell, Hilari	*Sword of Waters
Bell, Ted	Nick of Time
Berry, Julie	*The Amaranth Enchantment
Brashares, Ann	*3 Willows: The Sisterhood Grows
Breen, M.E.	*Darkwood
Bruchac, Joseph	*March Toward the Thunder
Bunce, Elizabeth C.	*A Curse Dark as Gold
Cater, Anne	*The Shepherd's Granddaughter
Clayton, Emma	*The Roar
Colfer, Eoin	The Supernaturalist
Collins, Susanne	*Hunger Games
Collins, Susanne	*Catching Fire
Collins, Susanne	*Mockingjay
Cooney, Caroline B.	Goddess of Yesterday
Cooney, Caroline B.	*Driver's Ed.
Cooney, Caroline B.	Enter Three Witches
Cooney, Caroline B.	*The Face on the Milk Carton
Cooney, Caroline B.	*If the Witness Lied Cooney,
Caroline B.	*They Never Came Back
Cormier, Robert	Tunes for Bears to Dance To
Coy, John	*Box Out
Delaney, Joseph	*Attack of the Fiend (The Last Apprentice Series)
Delaney, Joseph	*Clash of the Demons (The Last Apprentice Series)
Delaney, Joseph	*Curse of the Bane (The Last Apprentice Series)
Delaney, Joseph	*Grimalkin The Witch Assassin(The Last Apprentice Series)
Delaney, Joseph	*Lure of the Dead (The Last Apprentice Series)
Delaney, Joseph	*Night of the Soul Stealer(The Last Apprentice Series)
Delaney, Joseph	*Rage of the Fallen (The Last Apprentice Series)
Delaney, Joseph	*Revenge of the Witch (The Last Apprentice Series)
Delaney, Joseph	*Rise of the Huntress (The Last Apprentice Series)
Delaney, Joseph	*Slither (The Last Apprentice Series)
Delaney, Joseph	*Wrath of the Bloodeye (The Last Apprentice Series)
Deuker, Carl	*Heart of a Champion
Deuker, Carl	*Payback Time

Diamond, Emily	*Raiders' Ransom
Dressen, Sarah	*Along for the Ride
Dressen, Sarah	* Dreamland
Dressen, Sarah	*Just Listen
Dressen, Sarah	*Lock and Key
Dressen, Sarah	*Someone Like You
Dressen, Sarah	* That Summer
Dressen, Sarah	*This Lullaby
Dressen, Sarah	*The Truth About Forever
Dressen, Sarah	*What Happened to Goodbye
Erdrich, Louise	*The Porcupine Year
Feinstein, John	*Change Up: Mystery at the World Series
Feinstein, John	*Vanishing Act: Mystery at the U.S. Open
Feinstein, John	Cover-Up: Mystery at the Super Bowl
Fitzpatrick, Becca	*Crescendo
Fitzpatrick, Becca	*Hush-hush
Fitzpatrick, Becca	Silence
Flanagan, John	*The Battle for Skandia (Ranger's Apprentice Series)
Flanagan, John	*The Burning Bridge (Ranger's Apprentice Series)
Flanagan, John	*The Emperor of Nihon-Ja (Ranger's Apprentice Series)
Flanagan, John	*Erak's Ransom (Ranger's Apprentice Series)
Flanagan, John	* Halt's Peril (Ranger's Apprentice Series)
Flanagan, John	*The Icebound Land (Ranger's Apprentice Series) Flanagan,
John	* The Kings of Clonmel (Ranger's Apprentice Series)
Flanagan, John	*The Ruins of Gorlan (Ranger's Apprentice Series)
Flanagan, John	* The Siege of Macinaw (Ranger's Apprentice Series)
Flanagan, John	*The Sorcerer in the North (Ranger's Apprentice Series)
Frank, Anne	*The Diary of A Young Girl
Frank, Anne	The Diary of A Young Girl: The Definitive
Funke, Cornelia	*Inkdeath
Funke, Cornelia	*Inkspell
Funke, Cornelia	*Inkheart
Goodman, Allegra	*The Other side of the Island
Gratz, Alan	*The Brooklyn Nine
Green, Tim	*The Football Hero
Haber, Melissa	*The Pluto Project
Hahn, Mary Down	*Closed for the Season
Hale, Shannon	*Forest Born
Hale, Shannon	*Book of a Thousand Days
Harper, Charise	*Flashcards of My Life
Harrison, Lisi	*Best Friends for Never
Hesse, Karen	*Brooklyn Bridge
Hesse, Karen	*Out of the Dust
Hiaasen, Carl	*Flush
Hiaasen, Carl	*Scat
Higgins, Jack	*Sharp Shot
Hill, Stuart	The Cry of Icemark
Hobbs, Will	*Downriver

Hobbs, Will	*Down the Yukon
Hobbs, Will	*Far North
Hobbs, Will	*Ghost Canoe
Hobbs, Will	Go Big or Go Home
Hobbs, Will	*Jason's Gold
Holm, Anne	I Am David
Holm, Jennifer	Our Only May Amelia
Horowitz, Anthony	*Ark Angel
Horowitz, Anthony	*Crocodile Tears
Horowitz, Anthony	*Necropolis
Horowitz, Anthony	*Scorpiia Rising
Horowitz, Anthony	*Snakehead
Houston, Jeanne	Farewell to Manzanar
Ibbitson, John	*The Landing
Ingold, Jeanette	Hitch
Ingold, Jeanette	Mountain Solo
Irving, Washington	*The Legend of Sleepy Hollow
Jones, V.M.	*Out of Reach
Kehret, Peg	*Runaway Twin
Kidd, Ronald	*The Year of the Bomb
Klages, Ellen	*White Sands, Red Menace Koller,
Jackie French	Nothing to Fear
Konigsburg, E.	*The Mysterious Edge of the Heroic World
Korman, Gordon	*Pop
Lawrence, Iain	*The Séance
Lawrence, Iain	*The Castaways
Lawson, Robert	Mr. Revere and I
Lowry, Lois	*The Willoughbys
Lupica, Mike	*Million-dollar Throw
Lupica, Mike	*Million-dollar Kick
Marshall, Catherine	*Christy
Mikaelsen, Ben	*Touching Spirit Bear
Mitchell, Sandra	*Shadowed Summer
Meyer, Carolyn	Maria, Dancing
Meyer, Carolyn	*In Mozart's shadow: His Sister's Story
Meyer, Carolyn	*The True Adventures of Charley Darwin
Na, An	*The Fold
Nimmo, Jenny	*Charlie Bone and the Beast
Nimmo, Jenny	*Charlie Bone and the Castle of Mirrors
Nimmo, Jenny	*Charlie Bone and the Hidden King
Nimmo, Jenny	*Charlie Bone and the Invisible Boy
Nimmo, Jenny	*Charlie Bone and the Time Twister
Nimmo, Jenny	*Midnight for Charlie Bone
O'Brien, Johnny	*Day of the Assassins: A Jack Christie Novel
O'Dell, Scott	*The King's Fifth
Oppel, Kenneth	*Half Brother
Patterson, James	*Angel
Patterson, James	*Maximum Ride: The Final Warning

Patterson, James	*Maximum Ride: Max
Patterson, James	*Witch and Wizard
Paver, Michelle	*Oath Breaker
Paver, Michelle	*Outcast
Paver, Michelle	*Spirit Walker
Paver, Michelle	*Wolf Brother
Peacock, Shane	*Death in the Air
Pearson, Mary	* The Fox Inheritance
Pearson, Mary	* The Miles Between
Pearson, Mary	* The Adoration of Jenna Fox
Preus, Margi	*The Heart of a Samurai
Qamar, Amjed	*Beneath My Mother's Feet
Ramthun, Bonnie	*The White Gates
Raskin, Ellen	The Wrestling Game
Rawlings, Marjorie	*The Yearling
Rawls, Wilson	*The Summer of the Monkeys
Reiss, Johanna	The Upstairs Room
Rinaldi, Ann	Secret of Sarah Revere
Riordan, Rick	* The Battle of Labyrinth (The Percy Jackson Series)
Riordan, Rick	*The Last Olympian (The Percy Jackson Series)
Riordan, Rick	* The Lightning Thief (The Percy Jackson Series)
Riordan, Rick	* The Lost Hero (Heroes of Olympus Series)
Riordan, Rick	* The Mark of Athena (Heroes of Olympus Series)
Riordan, Rick	*The Red Pyramid
Riordan, Rick	* The Sea of Monsters (The Percy Jackson Series)
Riordan, Rick	* The Serpent's Shadow
Riordan, Rick	* The Son of Neptune (Heroes of Olympus Series)
Riordan, Rick	* The Throne of Fire
Riordan, Rick	*The Titan's Curse (The Percy Jackson Series)
Riordan, Rick	<b>Any of his books that are in any new series</b>
Roth, Veronica	* Divergent
Roth, Veronica	* Insurgent
Roth, Veronica	*Allegiant
Rylant, Cynthia	A Fine White Dust
Schmidt Gary D.	*Trouble
Sewell, Anna	Black Beauty
Sherlock, Patti	*Letters from Wolfie
Shusterman, Neal	*Antsy Does Time
Slade, Arthur	*The Hunchback Assignment
Smelcer, John	*The Great Death
Smith, Roland	The Captain's Dog
Smith, Roland	*I.Q.
Smith, Roland	*Peak
Snow, Maya	*Sisters of the Sword
Spinelli, J.	*Stargirl
Stevenson, Robert Louis	*Kidnapped
Stewart, Mary	*The Crystal Cave
Taylor, Theodor	*The Cay

Tolkien, J.R.R.	*The Hobbit
Tolkien, J.R.R.	*The Lord of the Rings trilogy (3 titles)
Twain, Mark	*The Adventures of Mark Twain
Voigt, Cynthia	Sons from Afar
Voigt, Cynthia	*Tree by Leaf
Wallace, Bill	Coyote Autumn
Weaver, Will	*Super Stock Rookie
Westerfeld, Scott	*Leviathan
Whelan, Gloria	After the Train
Whelan, Gloria	Burying the Sun
Whelan, Gloria	*Goodbye, Vietnam
Whelan, Gloria	The Locked Garden
Winerip, Michael	*Adam Canfield, the Last Reporter
Winerip, Michael	Adam Canfield of the Slash
Winerip, Michael	*Adam Canfield, Watch Your Back
Wrede, Patricia	*Thirteenth Child
Yep, Laurence	The Mark Twain Murders
Zindel, Paul	*The Doom Stone
Zindel, Paul	*Loch
Zindel, Paul	*The Pigman
Zindel, Paul	Rats
Zindel, Paul	*The Undertaker's Gone Bananas

\* Denotes a Saint James library book. Though you will not be able to check a book out of the school library for the summer, the library (before the end of May) will make an excellent resource for previewing books to help in your selection.

\*\*Email Mrs. Smith ([asmith@stjweb.org](mailto:asmith@stjweb.org)) if you would like approval for any book that is not on this list. Your book must be on 8th grade level or above.

## History Requirements

### *A Break With Charity*

#### Suggested Study Guide

In addition to reading the Literature requirement, you will also be required to read a book entitled A Break With Charity by Ann Rinaldi. This is a novel about the Salem Witch Trials that took place in the late 1600's here in a newly settled America. Ann Rinaldi masterfully weaves the actual people who were either participants or victims of the Salem Witch Trials into her story and centers her tale around a family who was deeply affected by the events that took place during that disturbing time. A Break With Charity is a wonderful novel that will help get you ready for the first two weeks of school. **Both advanced and grade level history students read this book.**

You will be having a test on this novel during the first three weeks of school. We will have one day of review/reading in class... this is strictly an outside novel. Here are my suggestions:

1. Read the book ALL THE WAY THROUGH before trying to fill out people, questions, etc. You will miss out on the excitement and fervor of the book if you are stopping constantly to write things down.
2. The questions below are OPTIONAL!!!! You will not be turning this in to me... it is strictly for you to use if you need a guide of some sort for the book.

The characters below are the main ones that you will be responsible for knowing. You will need to be aware of their significance and the role they played during the Salem Witch Hunt/Trials.

Tituba

Phillip English

Ann Putnam, Jr.

Goody English (Mrs. English) Joseph

Putnam

Susannah English

Giles Cory Reverend

Paris Abigail Hobbs

Sarah Good

Reverend Burroughs

John Dorich

Jonathan Hathorne, Jr.

Rebecca Nurse

\*\* Please note that the terms Goody and Goodman are the equivalent of Mr. and Mrs.

## Comprehension

**After you have read the novel, go back through and answer the following:**

1. When and where do the events of this novel take place?
2. Who was the father of Susanna English?
3. Why did the circle of girls who visited Tituba dislike Susanna?
4. When Dr. Griggs examined Betty Parris and Abigail Williams, what did he say their strange fits were caused by?
5. When the ministers prayed over the afflicted girls, what did they order them to do?
6. Why were Sarah Good and Sarah Osbourne accused of witchcraft?
7. When and why did Susanna's friend Johnathan Hathorne begin to doubt the truth of the witchcraft accusations?
8. According to Tituba, when would Susanna's brother return from the sea?

9. How did the evening celebration of Mary English's engagement to Thomas Hitchbourne end?
  
10. What did Susanna's brother William inform his family of in a letter?
  
11. Who was the first witch hanged on Gallows Hill?
  
12. What was the real reason Susanna stayed in Salem when her sister moved to Boston?
  
13. To whom did Susanna tell that the afflicted girls were pretending their symptoms and accusing innocent people?
  
14. Why did Susanna miss the chance to visit with her parents at John Alden's house in Boston?
  
15. Who did Susanna have a late night conversation with on Gallows Hill which convinced her that there were no witches?
  
16. How was Giles Cory executed for witchcraft?

17. How did Susanna keep her promise to Mary Bradbury?
  
18. In the prologue and epilogue of the novel, why is Susanna in church 14 years after the witch hysteria?
  
19. Did Susanna English consult Tituba to learn the identity of her future husband?
  
20. Were nineteen innocent people hanged and one pressed to death during the Salem witchcraft hysteria?
  
21. Did Tituba tell Susanna that her brother would die at sea?
  
22. Did Salem town officials and ministers encourage girls to learn to read and write?
  
23. Did young Ann Putnam threaten to accuse Susanna's parents of witchcraft if Susanna told people that the circle of afflicted girls was pretending to be bewitched?
  
24. Was Tituba the first Salem resident accused of witchcraft?
  
25. Did Abigail Hobbs confess to being a witch and then accuse her own parents of witchcraft?

26. Did Susanna English live with Reverend Parris while her parents were in jail?
27. Did Ann Putnam keep her promise by not accusing Susanna's parents of witchcraft?
28. Were prisoners or their families required to pay their board while they were in jail?
29. Did the Governor of Massachusetts set up a special court, called the Court of Oyer and Terminer, to try the accused witches?
30. What does spectral evidence mean?
31. Were accused witches who refused to confess hanged? What happened to those who did confess?
32. Were Phillip English's home and belongings confiscated by the sheriff after his arrest?
33. Were Susanna's parents tried and convicted of witchcraft in Salem?
34. Did Susanna believe that Mary Bradbury was a witch who intended to harm her brother

after her meeting with Captain Sam Endicott?

35. Did Giles Cory protect his family's right to inherit his property by refusing to testify in court and avoiding a guilty verdict?

36. Were the parents of Susanna English two of the nineteen people hanged in Salem during the witchcraft hysteria?

37. Did Susanna ever forgive Ann Putnam for her role in the witch hysteria?

38. Does Susanna know how Sam Endicott knew that William would return to Salem on a ship named the Amiable Tiger?

**Summer Reading Guide**  
**ADVANCED HISTORY CLASS**  
**ONLY**  
***Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson**

In addition to *A Break with Charity*, all Advanced American History Students will read *Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson.

You will need to read "Fever 1793" and be prepared to take a test on this book after the American Revolution Unit (first four weeks of school).

We will use one day of class to discuss this book and a study guide will be given. You may use the following website from Scholastic to help guide your reading during the summer.

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/lesson-plan/fever-1793-discussion-guide>

## Advanced 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Literature:

### **Advanced 8th Grade English**

Incoming 8th graders taking Advanced English will not use the Summer Reading List, but are required to read Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. There are several classic versions from which to choose. Usually the classic versions have either a 'forward' or an 'afterward.' Please note that many editions are not the classic version and are abridged. The non-classic versions are unacceptable. You will be quizzed on comprehension of the book on the first day of school, then we will discuss the book in class for a couple of days and test on the novel during the first couple weeks of school. These items are meant to help prepare you for the quiz and the test. **Bring this work to English on the first day of school for a daily grade in English.** The quiz will be counted as a quiz grade in Vocabulary class. The test will be a test grade in Advanced English.

A. Before you read the novel, answer the following questions about Mark Twain. You can find these answers at [www.marktwainmuseum.org](http://www.marktwainmuseum.org) or other sites about this author.

What is Mark Twain's real name?

Where did he grow up?

Why is the river an important part of his works of literature?

Name three of his famous works.

What does "mark twain" mean?

Who was the character Becky Thatcher modeled after? Tell a little about the real person.

Where is the Mark Twain boyhood home and museum?

B. During your reading of the novel:

\*Pay attention to the vocabulary Twain uses. Highlight words you are unfamiliar with. Define the following (according to the definition uses in the novel). Some of these will be on the test.

benediction

inquest

solemnity

lugubrious

consternation

melancholy

stolid

miscreant

crestfallen

odious

vindictive

wistfully

hampered

pariah

harum-scarum

pious

\*Select scenes that are entertaining (simply meant to be funny or interesting) and those that make a point about society (for example..pointing out something negative about the education system of the day). Make a chart to organize these.

\*Think about which characters fit the following characteristics and how. Which character fits into each characteristic the BEST?:

love of freedom

love of adventure

love of the dramatic  
concern for others  
courage

desire to fit into society  
love of pranks and jokes  
resourcefulness or cleverness

\*Think about how the following themes are exemplified in the novel:

adult authority

children at play

church/religious training

goodness

economics

education/school

morality

human nature

superstitions

young love

growth and maturity

conscience

\*Remember, there will also be a comprehension quiz on the first day of school. You will use all of the material from the novel for a test at the beginning of the semester.