

Boca Raton Christian School

Required Summer Reading for Middle School, 2022-2023



BRCS supports reading during the summer! The books listed below are required summer reading for the grade that students will enter in the fall. Each serves as an introduction to the curriculum of the grade level. The books may be purchased from Barnes & Noble or Amazon.com. Some copies are available from the BRCS Media Center. Students will be asked to write about these books and to engage in discussion about them when they return to school. Suggestions for preparing are on page 2. Students should report to school with their SR book(s) and their notes.

Also to encourage students to continue independent reading during the summer months, BRCS provides a separate list of suggested reading, books with high interest for middle school ages.

Entering 6th Grade

***From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E.L. Konigsburg** – Newbery Medal winner. Two children run away to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC. While hiding out, their adventure leads them to an amazing introduction to many cultures and time periods displayed within the museum

Entering 7th Grade

***The Outsiders* by S. E. Hinton** – Forty years ago, the author was only 17 years old when she published this book, which is now a classic for young readers. The story of Ponyboy, 14 years old, recently orphaned, and being raised by an older brother, moved teen fiction into a new realm of gritty reality, where the social system of 20th century teenagers can be cruel and unfair. It's a modern take on the themes of class conflict, brotherly love, and coming of age.

Entering 8th Grade

***Getting Away with Murder* by Chris Crowe** – This book recounts the murder of Emmett Till, a 14-year-old African American, and the failure of the justice system to convict his killers. The incident and its aftermath contributed to the beginning of the Civil Rights Movement. **See the next page for required summer reading for Honors English.**

MS Moving up to HS - 9th Grade.

Regular and Honors: *The Hobbit* by J.R.R Tolkien - The classic novel that introduces the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy presents an unusual example of an epic hero for students who will study ancient world literatures in World Lit I. Introduces curriculum themes of the hero and the quest

Honors: Also *The River* by Michael Neale – Why is Gabriel Clarke drawn to the river where his late father rafted? Read to find out this answer as well as other mysteries the river holds. ISBN # 9781401688486

Required summer reading for Honors English: *David Livingstone Foe of Darkness* by Jeanette Eaton. (Scholar Select has a less costly edition) "This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it." Readers will join world-famous missionary and explorer, David Livingstone, on his fascinating adventures through Africa.

Also free online: <https://archive.org/details/davidlivingstone006976mbp/page/n32/mode/1up>

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Directions to students for reading and notetaking:

Before school opens in August, you are expected to read the books selected for the grade you will enter. Required assignments: You will be asked to write about these books when you return to school. Taking notes on the books will help you remember what you read and will give you ideas to look for while you read. Use the items below as a guide to taking notes and to help you get the most out of your reading. Expect that your teacher will collect these notes. Bring these reading notes and your books to school when school starts.

Title [Underline titles of novels.]:

Author [Learn to spell authors' names correctly. Refer to authors with their last name, not by their first name alone.]:

Setting: Where and when does the story take place? Describe one new thing you learned about the historical period or the place of this story from reading this book.

Major Characters: Who are the main characters? Briefly describe them. Provide at least one example or detail for each that led you to decide what the character was like.

Plot: What did you consider to be the climactic episode of the story (the turning point)? How was this situation of conflict resolved?

Theme: Even though this book may be about a different time and place than your own, what ideas about life did you gain from this book? In what way does this book have anything to do with your own life?

Personal Reaction/Evaluation: What did you like about this book? What, if anything, were you confused about? Why would you recommend or not recommend it to someone else?