

All Saints STEAM Academy Middle School Summer Reading Assignments 2019

*"My early and invincible love of reading I would not exchange for
all the riches of India." –Edward Gibbon*

Dear Middle School Parents and Students,

As we finish another exciting chapter at AS²A, we look forward to the fun-filled learning activities to come next year. In preparation for that learning, it is important to hold on to the skills you have learned by **READING!** Each student must complete the Summer Reading assignments and prepare answers to the assigned questions and/or essay topics. The Summer Reading requirements are listed below.

Incoming 6th graders read Bridge to Terabithia and answer the attached discussion questions AND read 1 novel of your choice and complete the attached Book Report for that novel.

Incoming 7th graders read 1 novel of your choosing and complete the attached Book Report questions and write a book report AND complete the Poetry questions for "Mother to Son" by Langston Hughes.

Incoming 8th graders read The Devil's Arithmetic and complete the attached discussion questions/essay AND complete the Poetry questions for "Mother to Son" by Langston Hughes.

All discussion questions, essay work, and poetry work must be typed and submitted to Mrs. Villareal by August 28th either by email avillareal@allsaintsacademy.org or as hard copy (on first day of school). Please feel free to submit via email as you finish each selection. Enjoy your reading!

Incoming 6th Graders:

Read The Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Paterson

Complete discussion questions for Bridge to Terabithia –this work must be typed

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1HL_WDXfdQOq4exwd6aZ1Vge6onFH7S5L6Dr79hj91z0/edit?usp=sharing

Read 1 novel of your choice

Complete Book Report for choice novel

Link for incoming 6th grade book report–

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1IKdNnN3FW05njHKZCzHKtoAQTu_j6Yi-XQuWn_hdBY/edit?usp=sharing

Incoming 7th Graders:

Read novel of your choice

Complete Book Report Questions and Write a report based on the questions for choice novel

Link for incoming 7th grade book report -

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/13bR4ztf6gdbwXPEV57mID2MFt5pe6l15WNZk8hy-SYQ/edit?usp=sharing>

Complete "Mother to Son" poetry questions

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1972PD5ai4U65PGVmlQLlsU398QZRUG6pkqSs59ABs68/edit?usp=sharing>

Incoming 8th Graders:

Read The Devil's Arithmetic by Jane Yolen

Complete discussions questions for novel – this work must be typed

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LJDKcToVWbKYFm2aGwdvhuirPDE8lKCCbGttglWrRw/edit?usp=sharing>

Complete “Mother to Son” poetry questions

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1972PD5ai4U65PGVmlQLlsU398QZRUG6pkqSs59ABs68/edit?usp=sharing>

If you have any questions or would like to share your thoughts about a book(s), feel free to email me – I would love to hear from you!

Mrs. Villareal

avillareal@allsaintsacademy.org

Incoming 6th Graders Traditional Book Report Format

Write a 1-2 page report. Write in complete sentences and cohesive paragraphs. Include these elements:

- Title of book, author and setting
- Summary of the plot
- Favorite Character and why he/she is your favorite
- Mood (the feeling the reader gets from the words) and/or Tone (the author's attitude toward the writing)
- Your favorite part and why it was your favorite

Incoming Grade 6: Bridge to Terabithia Discussion Questions

Type answers in complete sentences.

1. Why has Jess gotten up early every morning during the summer?
2. What is Jess's favorite teacher, Miss Edmunds, like? How is she different from the other teachers at Lark Creek Elementary?
3. Why does Jess keep his drawing supplies hidden under his mattress? And why doesn't he dare to show his drawings to his father?
4. In the beginning of the story, why doesn't Jess have any friends? Why does he try to avoid Leslie when she first tries to be friendly with him?
5. During the first week of school, Jess begins to change his mind about getting to know Leslie. Why do you think he changes his mind?
6. A couple of months later, Jess comes to feel that "Leslie was more than his friend. She was his other, more exciting self—his way to Terabithia and all the worlds beyond." (Page 46) In your own words, what does this mean?
7. Why do you think kids often make fun of others who are different?
8. Imagine that Leslie is a student in your class. How do you think you would respond to her? Would you want to be her friend? Do you think she would be accepted by your classmates? Explain.
9. How is Jess's father different from Leslie's father? Create a pair of columns to compare their personalities, lifestyles, and relationships with their children.
10. Leslie says to Jess, "We need a place...just for us.... It might be a whole secret country, and you and I would be the leaders of it." (Page 39) In your own words, what does Terabithia represent to Jess and Leslie? Why is it so important to them?
11. At the end of the story, Jess uses wood planks to build a solid bridge to Terabithia. Why do you think he does this? Why does he decide to share Terabithia with May Belle? What does this show us about how he is changing?
12. After he learns that May Belle has discovered Terabithia, Jess feels that "his life was as delicate as a dandelion. One little puff from any direction, and it was blown to bits." How does this simile help us understand Jess, his life, and his feelings about Terabithia?

13. When Jess is overwhelmed by his feelings after Leslie's death, who helps him cope with his loss? How does each of these characters try to help him? Do you think any of them do help Jess to cope with Leslie's death?

15. What do you like most about Jess and Leslie's friendship? Does their friendship seem realistic to you? What can we learn from this book about friendship?

Paragraph – Include a Topic Sentence, 3 Proof sentences, and a Conclusion Sentence

1. Jess struggles with many fears, especially his fear of swinging over the rain-engorged gully to Terabithia. Write about a time when you had to overcome a fear. What were you afraid of and how did you face your fear? Did you use any of the same coping mechanisms as Jess? When is it important to overcome your fear and what is the best way to accomplish this?