

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/1LJDKcToVWbKYFm2aGwdvhuirPDE8IKCCbGt_tglWrRw/edit?usp=sharing

Complete "Mother to Son" poetry questions

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1972PD5ai4U65PGVm1QLIsU398QZRUG6pkqSs59ABs68/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 7th Graders – Book Report Format

Write a 1-2 page report. Write in complete sentences and cohesive TRIC paragraphs (Topic, Restatement, Illustrations or Proofs, and Conclusion for ea. paragraph). Include these elements:

· **Plot**

- What are the most significant incidents in the story? (Do not summarize the entire story)
- What is the main conflict?
- Who/what is involved in the main conflict?
- What event serves as the climax or turning point of the story?

· **Character**

- Choose a character you liked particularly well
- Choose another character you did not like
- Clearly identify each of these characters and explain your feelings about each character
- Support your opinions with specifics from the book (use quotes from book and cite page number!)

· **Writer's Style**

- Describe the writer's style (word choice , sentence structure, organization of the work)
- Is it difficult, easy, interesting, unusual, plain, etc.?
- Support your opinion with examples (use quotes from book and cite page numbers)

· **Mood**

- Overall, what feelings/emotions did this reading evoke?
- Using quotations, quote a brief passage that made you feel this way
- Would you recommend this book to others? Why or why not?

Incoming 7th and 8th Grade

Mother to Son by Langston Hughes

Well, son, I'll tell you:

Life for me ain't been no crystal stair.

It's had tacks in it,

And splinters,

And boards torn up,

And places with no carpet on the floor—

Bare.

But all the time

I've been a-climbin' on,

And reachin' landin's,

And turnin' corners,

And sometimes goin' in the dark

Where there ain't been no light.

So, boy, don't you turn back.

Don't you set down on the steps.

'Cause you finds it's kinder hard.

Don't you fall now—

For I've still goin', honey,

I've still climbin',

And life for me ain't been no crystal stair.

Part A: Refer to the poem to answer each of the following questions.

1. (1) Who is speaking? Who is the narrator speaking to? How do you know?
2. (1) What is meant by 'no crystal stair'?
3. (1) Has the narrator had an easy life? What evidence from this stanza supports your answer?
4. (1) The first stanza ends with the word 'bare'. Besides the stairs being bare, what else does the narrator mean is bare?
5. (2) When life is challenging, does the narrator give up? How do you know? What words tell you that answer?
6. (2) What is the symbolism in the phrase 'turnin' corners'?
7. (2) The narrator speaks of dark times. Is she speaking of only the light in the stairway or something more? If something, what is she referring to?
8. (3) What advice is the narrator offering? What words in this stanza of the poem provide you the answer?
9. (3) What does the narrator intend to do? How do you know?
10. (3) What is the significance of the metaphor '... life for me ain't been no crystal stair'?

Part B - Paraphrase Each Stanza in your own words.

Stanza 1:

Stanza 2:

Stanza 3: