

SUMMER READING - ANDREW JACKSON HS - SUMMER 2019

Dear Students and Parents,

To prevent the natural regression of reading comprehension abilities, we will be requiring all students to read a novel over the summer holiday. The required readings for each grade are:

REQUIRED READING:

9th Grade - *Whirligig* (by Paul Fleischman)

10th Grade - *Animal Farm* (by George Orwell)

11th Grade - *Their Eyes Were Watching God* (by Zora Neale Hurston)

12th Grade - *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (by Mark Haddon)

We expect you to keep a dialectical reading journal (to be turned in the first week of school) and complete an assignment (due the second week of school). Details of the assignment will be provided by your teacher on the first day of class. You will have time to use your notes and knowledge of the literature to complete the assignment. Be sure to take good notes during your reading, so that you are well prepared.

We have included an example of your reading journal format below. On the left-hand column, write anything that catches your attention; this could be a quotation, an idea, a plot development, literary device, etc. We will not be picky about what you put in your journal, but you will receive a grade based on the thought put into your entries and overall completion. There is no minimum or maximum amount of entries, but to adequately notate the readings, you should expect to average around one entry for every five pages. Don't be afraid to include your own opinions and thoughts. There are no wrong answers in this journal. Your goal is to begin thinking critically about the literature and provide yourself some easy reference points for your assignment in August. It will help to include page numbers in your entries for quick reference. The example below uses events from the movie *The Lion King* to demonstrate the note taking format.

"Everything the light touches is our kingdom." Mufasa (pg. 23)	This interests me because it could mean two things. It could literally mean that they control the lands that they can see. OR, light may be a metaphor for righteousness, and this statement could also mean that they are the moral leaders of the land, or that they will only operate morally as they rule.
Simba sees Mufasa's ghost in the clouds, ghost tells Simba to remember who he is. (pgs. 50-66)	This caught my attention because it reminds me a lot of Hamlet, and the sighting of King Hamlet's ghost. This movie has a lot in common with Hamlet.

If you are purchasing your summer reading books, we highly recommend you also highlight, underline, and make small notes in the book itself, in addition to maintaining your reading journal. The more notes you take, the easier it will be for you to successfully complete your assignment in August.

Descriptions of the books, as well as PDF links, and amazon prices are on the following page. Have a great summer. Be safe, and happy reading!

Sincerely,
The Andrew Jackson High School English Department

Book Details:

Whirligig (by Paul Fleischman)

\$5.99 on amazon.com - ISBN 978-0312629113

With a family always on the move, popularity and the ability to fit in quickly are vital to Brent Bishop's high school survival. When he blows his chances with the girl of his dreams in front of everyone, he's devastated. Brent tries to end it all in a fatal car crash, but instead he finds an unlikely beginning. He's sent on a journey of repentance—a cross-country trip building whirligigs. His wind toys are found by people in need: a Maine schoolgirl yearning for her first love, a Miami street-sweeper desperate for peace and quiet, a kid in Washington who just wants to play baseball, and a San Diego teenager dealing with loss. Brent's whirligigs bring hope to others, but will they be able to heal the wounds deep inside himself?

➤ Online PDF version:

http://www.sturgeonenglish.com/uploads/1/3/6/0/13602064/whirligig_text_pdf.pdf

Animal Farm (by George Orwell)

\$7.99 on amazon.com - ISBN 9780451526342

A farm is taken over by its overworked, mistreated animals. With flaming idealism and stirring slogans, they set out to create a paradise of progress, justice, and equality. Thus the stage is set for one of the most telling satiric fables ever penned—a razor-edged fairy tale for grown-ups that records the evolution from revolution against tyranny to a totalitarianism just as terrible.

➤ Online PDF version:

<http://www.huzheng.org/geniusreligion/AnimalFarm.pdf>

Their Eyes Were Watching God (by Zora Neale Hurston)

\$14.16 on amazon.com (much cheaper used) - ISBN 978-0061120060

One of the most important works of twentieth-century American literature, Zora Neale Hurston's beloved 1937 classic, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, is an enduring Southern love story sparkling with wit, beauty, and heartfelt wisdom. Told in the captivating voice of a woman who refuses to live in sorrow, bitterness, fear, or foolish romantic dreams, it is the story of fair-skinned, fiercely independent Janie Crawford, and her evolving selfhood through three marriages and a life marked by poverty, trials, and purpose. A true literary wonder, Hurston's masterwork remains as relevant and affecting today as when it was first published—perhaps the most widely read and highly regarded novel in the entire canon of African American literature.

➤ Online PDF Version:

<http://hansandcassady.org/Their%20Eyes%20Were%20Watching%20God%20Full%20Book%20PDF-7-14-2017.pdf>

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time (Mark Haddon)

\$9.52 on amazon.com (much cheaper used) - ISBN 978-1400032716

Christopher John Francis Boone knows all the countries of the world and their capitals and every prime number up to 7,057. He relates well to animals but has no understanding of human emotions. He cannot stand to be touched. And he detests the color yellow.

This improbable story of Christopher's quest to investigate the suspicious death of a neighborhood dog makes for one of the most captivating, unusual, and widely heralded novels in recent years.

➤ Online PDF Version:

<http://www.metropolitancollege.com/curious.pdf>

^This PDF version is NOT missing any chapters.^

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time starts on chapter 2, and skips chapter numbers throughout.