



The Aquinas Institute Junior High School

Summer Reading

Purpose of Summer Reading:

The faculty of the Aquinas Institute Junior High believe that reading is the key to learning. To this end, reading is promoted in the curricula of all subject areas. The summer reading program is one aspect of the overall mission to build strong reading and critical thinking skills and a love of reading in all of our students.

Assignment: To **READ** and **WRITE** for understanding and content in subjects across the curriculum.

1. All students will **READ** books from the lists below.
2. All students will demonstrate understanding by **COMPLETING** the provided Study Guide.
3. All students will **WRITE an essay** for **each** book selection.
 - Summer Reading **ESSAYS** must:
 - a. be three to five paragraphs in length
 - b. address the major themes in the book, what the book tells about life and living, and what parts of the book seem most believable or unbelievable.

Grading of Summer Reading Assignment:

Both the Study Guide packets and the essays will be turned-in for grades on the first day of school. The study guide packets will be recorded as homework and the essays as tests.

7th Grade:

All 7th grade students must choose one (1) book from the Religion category and one (1) book from the Science category a total of two books.

Religion:

Seedfolks, Fleischman
Petey, Mikaelson

Science:

Point Blank, Horowitz
Airborn, Opper

8th Grade:

All 8th grade students must read *The Wave* by Todd Strasser **and** choose one (1) book from the ELA category and one (1) book from the Social Studies category for a total of three books.

ELA:

Don't You Dare Read This,
Mrs. Dunfrey, Haddix
Redwall, Jacques
A Wrinkle in Time, L'Engle

Social Studies:

Hang A Thousand Trees With Ribbons, Rinaldi
Nothing But the Truth, Avi

Tips for successful understanding:

- ♣ AQJH teachers recommend that students keep a journal to improve understanding of the books read and to help in preparation for writing the essays. Keeping a journal is most effective if you write at intervals rather than writing when you have finished the entire book.
- ♣ Following are some things you should know about every book that you read:
 - Title and author
 - Setting (time and place)
 - From whose viewpoint is the novel written?
 - Who are the main characters? Do any of them change? How do they interact?
 - What conflicts occur in the book?
 - What are the major themes in the book?
 - What does the book tell about life and living?
 - What parts seem most believable or unbelievable?
 - Can you compare it to any other book you have read?