

7/8 ECCA Summer Reading
May 2019

Dear incoming 7/8 grade students,

Congratulations on the near-completion of 6th and 7th grade! Summer is almost here, and we all deserve a break from the hustle and bustle of the busy school year routine, yet summer also serves as a time to reflect on the past and prepare for success in the future. Please review the summer reading expectations early on to help balance preparation with relaxation and make the most of the summer break.

SUMMER READING EXPECTATIONS

Fostering not only a love of reading but endurance for it is a cornerstone to improving writing and communication skills. Research overwhelmingly supports the benefits of daily, personal literacy. This summer, 7th graders are required to read a biography or memoir; 8th graders are required to read a historical fiction novel. Both grades are required to keep a literacy log and writing journal. Your summer literacy log, writing journal, and grade specific summer reading work will be your first Language Arts grade next year.

7th Grade

7th graders are expected to a biography / memoir, of interest to them. Pick someone that inspires you or challenges you. To help students reflect and prepare for the first week of Language Arts class, they need to create a profile for their biography subject (see Biography Profile questions for more info). Their biography will serve as the basis for our first Language Arts unit so students will need to bring their book to school with them.

8th Grade

8th graders are expected to read a piece of **historical fiction**. Students should pick a time period they are interested in learning about and find a novel that fits that time period. This novel will be the basis for our first unit so it is essential that students are able to bring their book to school. In addition to their historical fiction novel, student will also be conducting research for their Free Inquiry Writing Project. A document and instructions have been shared with students.

7th and 8th Grade

All 7th and 8th graders are required to create a literacy log. This log will chronicle all the reading and writing that you do during the summer. This includes traditional reading and writing as well as the non-traditional reading and writing we do every day. Students may also use this journal to free write about their summer and other topics. Attached is a list of suggestions to help you create your literacy log. Feel free to be creative with the project. You are not limited to the list provided. If you have questions, email me

In the spirit of adventure and learning,
Jane Reinhardt
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Literacy Log Suggestions

(Be creative! Feel free to contact me at jane.mahowald@eagleschools.net anytime)

- ✱ Create a scrapbook of your reading life.
- ✱ Create a visual representation for your reading. Use images, graphics, mixed media elements, key words, etc. to create an artistic representation of your reading life.
- ✱ Notebook/Journal - Keep a journal/notebook full of short entries about what you read, what you did, where you went, etc. Remember to capture small moments in your life and use details!
- ✱ Draw/paint a picture/create a collage of important books you read and pieces you wrote.
- ✱ Create a playlist to accompany your books read and entries written. Explain your choices.
- ✱ Library Program - Visit your local library and participate in their Summer Reading Program. Make sure you add a writing component to this program.
- ✱ Join a Book Club (at the Bookworm or in your neighborhood with friends). Keep a log of books read, when you met, what you discussed, etc.
- ✱ Create a Digital Log of yourself reading different titles in different locations over the summer. Take picture of yourself in different places and include a written response about what you read and how you felt reading in those places.
- ✱ Draw/paint a portrait of a character in a novel you are reading
- ✱ Create a timeline of your summer reading and writing.
- ✱ Create a portrait of you as a reader and you as a writer.
- ✱ Create a family GoodReads Account, Blog, or Pinterest account with book recommendations and synopses. (As per Federal Law, you must be 13 to have your own account. Please have parental permission and follow all site rules and regulations). Follow Mrs. Reinhardt to see what she's been reading!
<https://www.goodreads.com/list/tag/middleschool>
<https://www.goodreads.com/user/show/32720220-t>
https://www.goodreads.com/about/how_it_works
- ✱ Travel Log - Create a scrapbook of your summer travels (whether they be near or far): include brochures, pictures, favorite moments, books read, etc.
- ✱ Email Mrs. Reinhardt updates about your summer reading and writing or send Mrs. Reinhardt postcards of your reading and adventures (PO Box 3261, Avon, CO 81632)

Free Write Prompts

Also try the 100 Days of Summer Writing Prompts
(<https://movingwriters.org/2018/05/16/the-100-days-of-summer-writing/>)

1. In a paragraph, identify five problems with social media
2. In a paragraph, identify five uses for social media/ technology
3. Write about your earliest memory
4. Make a list of ten interesting facts about yourself (then write about one of them)
5. Write about a place you would live, but have never visited. Find a picture of the place online and use it as inspiration.
6. Write about someone who fascinates you and why. Write them a letter to tell them how interesting they are.
7. Identify a book you love and one you don't
8. Write a story about one thing you're excited about
9. List four weird traits you have (then write about one of them)
10. A quote you try to live by (its ok if you don't remember the quote word for word)
11. Bullet list your entire day
12. What will your life be like in 7 years?
13. What is a word/phrase you use constantly. Where did it come from? What does it mean? When do you use it? Why do you like it?
14. Look of traits of your zodiac/ horoscope and write about whether you think it fits you
15. How do you feel about getting older? How has live changed since you were younger?
16. Write a story that features your favorite color
17. Make a list of three pet peeves (then write about one of them)
18. Find a piece of art you like and write about it
19. Look up an interesting word and write a story about it
20. Spend sometime writing outside. What do you see? Feel? Hear?

Biography Profile Questions

These responses may be typed or handwritten. Please write 3-4 sentences to answer each question.

1. Who was your biography about and why did you choose a book about this person?
2. What is a particularly exciting thing you learned about your person?
3. What impact did your person make on the world?
4. If your person was a super hero, what would be their superpower? Why do you think this (use evidence from your book)?
5. What three questions would you ask your person if you every got to meet them?

Free Inquiry Writing Research Notes (you also have a document in your google docs with these questions)

- What three articles have you read this year that have helped you develop your setting, characters, or conflict? List each article and write 4-5 sentences explaining how it will help your writing.
- What three experiences have you had this summer that will help you with your writing? Explain each experience and write 4-5 sentences explaining how these experiences will help your writing
- What characters from your life have you experiences that will help with your writing? Explain each person (2-3 please) and which qualities you will add into your own story.

7/8 Summer Reading/Writing Checklist

If you are a 7th grader...

- ☐ Biography or Memoir with Biography Profile Questions completed
- ☐ Literacy Log (record of your reading)
- ☐ Writing Journal

If you are an 8th grader...

- ☐ Historical fiction Novel with Setting and Character Analysis Questions completed
- ☐ Free Inquiry Writing Research Document (questions above, you also have a document in your google docs!)
- ☐ Literacy Log (record of your reading)
- ☐ Writing Journal