



# 2019 Summer Reading Requirement

## 8th Grade ELA



Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

Welcome to summer and - gasp! - reading for pleasure! Highland Middle School believes that reading is an important part of every student's life, a belief supported by research showing that "students who are on target in eighth and ninth grade to be ready for college-level reading are substantially more likely to be on target to be ready for college in English, mathematics, and science" (*The Forgotten Middle: Ensuring that All Students Are on Target for College and Career Readiness before High School*). Let's face it - if you're not reading over the summer, you will lose some of the gains you made the previous year. And who really wants to start all over again?

### Goals and Program

The eighth grade HMS summer reading is a requirement to ensure that your reading skills are maintained at their current levels. However, we also hope that you will develop a love of reading - or at least a little lower dislike for it!

All incoming eighth grade students are required to **read one book, chosen from the list below, and to write a book review** that will be collected on the first day of class.



Fiction/NonFiction	Title	Author	Reading Lexile Level
NonFiction	<a href="#"><u>Three Cups of Tea - Young Adult Version</u></a> OR <a href="#"><u>Adult Version</u></a>	Greg Mortenson	YA 910L Adult 1220L
NonFiction	<a href="#"><u>The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind--Young Adult Version</u></a> OR <a href="#"><u>Adult Version</u></a>	William Kamkwamba	YA 860L Adult 960L
NonFiction	<a href="#"><u>The Other Side of the Sky</u></a>	Farah Ahmedi	850L
NonFiction	<a href="#"><u>Flesh and Blood So Cheap: The Triangle Fire and its Legacy</u></a>	Albert Marrin	1000L
NonFiction	<a href="#"><u>Chinese Cinderella</u></a>	Adeline Yen Mah	960L
Fiction	<a href="#"><u>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</u></a>	C.S. Lewis	940L
Fiction	<a href="#"><u>A Swiftly Tilting Planet</u></a>	Madeleine L'Engle	850L
Fiction	<a href="#"><u>The Hobbit</u></a>	J.R.R. Tolkien	1030L
Fiction	<a href="#"><u>The Sword in the Stone</u></a>	T.S. White	1140L

The book review handout is attached and may be downloaded [here](#). It is due **Tuesday, August 20th**. If you should need additional copies of the Summer Reading Packet, you can locate them on the Middle School web page.

### **Finding the Books**

All books are available on Amazon, and many can be found in used book stores. The Highland Library is aware of our Summer Reading Requirement. As with all books, please preview them ahead of time if you're concerned with the material your child might be reading.

It does not matter whether the books are new or used, nor does the edition matter. As long as the book is not an adapted version, it's fine. While we do not care whether you purchase the book or borrow from the library, students **MUST have their books in class the first week of school**. Please plan accordingly.

We hope you enjoy your reading choice, and we look forward to hearing about it in August!

Mrs. Eckman & Mrs. D'Annolfo