

Name: _____

Due Date: SEPTEMBER 4, 2018

In Conroe ISD, we encourage all students to read over the summer in order to enrich learning and provoke thought. Summer reading strengthens reading skills, increases academic achievement, fosters a love for reading, and empowers students to become lifelong learners.

Summer Reading/Writing Assignment - Incoming 7th Grade Level

Read a novel of *your own choosing* and complete the following activities. Students are encouraged to log their minutes spent reading on the [Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge Website](#)--please see your Tom Cox homebase teacher for more information and login. Tom Cox Library will be open June 4, June 26, July 2, July 9, July 16, and July 30 at 9 AM – 1 PM. Exiting students are invited on these dates.

Choose a book on your own this summer, read it completely, and complete the assignment below. **It is up to you and your parents to choose a book of appropriate content, length and reading level.** It can be already owned, purchased, downloaded, borrowed, or checked out from the library. Note that some [suggested titles](#) attached that will be available at the Cox Intermediate Book Fair in May. **You do NOT have to choose one of these books!**

Responding to the Text -

Choose 2 excerpts (short sections) from the novel that you believe are important. These passages should reflect important events or themes from your novel. Copy the excerpts and your response to them into the chart below or on your own paper if needed.

Excerpts and page numbers -	Your response to the excerpts - (ex. I think this is important because _____. Or The excerpt reflects the theme of _____ because _____.)
Excerpt- Pg. #	
Excerpt- Pg. #	

Analyzing the Text - You can use your own paper if necessary.

- What was a theme in the book? (Remember - THEME is a lesson anyone could learn from the novel)
- What is a connection you made to another text you've read while reading this novel?
- What were some conflicts in the book?
- How were the main characters developed? (Ex. - How did the characters change from the beginning to the end?)
- Did you like this novel? Why or why not?

Suggested Titles

Your book does NOT have to be from this list!

Horizon: Book 1 by Scott Westerfeld

School Library Journal Xpress (January 1, 2017) - Gr 5-8

While traveling to an international engineering competition, four young teens find themselves stranded when their plane crashes in a menacing, inhospitable jungle. Along with four other teens, the eight are the only survivors. They should be in the Arctic but are in a tropical jungle instead. How is this possible? Where are they? How do they get home?

Westerfeld creates a world with vicious predatory creatures, malfunctioning physical forces, and realistic characters. The teens must work together to survive. Many are scientifically minded and frequently use math and science to solve problems.

Bailey's Story: A Dog's Purpose Novel

School Library Journal (May 1, 2016) - Gr 3-6

A heartwarming illustrated novel adapted for young readers from the best-selling A Dog's Purpose. Bailey, a golden retriever, narrates the story. Sensing that puppies are meant to leave their mothers and that there is something on the other side of the gate that he was born to find, Bailey leaves his dog family and soon meets Ethan ("I hadn't known that there was such a thing as a boy in the world. But now that I'd found one, I was sure that there could not be anything better."). Bailey is determined to be with the boy he loves. He learns that sometimes bad things happen and there is no greater purpose than to protect the boy he loves. This is a touching book about the connection dogs have with humans and how they communicate in their own special way.

Zoe in Wonderland by Brenda Woods

Booklist (September 15, 2016 (Online)) - Grades 5-8

Coretta Scott King Honor–winner Woods introduces us to “shy, perfectly plain” Zoe Reindeer, an 11-year-old girl who prefers to spend her days in her father’s nursery, Doc Reindeer’s Exotic Plant Wonderland, dreaming up imaginary worlds full of excitement and faraway places—everything that seems to be missing from Zoe’s life. Stuck between her perfect, popular older sister and her sneaky, genius younger brother, “just Zoe” finds solace with Quincy, her only friend. Now that Quincy is moving away, Zoe’s worried her life will become even duller. But when a mysterious man from Madagascar shows up at the nursery looking for a baobab tree, Zoe’s real world begins to look like the world she had always imagined for herself. Is this the start of her first real adventure?

Frogkisser by Garth Nix

Booklist (December 1, 2016 (Vol. 113, No. 7)) - Grades 6-10

Princess Anya is in a bind. Her step-father Duke Rikard (who happens to be an evil sorcerer) is plotting to steal the crown, her older sister's suitor has been transformed into a frog, and Anya has promised to help turn him back into a prince—but she's fresh out of the transmogrification-reversal lip balm she needs for the job. There's nothing for it but to embark on a quest to gather the hard-to-come-by lip balm ingredients and hopefully devise a way to stop the duke while she's at it. Anya is accompanied by Ardent, an eager (talking) royal dog, and it isn't long before their journey takes on a more significant purpose. Playing on fairy tale tropes and conventions, Nix (Newt's Emerald, 2015) delivers a delightful adventure stuffed with absurdity, magic, and a spirited young heroine.

Making Bombs for Hitler by Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch

Booklist (December 15, 2016 (Vol. 113, No. 8)) - Grades 5-8

Lida isn't Jewish, but that doesn't stop the Nazis from tearing her away from her younger sister, Larissa, and taking her to a labor camp with other boys and girls from Ukraine. Although she is treated as subhuman, Lida steps up to the task of survival. She lies about her age and avoids being selected as "not useful," works in the laundry as a seamstress, and keeps her head down. Eventually, however, she is reassigned to a factory that manufactures bombs for Hitler. Lida is horrified at the prospect until she realizes that she and the other girls in the factory have an opportunity to do something for the Allied effort: sabotage the bombs.

Prisoner of War by Michael P. Spradlin

From the Publisher

He lied about his age to enlist. Now he'll have to lie about everything else to survive! Survive the war. Outlast the enemy. Stay alive. That's what Henry Forrest has to do. When he lies about his age to join the Marines, Henry never imagines he'll face anything worse than his own father's cruelty. But his unit is shipped off to the Philippines, where the heat is unbearable, the conditions are brutal, and Henry's dreams of careless adventuring are completely dashed. Then the Japanese invade the islands, and US forces there surrender. As a prisoner of war, Henry faces one horror after another. Yet among his fellow captives, he finds kindness, respect, even brotherhood. A glimmer of light in the darkness. And he'll need to hold tight to the hope they offer if he wants to win the fight for his country, his freedom...and his life.