

# Summer Reading Assignments - Grade 7

Dear Seventh Grade Parents:

This year's summer reading list was created with one major purpose in mind - to encourage students to become recreational readers. We want our students to discover how enriching and entertaining reading for fun can be. We would encourage each of you to help your student find those books on the provided list that will best appeal to his or her tastes and interests. They should all be available at major bookstores and libraries. We would also encourage each of you to read at least one of the chosen books yourself, so that you can discuss it with your student. Remember, students become good readers by having good reading modeled for them at home and at school.

## The Requirements:

1. Read the book, Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes. A story filled with danger and excitement, Johnny Tremain tells of the turbulent, passionate times in Boston just after the Revolutionary War. Johnny, a young apprentice silversmith, is caught up in a dramatic involvement with James Otis, John Hancock, and John and Samuel Adams in the Boston Tea Party and the Battle of Lexington; and finally, a touching resolution of Johnny's personal life. After finishing the book, complete the attached assignment.
2. Read the book, Lost on a Mountain in Maine by Donn Fendler. This book tells the true story of a 12-year-old boy who survived 9 days alone in the mountains of Maine after being separated from his family and friends. After finishing the book, complete the attached assignment.
3. In addition, choose at least 1 other book from the attached list. This book must be one that the student has *never* read before.
4. The assigned summer reading should be returned to school with the student in the fall. **The reports will be the first reading grades of the year.**

**TURN OVER →**

# 7<sup>th</sup> GRADE SUMMER READING LIST

Students entering grade 7 are required to read three books: Johnny Tremain, Lost on a Mountain in Maine and one of their choosing from the list below. All 3 books should be recorded on the Reading Record. There is a Bonus Box for any extra books read.

<b><u>Lexile</u></b>	<b><u>Title of Book</u></b>	<b><u>Author</u></b>
570	Carry On, Mr. Bowditch . . . . .	Jean Lee Latham
650	White Water . . . . .	Petersen, P.J.
660	Canyon Winter . . . . .	Walt Morey
710	Dacey's Song . . . . .	Cynthia Voight
740	The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle . . . . .	Avi
740	Hannah . . . . .	Gloria Whelan
750	Journey to America . . . . .	Sonia Levitin
770	Trouble River . . . . .	Betsy Byars
810	My Side of the Mountain . . . . .	Jean Craighead George
820	Maniac Magee . . . . .	Jerry Spinelli
830	The Summer of the Swans . . . . .	Betsy Byers
850	The Witch of Blackbird Pond . . . . .	Elizabeth George Speare
890	Caddie Woodlawn . . . . .	Carol Ryrie Brink
890	Shiloh . . . . .	Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
900	Souder . . . . .	William H. Armstrong
910	Old Yeller . . . . .	Fred Gipson
960	A Gathering of Days . . . . .	Joan Blos
970	The Secret Garden . . . . .	Frances Hodgson Burnett
970	The Slave Dancer . . . . .	Paula Fox
990	The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn or Tom Sawyer . . . . .	Mark Twain
990	Landing of the Pilgrims . . . . .	James Daugherty
1000	Island of the Blue Dolphins . . . . .	Scott O'Dell
1070	Save Queen of Sheba . . . . .	Louise Moeri
1090	Amos Fortune: Free Man . . . . .	Elizabeth Yates
1110	Lincoln: A Photobiography . . . . .	Russell Freedman
1160	The Prince and the Pauper . . . . .	Mark Twain

<b><u>Book Series (lexiles vary)</u></b>	<b><u>Author</u></b>
Accidental Detectives . . . . .	Sigmund Brouwer
Chronicles of Narnia Series . . . . .	C.S. Lewis
Cooper Kids Adventure Series . . . . .	Frank Peretti
Lord of the Rings Series . . . . .	J.R.R. Tolkien
Reel Kids Adventures . . . . .	Dave Gustaveson
Seven Sleeper Series . . . . .	Gilbert Morris
Timebenders Series . . . . .	Jim Denney
Trailblazer Series . . . . .	Dave and Neta Jackson

**PARENTS:** Where available, lexile scores have been provided to help you choose books at the appropriate reading level for your child. Your child should read in a range from 100 less to 50 more than the lexile score shown on the SAT results.



STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

## Lost on a Mountain in Maine Assignment

### Part 1

On a separate piece of paper, draw a map detailing the journey Donn took while he was lost for the nine days. Be sure to make it neat, colorful, accurate and detailed. You may use the map in the book to assist you but you must draw the map yourself. Do not copy or trace the one in the book. After completing the map, answer the questions below.

- About how many miles/kilometers did Donn travel in the first day?
- How many times does he see bears?
- What is the name of the stream that he follows for most of his journey?
- What direction would you travel to reach Bangor from Mt. Katahdin?

### Part 2

On a separate piece(s) of paper answer the following questions. Be sure to use pen, be neat and write in cursive. Use examples from the book to support your answers.

- 1) Donn Fendler survived for nine days with almost no food and no shelter. Even his clothing was in rags and provided very little protection from the environment. What kept Donn from giving up and just lying down in the woods to die? Explain in 2-3 sentences.
- 2) From what you learned about Donn, describe three character traits he exhibited. Give specific examples from the book for each one.
- 3) If you could have met Donn Fendler when he was twelve years old, do you think you would have been friends? Explain your answer.
- 4) Several of the choices Donn made caused his situation to worsen. Explain one poor choice and what you might have done differently.
- 5) Internet Activity: Why did Donn's story attract so much attention from the media? Using the internet, find a recent wilderness survival story that has attracted media attention and describe what happened in 3-5 sentences.

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

## JOHNNY TREMAIN Assignment

Newspapers played an important part in the daily life of the colonies and a pivotal role in Johnny Tremain. Write your own newspaper using the following criteria:

1. Give your newspaper a creative name.
2. Choose one of the following characters and write a 6-8 sentence article about them. Include their age, personality, occupation or role in the Lapham household and any other information that is important to understanding who they are.
  - a. Old Mr. Lapham
  - b. Young Mr. Lapham
  - c. Young Mrs. Lapham
  - d. Madge
  - e. Dorcas
  - f. Priscilla
  - g. Isannah
  - h. Dove
  - i. Johnny Tremain
  - j. Dusty Miller
3. Create an advertisement for the Lapham's silversmith business.
4. Choose one of the important, actual, historical events that occurred in the book. Write a summary of the event (minimum of 100 words) and explain Johnny Tremain's role. Be sure to include who was involved, where it happened, when it happened, what happened, and why it happened.
5. Create a help wanted ad for one of the occupations mentioned in the book.

Arrange your newspaper to look like an actual newspaper. Microsoft Publisher (included in most versions of Office) has a newspaper format. You can also arrange text boxes in MS Word to make it look like a newspaper. You may experiment with fonts and colors; just make sure the fonts you choose are readable. BE CREATIVE!

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

## A Wrinkle in Time Assignment

### Plot and Conflict

The plot of a novel is the series of interconnected episodes or incidents that, combined, create a single story. The episodes are generally ordered so that each one leads directly to the next. Using the incidents listed below, fill in the empty places in the chart on the attached page to show the order of the episodes that make up the plot. Note how each incident leads to the next. (*Chart available from school office only.*)

- Meg, Charles Wallace, and Calvin are transported to Uriel.
- Charles Wallace is taken over by IT.
- The children learn more about the Black Thing from the Happy Medium.
- Meg meets Mrs. Whatsit.
- Meg's love for Charles Wallace frees him from the power of IT.
- Meg, Charles Wallace, and Calvin are told that it's getting near time to rescue Mr. Murry.
- Meg returns to Camazotz by herself to rescue Charles Wallace.
- Charles Wallace takes Meg, Calvin, and Mr. Murry to see IT.
- On Camazotz, the three children encounter the Man with Red Eyes.

Answer the following questions on a separate piece(s) of paper. Be sure to write in pen, be neat, use cursive and explain your answers in several complete sentences.

- 1) The *conflict* of a story is the struggle between opposing forces that provides the interest and suspense in a narrative. Conflict is always related to the plot. When looking at the sequence of events that make up the plot, what conflict stands out as the central *external* conflict of *A Wrinkle in Time*?
- 2) What is the central *internal* conflict of the novel? How does the resolution of the main external conflict in *A Wrinkle in Time* relate to the resolution of the main internal conflict?
- 3) Typically, *complications* arise that prevent the characters from resolving the conflict easily. What complications arise in *A Wrinkle in Time*?
- 4) Why do you think authors add complications to prevent easy resolutions of the conflict?

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

## A Wrinkle in Time Assignment

### Themes of Individuality and Conformity

The theme of a story is the story's main idea or subject. One prominent theme in this story is the struggle between individuality and conformity. Answer the questions below on a separate piece(s) of paper. Be sure to write in pen, be neat, use cursive and explain your answers in several complete sentences.

- 1) Look up individuality and conformity in the dictionary and write out definitions for each one in your own words. Do not copy from the dictionary.
- 2) Early in this novel, how does Meg experience this struggle at home and school?
- 3) How are individuality and conformity treated on Camazotz?
- 4) Read Romans 12:2. This verse commands us to "not be conform any longer to the pattern of this world." What does this mean to you?
- 5) Though *A Wrinkle in Time* upholds the freedom to make one's own decisions, what dangers might exist in this freedom?
- 6) On the other hand, not all conformity is bad. Read Ephesians 5:1-2 and 1 Peter 2:21. To what should we conform?