

Summer Reading

8th Grade Assignment

Welcome to the 8th grade. Students should **choose ONE book from the below list** of suggested books and complete a reading response journal for the book.

- Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, Lewis Carroll
- Number the Stars, Lois Lowry
- The Time Machine, H.G. Wells
- Oliver Twist, Charles Dickens
- Adventures of Tom Sawyer, Mark Twain
- Black Beauty, Anna Sewell
- Treasure Island, Robert Louis Stevenson
- A Series of Unfortunate Events, Lemony Snickett
- Education of Little Tree, Asa Earl (Forrest) Carter
- The Island on Bird Street, Uri Orlev
- Treasure Island, Robert Louis Stevenson
- The Count of Monte Cristo, Alexandre Dumas
- The Eagle of the Ninth (also published as The Eagle)
- The Hound of the Baskervilles, Arthur Conan Doyle
- Kidnapped, Robert Louis Stevenson
- Life As We Knew It, Susan Beth Pfeffer
- Little Women, Louisa May Alcott

Reading Response Journal Elements--Your reading response journal is due on the first day of school and should be at least 3 pages long (no longer than 5), typed, double spaced, Times New Roman 12 point font.

- 1. Title and Author**
- 2. Tell why you chose this book**
- 3. A brief description of the main character in the book.**
- 4. Summarize the plot of book but do not give away the ending.**
- 5. Highlight specific conflicts that happen in the book.**
- 6. Quote a significant or powerful passage and tell us why you found it powerful.**
- 7. Tell if you recommend the book and why or why not. Give specific reasons for your choice.**

Intro to United States History II

Welcome to 8th grade U.S. History. This course explores U.S. history from the Civil War through World War II. We will look at U.S. history from the perspective of important domestic policies and events that have taken place during various presidencies. We begin our historical journey with the following assignment. We will research our U.S. presidents.

Presidents' Cards

Objective: To make study cards on presidents and significant events:

(Cover all 46 presidents, and make sure you create two cards for President Cleveland since he has odd circumstances.)

1. Purchase index cards.
2. On the front of each card, write the president's name and his dates in office.
3. On the back write his political party.
4. On the back write three significant items about our history under his administration.

Administration means during his time as president- not before or after. Therefore, do not put the Declaration of Independence for Jefferson as that took place before he was president. Also do not put details about his family or personal life. We are studying the events side of his administration.

(Do not use deaths except for William Henry Harrison. Since Harrison was only a month in office, he's the one we struggle with the most.)

5. Be sure to write your source for the information on the back of the card.

Example: Front – Abraham Lincoln 1861-1865

Back – Republican Party (first term), Union Party (second term)

1. Issued Emancipation Proclamation to free slaves in rebellious states
2. Won the Civil War in 1865
3. Proposed a "soft" reconstruction plan for the defeated South.

Project value: Presidents Cards

** Bring your completed projects to class on the first day back to school. Have a nice summer!