

## Gloucester Middle School Summer Reading Assignment

### Students Entering Eighth Grade

Summer reading is a very important activity for the Gloucester City school system's students. Because of district concern for our students' reading abilities, which are reflected in their class work and standardized test scores, the district has summer reading requirements for all grade levels.

Students entering eighth grade in September will be assigned one book as required reading during the summer. **Be advised that the book your child brings home MUST be returned in good condition in September, or you will be required to pay for them.** After reading the book chosen the student will be required to do a project or book report to show they read and understood the book. This assessment should be returned to school by the end of the first full week of school and will count as one language classwork grade for the first marking period. Attached is a list of suggested projects that your child could do, but feel free to have your child do something not on the list. In addition, attached is a copy of the rubric which will be used to assess your child's project. This rubric lists the specific information that must be included in any project or book report.

We cannot stress enough the importance of the development of students' reading ability. In today's modern world, reading is the key to success in every aspect of life. The Gloucester City school system is committed to doing everything possible to build our students' reading abilities, but we must have the help and commitment of parents in order to do so effectively. Students need to read during the summer and not "take a vacation" from this crucial skill. It is also a good idea to encourage your child to read other books (especially those on the suggested reading lists) on his or her own as well.

We thank you advance for you cooperation. If you have any questions, you may call the school office at 456-7000, ext. 4026 or the district's curriculum office at ext. 1550.

### Book Titles

**Required Reading:** (one of these titles has been chosen by your child)

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Title <u>Choose one book</u>	Author
The Giver	Lois Lowry
Holes	Louis Sacchar
Crispin: The Cross of Lead	Avi
Out of the Dust	Karen Hesse

## **Summer Reading Project**

### **Project**

Below is a list of suggested projects that your child could complete following the reading of their summer reading book. This is a list of suggestion; feel free to complete an alternate project that is not included on this list.

- Make a cube depicting parts of the story
- Make a diorama or a mobile
- Make a poster to “sell” the story
- Design a book jacket
- Make a collage
- Make a banner
- Draw a mural
- Digital Presentation of your choice

### **Project Requirements**

Please remember that all projects must include the requirements listed on the below:

#### **Content:**

- Title of the book and Author (5 points)
- Setting: where and when does the story take place? (5 points)
- List of the main characters. Choose one to describe using adjectives and descriptive words. (15 points)
- Point of view: what point of view is the story told in (first person point of view, third person point of view)? (10 points)
- Plot events in story (include a beginning, middle and end) (20 points)
- Conflict: what is the main problem of the story? (10 points)
- Theme: what is the message or lesson learned of the story? (10 points)
- Opinion or recommendation of story (10 points)

#### **Written Response:**

- Complete sentences with capitalization and punctuation (5 points)
- Neatness (5 points)
- Spelling (5 points)