



SUMMER 2017

Mrs. Karla Blackwood

“A book is a gift you can open again and again.”

The required readings are a mandatory requirement and are based on the student's incoming grade level for the 2017-2018 school year. Books are a great way to keep students engaged and enthusiastic about reading over the summer. Students are responsible for completing the attached assignments and submitting them on the first day of school, **August 14, 2017**.

6th grade
Reading/Literature

Required Reading:
One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia

Suggested Readings:
From the Mixed-up files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler by F.I. Konigsburg

Smile by Raine Telgemeir

7th grade
Reading/Literature

Required Reading:
The Wednesday Wars by Gary D. Schmidt

Suggested Readings:
We've Got a Job: The 1963 Birmingham Children's March by Cynthia Levinson

Number the Stars by Lois Lowry

8th grade
Reading/Literature

Required Reading:
The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton

Suggested Readings:
The Diary of Anne Frank by Anne Frank

I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai

One Crazy Summer

Summer Reading Journal Project

Grade 6

Required Reading: One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams Garcia

Duration: June-August 2017

About the Book:

Eleven-year-old Delphine has it together. Even though her mother, Cecile, abandoned her and her younger sisters, Vonetta and Fern, seven years ago. Even though her father and Big Ma will send them from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to stay with Cecile for the summer. And even though Delphine will have to take care of her sisters, as usual, and learn the truth about the missing pieces of the past.

When the girls arrive in Oakland in the summer of 1968, Cecile wants nothing to do with them. She makes them eat Chinese takeout dinners, forbids them to enter her kitchen, and never explains the strange visitors with Afros and black berets who knock on her door. Rather than spend time with them, Cecile sends Delphine, Vonetta, and Fern to a summer camp sponsored by a revolutionary group, the Black Panthers, where the girls get a radical new education about the world, their mother, and themselves.

The Project

The Summer Reading Journal Project allows students to reflect on the novel as a whole. Students will create a journal based on the novel, which will include eight designated journal entries.

Materials needed:

- Required Reading book
- Composition Book (Journal)
- Various decorative materials for Journal Cover

The Journal: Over the course of the summer, students will write journal entries based on the provided prompts that relate to the novel. Students are required to decorate the cover of their journals (10 points) based on the

novel. Journal entries will either be personal or a reflection of the novels themes and characterization. Each journal entry will be:

- A reflective experience
- 10-20 minutes of writing
- Evaluated on grammar and thoughtful completion
- At least ten sentences
- Worth 10 points each (Total of 8=80 points)
- Written from a prompt provided by the teacher

The journal entries will be written from prompts provided. Students must include the writing prompts in their journals. Students are expected to write 10-20 minutes, depending on the writing prompt.

Journal Entry #1

Writing Prompt: How would you describe Delphine's relationship with her sisters? How is it like your relationship with your sibling(s) or like the relationships of siblings you know? How is it different? What does Delphine mean when she says she enjoys her role as Vonetta and Fern's "enemy and big sister"?

Journal Entry #2

Writing Prompt: What does Delphine expect from Cecile? Do her expectations differ from Vonetta's and Fern's expectations? Why? What word or words would you use to describe Cecile?

Journal Entry #3

Writing Prompt: What does Delphine decide about Oakland on her first night there? If you were in her place, would you have come to a similar conclusion? Have you ever felt similarly about a place you've visited? Did you discover anything that changed your mind?
