

## St. Mary's 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading

8th Grade Book Report Due on the first day of school.

Book Selection: Each student must read either Johnny Tremain by Ester Forbes or Swallowing Stones by Joyce McDonald and do the following report. Then select a book from the list below and design a book jacket that includes a summary of the book.

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

#### Title Author

Never Mind: A Twin Novel Avi

The Face on the Milk Carton Cooney

King of Shadows Cooper

Johnny Tremain Forbes

Blood on the River: Jamestown 1607 Carbone

Leonardo's Shadow: Or, My Astonishing

Life as Leonardo de Vinci's Servant Grey

The Maze Hobbs

New Boy Houston

Touching Spirit Bear Michaelson

Cuba Fifteen Osa

Guts! Paulsen

Secret Life of Adrian Mole, Age 13  $\frac{3}{4}$  Townsend

Uglies Westerfield

Chains Anderson

Maximum Ride Series Patterson

(Books in this series are:

Maximum Ride - The Angel Experiment,

School's Out Forever, Saving the World

and Other Extreme Sports, The Final

Warning)

Hunger Games Collins

Everlost Shusterman

Twilight Series Meyer

(Books in this series are:

Twilight, New Moon, Eclipse,

Breaking Dawn)

\* Ask Me No Questions Budhos

\* Red Badge of Courage Crane

\* Roots Haley

\* The Wreckers Lawrence

- \* Z for Zachariah O'Brien
- \* Comedy of Errors Shakespeare
- \* Adventures of Huckleberry Finn Twain

Keep a journal as you read the book with quotes from the book and what you thought as you read it. Copy ten of your favorite sentences from the book leaving space below each quote. After each quote explain how it relates to the book and add a personal response to the quote (what you think about it, why you like it or don't like it, how it makes you feel.) **This needs to be done as you read the book!**

**Organizing tips:** Use your post-it note strategies while you're reading the book. Also, write about character development and main events in your reader's notebook. Then, write an outline organizing it in the order the paper is to be written, or use a different type of organizer to help with your thoughts you want to put on paper.

**This assignment may be handwritten or typed and double-spaced in essay format. Use formal language and not slang in this report. Your project must be in a bracketed (3 prong) folder and in the following order.**

**Page 1- Title Sheet---**Child's name, grade and title of book.

The paper needs to be organized as follows:

**I.** Introduction paragraph

**II. How does the title connect to the book?** Explain the importance of the title to the meaning of the book. Authors choose a title for a reason; it may be symbolic. At some point in the book you will find the relation to the title. Sometimes it will be symbolic.

*Examples:*

The Statue of Liberty is a symbol of freedom.

Colors can be used for symbolism.

**III. Where and when does the story take place?** Describe the setting--time period, location, etc--and explain why it is important to the book.

**IV. What is the problem in the story?** Identify the main conflict (\*type and \*category), describe it in detail, and if a resolution was reached, show how. \*Type- *internal or external conflict*

\*Category- *man vs. man, man vs. himself; man vs. nature; man vs. society.*

**V. Who are the main characters?** Identify and discuss the main character(s). Identify all major components of characterization the author used to describe this person(s).

*Character's appearance?*

*Character's actions?*

*Character's thoughts?*

*What does the character say?*

*What effect does the character have on other characters?*

**VI. What are the main events of the story?** Describe what event caused a major change in the main character(s) and explain how the character changed. These changes may have been a consequence of a choice, a conflict, a display of some outstanding trait like courage, or even result of events that occurred during the book.

**VII. Closing Paragraph**