

7th Grade Summer Reading

All incoming 7th graders at Pin Oak Middle School will complete summer reading. You will choose **TWO** books from the list below. These books are all part of the **2009 Texas Lone Star Reading List**. You can find an annotated summary of each book at <http://www.txla.org/groups/yart/lonestarlists.html> .

Chance Fortune and the Outlaws *by Shane Berryhill*

Dark Water Rising *by Marian Hale*

Tales of the Cryptids: Mysterious Creatures That May or May Not Exist *by Kelly Milner Halls*

The Floating Island: The Lost Journals of Ven Polypheme *by Elizabeth Haydon*

Schooled *by Gordon Korman*

Brothers, Boyfriends, & Other Criminal Minds *by April Lurie*

Breathe: A Ghost Story *by Cliff McNiff*

The Wednesday Wars *by Gary Schmidt*

Alchemyst: The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel *by Michael Scott*

Zen and the Art of Faking It *by Jordan Sonnenblick*

For each book, you will complete ONE reading journal. Each reading journal is divided into six reading strategies: predict, connect, visualize, question, clarify, and evaluate. As you read, you will mark passages that make you think about these reading strategies.

When you find a passage you want to write about, use the chart provided or notebook paper formatted like the chart. You should complete the entire response including page(s), quoted passage from the book, and commentary, which should be 5-7 sentences. Be sure to choose passages that are found **throughout** the book. No more than **three** responses may come from the first half of your book. Since reading journals are a skill your teacher expects you to use **every time** you read, we would prefer this to be handwritten.

Reading journals are expected to be completed during the summer, and your teacher will collect them the first week of school. Should you have any questions or want to see student samples, please visit the Pin Oak website, www.pinoak.us , check out our blog at, <http://pomsummerreading.wordpress.com> , or come to one of our summer reading help sessions (dates will be available on the POMS website).

Reading Strategies for Independent Reading Journals

Predict- Before reading, look at the text, the cover, any pictures connected with the reading. Read a couple paragraphs. What do you predict the selection might be about? What might happen? Who are the people involved? As you read, stop and think about what might happen next or later in the selection.

Connect- Think about what's happening in the story. Can you connect it to any experience you have ever had? What about the character or people? Do you know anyone like them? Can you connect your own experience to any feelings, ideas or opinions expressed in the text?

Visualize- How do you see the people, places, ideas or what is going on in the selection? Pay attention to descriptions and try to imagine what things look like.

Question- Ask yourself questions about the events, people, and ideas expressed in the reading. You might say, "I wonder if these two characters are going to become friends"; "How would I feel if this happened to me?"; "Is this story taking place today, or many years ago?" A good reader has lots of questions going through his mind as he/she reads. Some can easily be answered, or one might have to read further to find out.

Clarify- Good readers pause if they don't understand what they are reading. One might have to go back and read something again, or turn back to another part of the story to check on a detail. Sometimes writing something down or asking someone who may be reading the same story helps. Sometimes a reader continues to read ahead to gain more information. Stop occasionally to check your understanding.

Evaluate- Make judgments as you read. Does this situation seem real? Do you agree with what is being expressed? What is revealed about the author? How well is the story being told?

7th Grade Summer Reading Response Journal

EXAMPLE

<u>Reading Strategy</u> C	<u>Page #</u> 3	<u>Quote from the book</u> "When he was nearly thirteen, my brother Jem got his arm badly broken at the elbow." ~from "To Kill a Mockingbird"	<u>Commentary (5-7 sentence paragraph)</u> I remember breaking my foot before a choir concert. I was not feeling well and had to leave the risers before a concert. When I was hopping down from the third riser, I landed on the side of my foot and broke it. All I cared about when I was recovering was being able to walk without crutches or a walking cast again. This seems to be how Jem kind of feels. All he wants is to get better and can't think about anything else.
---	-------------------------------	---	--

Title/Author of Book _____ Genre _____

<u>Reading Strategy</u>	<u>Page #</u>	<u>Quote from the book</u>	<u>Commentary (5-7 sentence paragraph)</u>
Prediction			
Connect			
Visualize			

Question	<u>Page #</u>	<u>Quote from the book</u>	<u>Commentary (5-7 sentence paragraph)</u>
Clarify			
Evaluate			