

Sagemont Summer Reading Program

Grades 6-8

Why read during the summer break?

- We believe that reading year-round promotes lifelong learning and intellectual curiosity. All Sagemont students are expected to read during the summer months. We encourage students to choose novels or nonfiction literature that appeal to their personal interests.

How many books should I read?

- If you have selected an **advanced English course** for the upcoming school year, ***you must read 3 books.***
- If you have selected a **regular English course** for the upcoming school year, ***you must read 2 books.***

How will I be graded?

- All reading should be completed **prior** to the first day of school.
- During the first week of classes, you will be expected to **submit a 500 – 750 word book report for a test grade for each book read.**
- As you read, be sure to keep notes based on the ideas listed above that will be discussed. Also, keep notes about the things you liked and disliked about the books.
- Guidelines to assist in writing your book report are on the following page.

Which books am I allowed to read?

- It's your choice! Remember, the more interested you are in the subject matter, the more likely you will be to finish the book. Read online reviews on Amazon.com, ask your friends for recommendations, or pick a title from the suggested summer reading list. If you have already read a book on the list, you must choose a new book to read.

Note to Parents: Please review your child's summer reading selections before he or she begins reading. ***Some books may have content that you may not deem age-appropriate,*** so be sure to check out online reviews or ask your local librarian to help guide the selection process.

Guidelines to Complete Book Reports

The Outline of Your Report

You read your book, so now you will need to complete a book report of approximately 500 – 750 words for each book you have read. Your next step will be to organize what you are going to say about it in your report. Writing the basic elements down in an outline format will help you to organize your thoughts. What will you include in the outline? The following guidelines should help.

Let's assume for the moment that you've chosen a work of fiction. We'll start with a description of the book. The description should include such elements as:

1. Title page – Include a title page citing the title of your book and the author's name.
2. The setting—where does the story take place? Is it a real place or an imaginary one? If the author does not tell you exactly where the story is set, what can you tell about it from the way it is described?
3. The time period—is the story set in the present day or in an earlier time period? Perhaps it is even set in the future! Let your reader know.
4. The main character(s)—who is the story mostly about? Give a brief description. Often, one character can be singled out as the main character, but some books will have more than one.
5. The plot—what happens to the main character? WARNING! Be careful here. Do not fall into the boring trap of reporting every single thing that happens in the story. Pick only the most important events. Here are some hints on how to do that. First, explain the situation of the main character as the story opens. Next, identify the basic plot element of the story--is the main character trying to achieve something or overcome a particular problem? Thirdly, describe a few of the more important things that happen to the main character as he/she works toward that goal or solution. Finally, you might hint at the story's conclusion without completely giving away the ending.

The five points above deal with the report aspect of your work. For the final section of your outline, give your reader a sense of the impression the book made upon you. Ask yourself what the author was trying to achieve and whether or not he achieved it with you. What larger idea does the story illustrate? How does it do that? How did you feel about the author's style of writing, the setting, or the mood of the novel? You do not have to limit yourself to these areas. Pick something which caught your attention, and let your reader know your personal response to whatever it was.

What about non-fiction?

You might have chosen a non-fiction biography, history, or a factual text on another subject of interest to you. In that case, the descriptive section of your report should include:

1. Subject—an initial statement on the general subject of the book.
2. Summary—your summary of what the author had to say about the subject. Again, pick only the most important points to discuss. For a biography, describe some of the key events in the person's life. For a history or other subject, describe some of the main points made about the subject. If the book is divided into different chapters, you can often use those divisions as a guide to what the main points are.

After you've described your book, express some of your thoughts about what you've read. What seemed to be the author's main reason for writing the book? What was the most interesting thing you learned about the book's subject? Why did you find it interesting? You might also give your opinion on how the subject was presented. Did the author hold your interest?

Remember! Whether you are writing about fiction or non-fiction you must be sure to recognize the main idea or ideas in the book. So be sure that you have a good understanding of it before you begin writing. Keep the book beside you while you are writing your report so that you can refer to it when necessary.

Taken from: The Lakewood Public Library - <http://www.lkwdpl.org/study/bookrep/>

Middle School Summer Reading List

Calling Jack Bauer: Dystopian Literature

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| *Full Tilt – Gary Shusterman | The Recruit – Robert Muchamore |
| *The Forest of Hands and Teeth – Carrie Ryan | City of Ember – Jeanne Deprau |
| *Hunger Games; Catching Fire; Mockingjay – Suzanne Collins | Maximum Ride – James Patterson |
| *The Knife of Never Letting Go – Patrick Ness | Leviathan – Scott Westerfeld |
| *The Maze Runner – James Dashman | Life as We Knew It – Susan Beth Pfeffer |
| *The Enemy – Charlie Higson | Birthmarked – Caragh M. O’Brien |
| *An Audience for Einstein – Mark Wakely | Feed – M.T. Anderson |
| *Brother X – Cory Doctorow | First Strike – Jack Higgins |
| *Outside the Box – Dan Allosso | I Am the Messenger – Markus Zusak |
| Flight of Shadows – Sigmund Brouwer | The Unit – Ninni Holmqvist |
| Blade: Playing Dead – Tim Bowler | |
| The Hunchback Assignment – Arthur Slade | |
| Out of the Shadows – Blade – Tim Bowler | |
| The Carbon Diaries 2015; 2017 – Saci Lloyd | |
| The Other Side of the Island – Allegra Goodman | |

Life: Stuff Happens

- *The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds – Paul Zindel

*Runaway Storm – D.E. Knobbe	*Woods Runner – Gary Paulson
*The Day of the Pelican – Katherine Paterson	La Linea – Ann Jaramillo
* The House You Pass on the Way – Jacqueline Woodson	Lifting the Sky – Mackie D’Arge
*I Am a Genius of Unspeakable Evil and I want to be Your Class President – Josh Leib	
*Asta in the Wings – Jan Elizabeth Watson	Chasing Orion – Kathryn Lasky
*After Ever After – Jordan Sonnenblick	Monster – Walter Dean Myers
*Goldengrove – Francine Prose	The Fake Birthday – Gerri Rudner
*All the Broken Pieces – Ann Burg	Crunch – Leslie Connor
*Paper Towns – Tim Green	First Light – Rebecca Stead
If You Come Softly – Jacqueline Woodson	Games – Carol Gorman
*Skellig – David Almond	The Cardturner – Louis Sachar
*After Tupac and D Foster – Jacqueline Woodson	Pop – Gordon Korman
*Jellicoe Road – Melina Marchetta	Roar – Emma Clayton
*Billy Creekmore: A Novel: Tracy Porter	Anything Typical – Nora Raleigh Baskin
*The Misfits – James Howe	Esperanza Rising – Pam Munoz Ryan
*Kit’s Wilderness – David Almond	Rat – Lynne Jonell
*Heaven Eyes – David Almond	The Year of the Dog – Grace Lin
*Mockingbird – Katherine Erskine	Cosmic – Frank Cottrell Boyce
*The Cloud Chamber – Joyce Maynard	Wing Nut – Mary Auch
*In the Woods – Robin Stevenson	The Car – Gary Paulson
*Will Grayson, Will Grayson – David Levithan	Diamond Willow – Helen Frost
*Charles & Emma – The Darwins Leap of Faith – Deborah Heiligman	
*Just Another Hero – Sharon Draper	I Am the Cheese – Robert Cormier
*The Brute – Mike Klaassen	Boot Camp – Todd Strasser
*The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks – E. Lockhart	
*Running on Dreams – Herb Heiman	Soldier X – Don Wulffson
*Bud, Not Buddy – Christopher Paul Curtis	Rucker Park Set Up – Paul Volponi
*Runaway – Wendy VanDraanen	Reality Check – Peter Abraham

*Incarceron – Catherine Fisher
*Invisible Lines – Mary Amato
*Jumped – Rita Williams Garcia
*Bird Lake Moon – Kevin Henkes
*Flipped – Wendelin Van Draanen
Bucking the Sarge – Christopher Paul Curtis
The Other Half of Life – Kim Ablon Whitney
Faith, Hope, & Ivy June – Phyllis Reynolds Taylor
Becoming Naomi Leon – Pam Munoz Ryan
Parrot in the Oven – Victor Martinez
Lockdown – Walter Dean Myers
Mexican Whiteboy – Matt de la Pena
Response – Paul Volponi
Hot, Sour, Salty, Sweet – Sherri L. Smith
Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg – Rodman Philbrick
Thirteen Reasons Why – Jay Asher
The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate – Jacqueline Kelly
Surviving the Applewhites – Stephanie Tolan
Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie – Jordan Sonnenblick
Tears of a Tiger – Sharon Draper
Here’s How I See it: Here’s How it Is – Heather Henson
The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie – Alan Bradley
King of the Screw-Ups – K.L. Going
Jacked – Carrie Mac
Blood on the River: James Town 1607 – Elisa Carbone
Can’t Get There From Here - Todd Strasser
One Crazy Summer – Rita Williams-Garcia
Elijah of Buxton – Christopher Paul Curtis
The Revealers – Doug Wilhelm
If the Witness Lied – Caroline Cooney
Rikers High – Paul Volponi
Gamer Girl – Mari Mancussi
The Underneath – Kathi Appelt
Messed Up – Janet Nichols Lynch
Solving Zoe – Barbara Dee
Fifteen – Beverly Cleary
The Skin I’m In – Sharon Flake
True North – Kathryn Lasky
Eleven – Patricia Reilly Giff
Scorpions – Walter Dean Myers
Define Normal – Julie Anne Peters
Gender Blender – Blake Nelson
When You Reach Me – Rebecca Stead
The Storm in the Barn – Matt Phelan
Sophie – Rosie Rushton
Taken – Edward Bloor
Someone Named Eva – Joan M. Wolf
Pig Man – Paul Zindel
Luv Ya Bunches – Lauren Myracle
Boys Taking Sides – Gary Soto
Masterpiece – Elise Broach
The Mailbox – Audrey Shafer
Empress of the World – Sara Ryan
Falling In – Frances Roark Dowell
Birdwing – Rafe Martin
Smile – Raina Telgemeier

Zach's Lie – Roland Smith

Locomotion – Jacqueline Woodson

Maniac Magee – Jerry Spinelli

Paint the Wind – Pam Munoz Ryan

How I Survived Middle School – Nancy Krulik

Schooled – Gordon Korman

How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents – Julia Alvarez

Jelly Belly – Robert Kimmel Smith

The War with Grandpa – Robert Kimmel Smith

The Schwa was Here – Neal Schusterman

Chains – Laurie Halse Anderson

Lifting the Sky – Mackie D'Arge

Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer – John Grisham

Hell Week – Rosemary Clement-Moore

Highway to Hell – Rosemary Clement-Moore

The Pricker Boy – Reade Scott Whinnem

Is it Night or Day? – Fern Shumer Chapman

Where the Mountain Meets the Moon – Grace Lin

Peace, Love and Baby Ducks – Lauren Myracle

How to Survive Middle School – Donna Gephart

Middle School is Worse Than Meatloaf – Jennifer Holm

Mercy on These Teenage Chimps – Gary Soto

Down the Memory Hole – Bonnie Turner

When Zachary Beaver Came to Town – Kimberly Willis Holt

Blowing Bubbles with the Enemy – Alison Jackson

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian – Sherman Alexie

The Miraculous Makeover of Lizard Flanagan – Carol Gorman

The Year the Swallows Came Early – Kathryn Fitzmaurice

11 Birthdays – Wendy Mass

eBully – Dave Conifer

Stand Tall – Joan Bauer

Chocolate Fever – Robert Kimmel Smith

Road to Paris – Nikki Grimes

Crossing – Andrew Fukude

Hannah's Touch – Laura Langston

Rat Life – Ted Arnold

Stand Tall – Joan Bauer

Incantation – Alice Hoffman

Green Angel – Alice Hoffman

Girlwood – Claire Dean

Worldshaker – Richard Harland

Between Us Baxters – Betheny Hegedus

Jekel Loves Hyde – Beth Fantasky

Bamboo People – Mitali Perkins

As Simple as it Seems – Sarah Weeks

Do Not Pass Go – Kirkpatrick Hill

Raven Stole the Moon – Garth Stein

Olive's Ocean – Kevin Henkes

The Perfect Shot – Elaine Marie Alphin

Name Me Nobody – Lois-Ann yamanaka

A Different Beat – Candy Dawson Body

Notes from the Dog – Gary Paulsen

Non-Fiction from Around the World; For the Mature Reader

*Truce – Jim Murphy

*A Whale for the Killing – Farley Mowat

*War – Sebastian Junger

*War Child – Emmanuel Jal

*I am Nujood, Age 10 and Divorced – Nujood Ali

The Blind Side – Michael Lewis

*Stitches (Graphic novel)– David Small

Heroes for My Son – Brad Meltzer

*Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice – Phillip Hoose

Stones into Schools – Greg Mortenson

*Ghosts of War – Ryan Smithson

The Perfect Storm – Sebastian Junger

Outcasts United: A Refugee Team, an American Town – Warren St. John

Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution – Ji-li Jiang

The Soloist – Steve Lopez

When My Name Was Keoko – Linda Sue Park

Code Talker – Joseph Bruchac

Bulu: African Wonderdog – Dick Houston

The Firefly Letters: A Suffragette’s Journey to Cuba – Margarita Engle

First They Killed My Father: A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers – Loung Ung

When Broken Glass Floats: Growing Up Under the Khmer Rouge – Chanrithy Him

Cowboys and Indians; the Wild West and Mob Justice

The Ox-Bow Incident – Walter Van Tilburg Clark

Silver Canyon – Louis L’Amour

The Dark Wind (Jim Chee novels) – Tony Hillerman

Shane – Jack Schaefer

The Virginian – Owen Wister

Leadville – James D. Best

The Misadventures of Maude March – Audrey Coulombis

The Big Sky – A.B. Guthrie

Riders of the Purple Sage – Zane Grey

Aliens, Ghosts, Creepy Crawlies, and Lots of Monsters

*The Martian Chronicles – Ray Bradbury

*The War of the Worlds – H.G. Wells

*Demonkeeper – Royce Buckingham

*Goblins! Royce Buckingham

*The Monstrumologist – Rick Yancey

The Troll King – John Vornholt

*Killer Pizza - Greg Taylor

The Dragonslayer's Apprentice – David Calder

The Mummy at Midnight – Steven Brezenoff

Wolves, Boys & Other Things that Might Kill Me – Kristen Chandler

Creepy Crawly Crime – Aaron Reynold

My Teacher Flunked the Planet – Bruce Coville

Milrose Munce and the Den of Professional Help – Douglas and Anthony Cooper

The Doom Machine – Mark Teague

Ghostgirl – Tonya Hurley

Hex Hall – Rachel Hawkins

Whisper in the Dark – Joseph Bruchac

Boom! – Mark Haddon

Ghost World - Daniel Clowes

Skeleton Creek – Patrick Carman

Wolven – Di Toft

Claire de Lune – Christine Johnson

Shadowed Summer – Sandra Mitchell

The Everafter – Amy Huntley

Skeleton Man – Joseph Bruchac

Fantasy, Fairy Tales, Magic, and Lots of Adventure

*The Grimm Legacy – Polly Shulman

*Blood Ninja – Nick Lake

*Dark Life – Kat Falls

*The Door of No Return – Sarah Mussi

*They Came From Below – Blake Nelson

*Savvy – Ingrid Law

*The Great Wide Sea – M.H. Herlong

*Triskellion – Will Peterson

*Dani Noir – Ren Suma

Princess of Glass – Jessica Day George

The Demon's Covenant – Sarah Rees

Peter and the Sword of Mercy – Dave Barry

Invention of Hugo Cabret – Brian Selznik

The Shadows: The Books of Elsewhere – Jacqueline West

Ash – Malinda Lo

Illyria – Elizabeth Hand

Super Human – Michael Carroll

Enchanted Glass – Diana Wynne Jones

Frozen in Time – Ali Sparks

Pajo – Karl L. Krueger

Dragon Slippers – Jessica Day George

The Birthday Ball – Lois Lowry

Storyteller – Edward Myers

Wintersmith – Terry Pratchett

The Shadow Hunt – Katherine Langrish

Fairest – Gail Carson Levine

The Thief Lord – Cornelia Funke

The Fire Opal – Regina McBride

The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing – M.T. Anderson Magic under Glass – Jaclyn Dalamore

The Secret Field – The Boy Sherlock Holmes, His 4th Case – Shane Peacock

The Mysterious Benedict Society – Trenton Lee Stewart Into the Wild – Sarah Beth Durst

All the Lovely Bad Ones, Mary Downing Hahn Spells – April Lynne Pike

The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel – Michael Scott The Morgue & Me – John C. Ford

Elvis & Olive: Super Detectives – Stephanie Watson The Red Blazer Girls – Michael D. Beil

The Brain Full of Holes – Martin Chatterton

Adventures of a Cat-Whiskered Girl – Daniel Pinkwater

The Entertainer and the Dybbuk – Sid Fleischman

Extraordinary Adventures of Alfred Kropp - Rick Yancey

The Case of Stolen Time – The Misadventure of Inspector Moustachio – Wayne Madson

Petronella Saves Nearly Everyone – Dene Low

The Case of the Case of Mistaken Identity – Mac Barnett

Emmy and the Incredible Shrinking Rat – Lynne Jonell

Series Favorites

*Hitchhikers’s Guide to the Galaxy – Douglas Adams

Found – Margaret Peterson Haddix

*The Red Pyramid (Kane Chronicles) Rick Riordan

Charlie Bone series – Jenny Nimmo

Assassin’s Apprentice (Farseer Trilogy)

Stoneheart Trilogy – Charlie Fletcher

The Gatekeeper’s series – Anthony Horowitz

Clique series – Lisi Harrison

We the Children (Keepers of the School series) – Andrew Clement

Lucky (Avery Sisters trilogy) – Rachel Vail

Septimus Heap – Angie Sage

Sebastian Barth Mysteries – James Howe

Emily Windsnap – Liz Kessler

Enola Holmes Mysteries – Nancy Springer

Pretty Little Liars – Sara Sheperd

The Takers (The Oz Chronicles) _ R.W. Ridley

The Dragon Chronicles – Chris d’Lacey

How to Train Your Dragon – Cressida Cowell

Children of the Red King – Jenny Nimmo

Invisible City: The Joshua Files – M.G. Harris

Racing to Freedom trilogy – Alison Hart
The Ranger’s Apprentice – John Flanagan
Infinity (Chronicles of Nick) – Sherrilyn Kenyon
The Time Cavern : Volume 1 – Todd A. Fonseca
The Young Bond series – Charlie Higson
My Teacher is an Alien (series) – Bruce Coville
The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel – Michael Scott
Peter and the Starcatchers – Dave Berry
The Way of the Sword: Young Samurai, Book 2 – Chris Bradford
The Palace of Laughter – The Wednesday Tales No. 1 – Jon Berkeley
The Prometheus Project: Trapped – Douglas E. Richard
Buggy Crenshaw and the Bungler’s Paradox – R.M. Wilburn

Classics (don’t be afraid, they’re very good)

The Adventures of Robin Hood – Howard Pyle	Black Beauty – Anna Sewell
Johnny Tremain – Esther Forbes	Huckleberry Finn – Mark Twain
The Wind and the Willows – Kenneth Grahame	The Jungle Book – Rudyard Kipling
Anne of Green Gables – L.M. Montgomery	Captains Courageous – Rudyard Kipling
20,000 Leagues Under the Sea – Jules Verne	Gulliver’s Travels – Jonathan Swift
The Three Musketeers – Alexandre Dumas	1001 Arabian Nights
The Secret Garden – Frances Hodgson Burnett	Old Yeller – Fred Gibson
The Yearling – Marjorie Kennan Rawlings	Treasure Island – Robert L. Stevenson
Around the World in 80 Days – Jules Verne	Tom Sawyer – Mark Twain
The Last of the Mohicans – James Fennimore Cooper	Moby Dick – Herman Melville
Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde – Robert Louis Stevenson	Oliver Twist – Charles Dickens
A Wrinkle in Time – Madeleine L’Engle	Lord of the Rings – JRR Tolkien
Great Expectations – Charles Dickens	White Fang – Jack London

For the Sports Minded Bibliophile

The Batboy – Mike Lupica

Shakespeare Makes the Playoffs – Ron Koertge

Roy Morelli Steps Up to the Plate – Thatcher Heldring

The Brooklyn Nine – Alan Grate

Lay-ups and Long Shots – Joseph Bruchac

Rivals: A Baseball Great Novel – Tim Green

Heart of a Champion (baseball) – Carl Deuker

Ball Don't Lie – Matt de la Pena

Knights of the Hill Country – Tim Tharp

Open Court (tennis) – Carol Clippinger

Box Out – John Coy

On the Devil's Court – Carl Deuker

Gym Candy (steroids)– Carl Deuker

Night Hoops (basketball) – Carl Deuker

Painting the Black – Carl Deuker

Heat (baseball) – Mike Lupica

Million Dollar Throw - Mike Lupica

Football Genius – Tim Green

Baseball Great – Tim Green

Crackback – John Coy