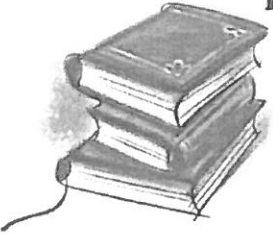


Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body. ~ Joseph Addison ~

Reading is a basic tool in the living of a good life. ~ Mortimer J. Adler ~



Student writers expand their knowledge as they read more and more. Your eighth grade Language Arts teachers want you to relax and read some great books this summer. We'd like you to select ONE book from our Amesbury Middle School Summer Reading List for students entering grade eight, and after you have read a book of your choice from the list, we want you to share your ideas and feelings about the readings by completing the following. This is not a formal book report, but your reflects your thoughts and responses. **These are the questions you will be asked to respond to within the first week of school. We recommend that you take notes on each of these bullet points as you read so you will be prepared to complete the Summer Reading Assignment in September!**

- Describe a memorable character from your book. Choose **a quote or two** from the text that shows important qualities about this character.
- Describe how a character in your book has overcome adversity (hardship). **How** did the character overcome this challenge or hardship? Be specific.
- In your opinion, what is the most important theme of the book? What **message** does the author put out through writing this book? Write about **three** specific examples from the story that support that theme.
- Write down three (3) facts about the author. This information can be found on the book jacket or on the internet.
- Devise three (3) questions that you would like to ask the author of the book that cannot be answered by reading the book – “deeper” questions.
- Did the book satisfy your expectations? Please describe what you liked about it and what you did not like about it. Be specific.
- If you are reading a book that was made into a movie, write about the differences between the book and the movie – some of your thoughts, such as which you liked better and why.

NOTE: In September, you will be completing a project based on your Summer Reading book. You will have to write a paragraph for each question that contains a topic sentence, supportive details (not less than three details) and a closing sentence. Therefore, make sure your notes are sufficiently detailed so you can complete the assignment.

We look forward to having a class discussion with you about these books after summer vacation!

See you in September!