

Eighth Grade Summer Reading Assignment 2021

Dear Eighth Grade Students:

I hope that you have wonderful summer plans ahead of you, and that within those adventures, you also plan to read a book or two! For those of you who do not like to read, I challenge you to be tenacious in finding books that you actually enjoy. Regardless, summer reading is a wonderful way to develop and hone your reading and writing skills.

The required summer reading book is *The Someday Birds* by Sally J. Pla. I suggest that you begin reading this book the last week of July, as this will be the first book that we will work with when school starts. I would like for you to **annotate, looking for details about the journey** that is taken in this story, as well as the **characters' personalities**. In addition, you may also make bullet notes at the end of the chapter as a form of summary. Be prepared to discuss this book with me, as well as complete an assignment during the first few days of school. (Please note that a **print copy is required** for *The Someday Birds*.)

In addition to the required reading, please choose one other book to read that is at least 200 pages in length. **You should plan to have a copy of this book available to you when we begin school, as there will be an assessment within our first few days of class.** Please note the ***list of books below. You may not choose one of these, or any other book read for 6th or 7th grade classes. Although I am not requiring you to read a third book, I encourage you to consider reading throughout the summer!

Once again, a **PRINT copy** of *The Someday Birds* is required. Also, you will need access to the book which you chose to read. I would prefer it be in **PRINT**, but if you choose to download it digitally, make sure to do it on your school iPad, remembering that cell phones are not permitted in class.

I hope that you will take time to choose a book that you will enjoy reading. Amazon.com is a great resource for finding a short synopsis on books, as well as reviews submitted by readers.

Have a good summer, and I will see you in August!

Sincerely,

Jaclyn Wooten
Eighth Grade English Teacher

*** The following books may not be read for this assignment:

Lord of the Flies, To Kill a Mockingbird, Crispin, Coraline, Ninth Ward, Paper Boy, The Good Braider, Touching Spirit Bear, Dead End in Norvelt, Watsons go to Birmingham, Omnivore's Dilemma, Red Scarf Girl, Habibi, True Grit, The Outsiders, Tempest, Romeo & Juliet, The Book Thief, Where the Red Fern Grows. (Most of these books have been read during the 6th Grade or 7th Grade English classes.)

