

Rising 6th, 7th, & 8th Summer Reading and Project List

The 2014-2015 Battle of the Books Reading List for SCISA Middle School tams is out! Three of these are required for summer reading (you choose them). You must also complete one of the projects listed below and bring it to class on the first day of school. If you'd like to be considered for the Battle of the Books Competition, you have until November 20 to read the rest of the books.

Books

- *Eight Cousins* by Alcott
- *Chains* by Anderson, Laurie
- *A String in the Harp* by Bond
- *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* by Boyne
- *Bud, Not Buddy* by Curtis
- *Pictures of Hollis Woods* by Giff
- *I Thought My Soul Would Rise and Fly* by Hansen
- *Jason's Gold* by Hobbs, Will
- *Turtle in Paradise* by Holm, Jennifer
- *Farewell to Manzanar* by Houston
- *The Lottery Rose* by Park
- *A Single Shard* by Paterson
- *Jip, His Story* by Paterson
- *The Egypt Game* by Snyder
- *Counting by 7's* by Sloan, Holly
- *The Red Pony* by Steinbeck
- *The Land* by Taylor, Mildred D.
- *Feathers* by Woodson
- *The Dollhouse Murders* by Wright
- *The Pigman* by Zindel

Projects

1. **Movies.** Think about the main character in one of the novels you read this summer. Pick five movies you'd recommend to this character. Give a brief synopsis of each and tell why this character should see each movie.
2. **Social Worker's Report.** Think of a character in one of the novels you read that might benefit from a social worker visiting the home of this character. Pretending you are the social worker, write up a detailed

report for the Department of Social Services (DSS) that describes the physical, spiritual, emotional, and mental environment in the home of this character.

3. **School Counselor's Recommendation.** Pretend you are a school counselor who has been given the task of recommending on the characters from one of the novels you read to attend, free of charge, a great academic program in another state. Make mention of the character's integrity, dependability, and drive.
4. **Letter Exchange.** Create a letter, written by one of the characters in one of the novels, to the author who created him or her. In the letter, tell what you, the character, learned about "yourself," others, and life. Then, as the author this time, write a response to your character.
5. **Draw A Scene.** Draw a scene from one of the novels that made a deep impression upon you. Draw the characters in the scene. Draw yourself in the scene, where you imagined "standing" as you read the scene. On the back of the drawing, write why you imagined yourself where you were and who you most related to during this particular scene.