

2018 ALCS Middle School Summer Reading

Grades 6-8

Each student is to choose **one** book for English and **one** for History from the list under the appropriate grade level. Students are to complete the assignments listed for each book, and should bring their assignments when school starts in September.

English

Grade 6:

Beardance – Will Hobbs
The Call of the Wild – Jack London
The Cay – Theodore Taylor
Dogsong – Gary Paulsen
Hans Brinker – Mary Mapes Dodge
Holes – Louis Sachar
In His Steps – Charles Sheldon
The Legend of Sleepy Hollow – Washington Irving
Loser – Jerry Spinelli
My Side of the Mountain – Jean Craighead George
The Outsiders – S. E. Hinton
The Prince and the Pauper – Mark Twain
Rip Van Winkle – Washington Irving
Swiss Family Robinson – Johann David Wyss
The Talking Earth – Jean Craighead George
White Fang – Jack London

Grade 7:

Adventures of Huck Finn – Mark Twain
The Adventures of Tom Sawyer – Mark Twain
Around the World in Eighty Days – Jules Verne
God's Smuggler – Brother Andrew
The Hobbit – J. R. R. Tolkien
Journey to the Center of the Earth – Jules Verne
The Jungle Book – Rudyard Kipling
Kidnapped – Robert Louis Stevenson
Little Women – Louisa May Alcott
Robinson Crusoe – Daniel Defoe
The Three Musketeers – Alexandre Dumas
The Time Machine – H. G. Wells
Treasure Island – Robert Louis Stevenson
Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea – Jules Verne
Walk Two Moons – Sharon Creech
The Westing Game – Ellen Raskin
Where the Red Fern Grows – Wilson Rawls
A Wrinkle in Time – Madeleine L'Engle

Grade 8:

Brady – Jean Fritz
A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court – Mark Twain
The Hound of the Baskervilles – Arthur Conan Doyle
The Jungle – Upton Sinclair
Milkweed – Jerry Spinelli
Our Town – Thornton Wilder
The Scarlet Letter – Nathaniel Hawthorne
The Sword in the Stone – T. H. White
Uncle Tom's Cabin – Harriet Beecher Stowe

Assignment for English Reading:

1. Keep a log of all vocabulary words you do not know. Define each word.
2. What is/are the setting(s) of the story? Explain.
3. How is the plot (the main story line) developed in the book? What is the plot of the story? Explain.
4. Who are the main characters in the story? What role does each play?
5. What is the primary life lesson the book teaches? Explain.
6. Is there a conflict in the story? What is it? Explain.
7. Did you like the ending of the story? Why or why not? Explain.

History

Grade 6:

Through Gates of Splendor – Elisabeth Elliot
What Was the Lewis and Clark Expedition? – Judith St. George

Grade 7:

The Adventures of Marco Polo – Russell Freedman
The Boys Who Challenged Hitler: Knut Pedersen and the Churchill Club – Phillip Hoose
The Family Romanov – Candace Fleming
Hiroshima – John Hersey
Never Give In: The Extraordinary Character of Winston Churchill – Stephen Mansfield
Svetlana – The Incredible Story of Stalin's Daughter – Martin Ebon
They Poured Fire on Us from the Sky: The True Story of Three Lost Boys – Deng et al.

Grade 8:

Candy Bomber: The Story of the Berlin Airlift's "Chocolate Pilot" – Michael O. Tunnell
Abraham Lincoln A New Birth of Freedom – Janet & Geoff Benge (many copies available to borrow from ALCS)
Number the Stars – Lois Lowry
The Spy Who Came in From the Sea – Peggy Nolan
Up From Slavery – Booker T. Washington

Assignment for History Reading:

1. What event(s) in history is/are discussed in the book? Explain.
2. Identify five facts you learned about that event/those events.
3. Was there anything that surprised you about the event(s)? Explain.
4. Would you recommend this book to others? Why or why not? Explain.