

CWSCS Middle School Summer Reading Assignment (2023-2024)

"Character Development"

How does the protagonist or main character develop or change throughout your novel?"

I. Why do we require summer reading?

CWSCS Middle School ELA teachers believe that the more a person reads, the better they will become at reading comprehension, inferencing, fluency, accuracy, and overall problem-solving skills. Summer reading encourages students to **maintain skills** learned during the previous year. Through their reading, students will be **observing how authors create characters that develop and change throughout a novel** and **learn lessons** that connect to the novel's overall theme. **Analyzing a character's development** throughout a story will enable students to remember key points of their reading and will **assist them in the writing activity that will take place at the beginning of the school year**. We believe, especially this year, that all students **MUST** be able to **read and write effectively** to prepare for the upcoming school year and to become lifelong learners.

II. REQUIRED Summer Reading Assignment for all incoming 6th, 7th & 8th Middle School Students:

Choose any **appropriate novel** (either from the **Suggested Book List OR One of Your Choice**) that is **within your reading level** and describes a **strong protagonist (main character)**. As you read, pay attention to how the events that **propel the protagonist to develop and change** throughout the novel. It is important to note **lessons learned and the overall development** of that character.

Attached are two-character development **graphic organizers**. You may choose **whichever organizer appeals to you**. It must be completed in as much detail as possible and will be taken as a grade in your ELA classes. This is mandatory. It's important to take your time, be **detailed and thoughtful in your written responses, and write neatly**. Feel free to **TYPE the character development information** and attach it to the graphic organizer on return to school in the fall. This organizer will also be **used as a reference for an in-class assignment** within the first month of school.

***** MIDDLE SCHOOL READING CHALLENGE--** We would like to see students read **more than one book over the summer**. A Google Classroom is set up for students to recommend and post reviews of books that are read. **EAGLE BUCKS** will be given for original reviews and recommendations. Please join the Google Classroom to connect with other enthusiastic readers. Are you up for the "Reading Challenge?" **Ready, Set, READ!**

GOOGLE CLASSROOM CODE: 67iavsr

List of "Suggested" Character Development Titles

This is just a suggested list. Feel free to choose one on your own, as well.

****These book titles, both content and reading level, may not be appropriate for all students. Parents, please preview your child's choice(s) before committing.*

<p><i>Hunger Games (series)</i></p> <p><i>Maze Runner (series)</i></p> <p><i>Divergent (series)</i></p> <p><i>Twilight (series)</i></p> <p><i>Hatchet</i></p> <p><i>Among the Hidden</i></p> <p><i>Call it Courage</i></p> <p><i>Robinson Crusoe</i></p> <p><i>The 5th Wave</i></p> <p><i>Fever 1793</i></p> <p><i>Restart</i></p> <p><i>Divergent</i></p> <p><i>Harry Potter (series)</i></p> <p><i>Rhino in Right Field</i></p> <p><i>47 People You'll Meet in Middle School</i></p> <p><i>The City of Ember</i></p> <p><i>Ender's Game</i></p> <p><i>Where the Red Fern Grows</i></p> <p><i>Old Yeller</i></p> <p><i>The Yearling</i></p> <p><i>Tangerine</i></p> <p><i>Out of the Dust</i></p> <p><i>Wringer Crossover</i></p> <p><i>El Deafo by Cece Bell</i></p> <p><i>Bomb: the Race to Steal the World's Most Dangerous</i></p> <p><i>If I Stay</i></p> <p><i>Salt to the Sea</i></p> <p><i>Rumble Fish</i></p> <p><i>That Was Then, This is Now</i></p> <p><i>So Far from the Bamboo Grove</i></p> <p><i>The Bonesetter's Daughter</i></p> <p><i>The Clay Marble</i></p> <p><i>Alone Together</i></p> <p><i>Dreams of Gold</i></p> <p><i>Code Talker: A Novel About the Navajo Marines of WWII</i></p> <p><i>The Storm in the Barn</i></p> <p><i>Rules</i></p> <p><i>A Break with Charity</i></p> <p><i>A Long Way from Chicago</i></p> <p><i>Mockingbird</i></p> <p><i>Sixth Grade Secrets</i></p>	<p><i>Prisoner-B-3087 (any of the Alan Gratz series)</i></p> <p><i>Wings of Fire</i></p> <p><i>Blended</i></p> <p><i>The Boy Who Dared</i></p> <p><i>Letters from Cuba</i></p> <p><i>Lizard's Tale</i></p> <p><i>Show Me a Sign</i></p> <p><i>Prairie Lotus</i></p> <p><i>Echo Mountain</i></p> <p><i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i></p> <p><i>A Long Way Gone</i></p> <p><i>Unbroken</i></p> <p><i>Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow</i></p> <p><i>Bartoletti--2007 Newbery Honor</i></p> <p><i>Lincoln: A Photobiography--Newbery Honor.</i></p> <p><i>The Freedom Summer Murders</i></p> <p><i>Warriors Don't Cry</i></p> <p><i>Rosa Parks: My Story</i></p> <p><i>Guts by Gary Paulsen</i></p> <p><i>Three Cups of Tea</i></p> <p><i>Alive by Piers Paul Read</i></p> <p><i>Bound by Ice: A True North Pole Survival Story</i></p> <p><i>Wallace Rich Wallace</i></p> <p><i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i></p> <p><i>Hidden Figures: The Untold True Story of Four African Women</i></p> <p><i>Who Helped Launch Our Nation into Space</i></p> <p><i>Shetterly</i></p> <p><i>We Will Not Be Silent: The White Rose Student Resistance</i></p> <p><i>Movement that Defied Adolf Hitler</i></p> <p><i>The Boys Who Challenged Hitler: Knud Peterson and the Churchill Club</i></p> <p><i>Snowflake Bentley</i></p> <p><i>The Diary of a Young Girl</i></p> <p><i>Trapped by Marc Aaronson</i></p> <p><i>The 57 Bus: A True Story about Two Teenagers and the Crime that Changed their Lives</i></p> <p><i>the World</i></p> <p><i>Red Scarf Girl</i></p> <p><i>Chinese Cinderella</i></p> <p><i>The Boys in the Boat</i></p>
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Name: _____

Grade: _____

Character Development Organizer for Summer Reading

As you read, fill out the following traits about the main character in your historical fiction novel.

Use specific details. The use of extra paper is allowed if needed.

Book Title:	
Author:	
Genre:	

Main Character-Name: _____

Type of character: (circle)	Protagonist	Antagonist	Supporting
Age:	Gender:		

Physical Traits <i>What does the character look like?</i>	Personality Traits <i>What are the characters' thoughts and feelings?</i>
Action Traits <i>What does the character do on a day-to-day basis?</i>	Character's Role <i>What is the character's role in the story?</i>
Major Accomplishments <i>What accomplishments have shaped the character's personality and behavior?</i>	Problems/Challenges <i>Are there problems or challenges that the character must overcome or has overcome? Explain How.</i>
Character's Associations <i>How does the character interact with others? What are the others' opinions of this character?</i>	Communication Style <i>Does the character prefer certain words or phrases? What about the sound of his/her voice?</i>

Name: _____ Book Title: _____ Author: _____

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT Graphic Organizer

As you read, fill out the following traits about the main character in your novel. Use specific details.

The use of extra paper is allowed if needed.

