

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading Assignment

**Due Date: August 27, 2018**

**Required Reading:**

***Rules of the Road* by Joan Bauer**

**and**

***The Turn of the Tide* by Rosanne Parry**

Today's middle school classrooms are more complex than ever before. Students must work towards specific objectives. Creative projects go beyond the narrow scope of the traditional book report. These projects allow students freedom of expression. They provide a concrete and visual way for each student to explore the novel in depth. These projects will engage your child as he or she demonstrates his or her knowledge of literary elements such as plot, character, setting, and theme in fiction. The following project helps students to synthesize information of large concepts into smaller pieces in visual and concrete ways. It provides opportunities for students to work in various media. Instead of tending to point to one "correct" answer, a project encourages critical and creative thinking. Best of all, the learning sticks. Because projects actively engage students, learning becomes fun. As writer Alfred Mercier once said, "What we learn with pleasure, we never forget."

You are required to read the above books during the summer break. In addition to reading, you must complete two of the projects listed below. **Be creative!** Your project should be neat, well organized, and attractive. Follow the requirements listed with each project idea. **Your project is due the first day of school.** During the first week of school, we will be discussing the book in depth and completing activities based on the events of the stories. **You will also be tested on each book.**

Choose two of the following activities and complete. **You must choose two different projects.** Make sure you pick two that you are excited to complete. You must include descriptions and details include each element of the plot: exposition, rising action, conflict, climax, falling action and resolution. The title, author and genre should also be included. Use the attached Summer Reading Companion Worksheet to help you organize information from the novels as you read. These worksheets will aid you as you create your project. **The Summer Reading Companion is to help you organize your project and does NOT need to be turned in with your assignment.**

**Projects are Due on 8/27/18.** You will be expected to do a short presentation of your projects in class.

**1. Song or Rap:** Write original song lyrics or a rap that describes the plot of the novel. Your lyrics need to include each element of the plot: exposition, rising action, conflict, climax, falling action and resolution. The lyrics need to be typed. Pick your favorite song and put your words to the music, or write your own music. You must write four verses and one refrain (30 lines) at minimum. You will need to perform it for the class or record it to play for the class.

**2. Graphic Novel:** Design a graphic novel version of the book. Write the dialogue and illustrate a graphic novel of the story. Include each element of the plot: exposition, rising action, conflict, climax, falling action and resolution. Your graphic novel must be in book form and have a front and back cover. Your book needs to have a minimum of 8 pages and must include dialogue and illustration on each page in addition to the front and back covers.

**3. Book Trailer:** Create a video book trailer including each element of the plot: exposition, rising action, conflict, climax, falling action and resolution enticing the viewers to want to read the novel. It must be more than 2 minutes, but no longer than 4 minutes. It must include sound, pictures, and words.

**4. Newspaper:** Design a mini newspaper about the novel. Include each element of the plot: exposition, rising action, conflict, climax, falling action and resolution from the novel to create a newspaper. You need to include different sections like: weather, comics, breaking news, letters to the editor, sports, entertainment, and other sections in a newspaper. Your newspaper must include a front and back page along with 5 other sections. It is to be a minimum of 6 pages, including front and back cover.

**5. Awards/Ceremony:** Design awards to give to each character in the novel based on their actions/role in the novel. For each award, you need to write a paragraph explaining why this character is receiving the award to read at the awards ceremony. A few examples could be “most courageous” for fighting peer pressure, or “wisest” for guidance given to other characters. Each paragraph must include each element of the plot: exposition, rising action, conflict, climax, falling action and resolution to explain and support the reason for the award. You need to create and design a physical award, along with writing the paragraph for 4 characters minimum. You must also include a small introduction to your ceremony before you begin reading your awards.

**6. Poem:** Narrative poems tell a story. Write a narrative poem version of the story and illustrate the poem. Use a minimum of 4 literary devices: similes, metaphors, onomatopoeia, alliteration, allusion, hyperbole, foreshadowing, etc. You need to include each element of the plot: exposition, rising action, conflict, climax, falling action and resolution in your poem. Your poem must have 6 stanzas minimum with 5 lines in each stanza (or total of 30 lines minimum.) You must draw a picture or create a collage to accompany your poem.