

Independent Summer Reading 2020 For All Junior High and High School Students

Students must choose one book in accordance with the following guidelines. They will compose a letter explaining why they chose the book and whether or not they liked it and why (minimum 250 words). They will then apply ONE of the project options to their book. This will be due the first week of school.

Basic Guidelines

- Age and Level Appropriate
 - No children's books.
 - Must be a chapter book.
- School Appropriate
- Book you have not read before
- **Books must be approved by teachers and parents by 06/30/20. E-mail either Mrs. Spragg (jspragg@ncsmail.org) or Ms. Lysaght (vllysaght@ncsmail.org) for approval.**

Project Options

1. Create a movie poster to go with a book you read. Posters must reflect important themes from the movie. Select actors and actresses to play major characters. On the back of the poster (or a separate sheet of paper), explain why you chose those particular actors/actresses for the parts and the major themes you conveyed in your poster (300 Words). Write one full paragraph. Grammar and spelling must be correct. You may do these by hand or digitally.
2. Create a puzzle book based on your novel. Include such things such as crosswords, word searches, cryptograms, word scrambles, riddles, etc. Must include at least three different puzzles (with an answer key) and have a cover.
3. Write a letter to the author of the book you read that explains your views of the novel. You might want to explain what the book taught you, why the book was particularly special to you, what you liked/didn't like about it, or suggest ideas for a sequel/etc. Use specific examples from the book to explain what you mean. Feel free to actually mail your letter (At least 500 words, typed, business letter format).
4. Research the author's life to find out what may have influenced him/her to write about the topics in the ways in which he/she did. Write a report describing your findings. Make sure to include a bibliography of sources you used for this report. (At least 500 words, typed.)

5. Record a podcast about an aspect of your novel (should be between 8-10 minutes long). For example, you can discuss your views on the novel, your favorite character, or the moral of the story. For this project, you only need to include the audio.
6. Choose a character from your novel and write a full blog post from the perspective of a character. Include images(400 Words).
7. Draw a cartoon strip showing the main parts of the story. This should have at least ten frames.
8. Create a collage centered on one of the important themes in your book. Give it a title, such as "A Search for Identity," "Growing Up"/etc.
9. If your book involves travel from one setting to another, create a travel brochure depicting the places the main character(s) went. Must have images and be at least 150 words.
10. Write a Dear Abby letter (advice column). Write a letter to Dear Abby from your character's perspective. What kind of advice would they be seeking (think about the conflicts in your book). Then, put on your Dear Abby hat and respond to the letter with some good advice. You can checkout some Dear Abby letters at <https://www.uexpress.com/dearabby>
11. Write a eulogy for one of your characters (500 words).
12. Write a campaign speech or advertisement for one of the characters (300 Words).
13. Create a detailed map from a setting in your book. Must include at least 10 specific locations.
14. Create a video game character version of a character. What are their strengths and weaknesses? What is their goal? Who is their nemesis? Write one paragraph detailing their back story.
15. Scrapbook. Think about all the kinds of mementos you would put in a scrapbook if you had one. Then create a scrapbook for your character, cutting out pictures from magazines or drawing the mementos he or she would have in a scrapbook.

16. Music. After reading a novel, figure out how you would divide up the book into sections. Then select a piece of music that you think captures the feel or tone of each section. Record the pieces and if possible do voice-overs explaining what is happening in the novel during the piece of music and why you felt this piece of music fit the section of the novel.
17. Point of view column. Write an opinion column like those that appear on the editorial page of the newspaper. Choose a theme or topic from the novel you just read and write the column from the point of view of one of the characters. Your character might write about the importance of education or why we should accept people who are not like us (300 Words).
18. A pamphlet. Think of an issue that was very important to your character. Then create a pamphlet aimed at persuading others of the importance of the issue. Include factual information, testimonials, pictures or graphics (300 Words).
19. Found poems (10 Lines Minimum): Select a chapter from the novel you have just read that you consider powerful or interesting. Then select words, lines, and phrases that you think project strong images and show the impact the chapter makes. Arrange this material into a poem. The following example comes from Chapter Twenty in *Spite Fences* by Trudy Krisher (1994, Delacorte):

Violence at the Lunch Counter Sit-in

Fist slammed into George Hardy's face
Glasses slid to his chin
Shattered into a spider's web.
River of red blood
Running from his nose.
It was the red color of the fence
The red color of the earth on which I stood
It was red
The color of my life this summer
The color of Kinship

20. Draw or paint or artistically recreate a scene. Place the characters in the scene too and then figure out where you were in relation to the characters when you read the book. Then write or tape your explanations of why you drew the scene the way you did and why you think you were where you were in the scene. What does it tell you about who you related to in the novel?

21. Create a character's room. We learn a lot about people by what they keep in their closets, what they have on their walls, what they select to put in a room. Select a character you know well and create a living room, bedroom, kitchen, or some other room that would mean a lot to the character. Draw it or write about it, making sure to include an explanation of why you designed the room as you did.
22. A character alphabet. Choose a character you liked and then create sentences based on the alphabet scheme that demonstrates your knowledge of the character. Each entry must be illustrated.
23. Interview your character(s). Either type up an interview script or record an interview.
24. Create a radio commercial for your book. You can type it up or do a voice recording to submit. Your goal is to get people interested in reading the book.
25. Writing a different ending to the book. It must be at least 1 full page long and no skipping lines.
26. Create a timeline about your story. Make sure that the events are sequential and that you write a short description of the events.
27. Have another idea? Just let me know and you can move forward with it once you have my approval!