



Holy Redeemer Catholic School Summer Reading 2016 Rising 5th Graders

Dear Future Fifth Graders!

Reading at least 30 minutes every day this summer is the best way to keep up all the progress you made in fourth grade. Thinking and writing about your reading experiences helps keep your academic skills sharp. So, please

- read two books from the list provided below.
- complete one assignment from the list.

Please bring your completed assignment on the first day of school. We will start off the year with these creative book report assignments as a way of sharing our summer reading experiences.

Use all of your knowledge about the elements of a story (and book reports in general) to help you put your project together, and remember, you are trying to display your knowledge and understanding of the book you read. **A glossary of story elements vocabulary is provided to help you.** You have all

summer to put together your one assignment, so good luck, be innovative, work to the very best of your ability, and happy reading!

We hope you will read *more than two books* this summer!

Read for information and read for fun! Read to learn about different places and different times. Read to meet people from history and characters in fiction. *In addition to the list below*, you can find out about great books to read when you:

- Follow the *KidsPost Readers' Corner* on Wednesdays starting mid-to-late June.
- Follow your own interests as you choose informational, nonfiction books.
- Ask a librarian for guidance here at home or at your vacation location.
- Try out a fiction genre that is new to you—mystery, historical, realistic, fantasy, sci-fi!
- Read the latest by your favorite author.
- Check out the newest book in your favorite series—fact or fiction.
- Try out one of mom's or dad's favorites from when they were your age.
- With an adult, visit these websites for more suggestions:

<http://store.pauline.org/english/kids/categoryid/765/level/a.aspx#gsc.tab=0>
<http://www.whowasbookseries.com/>
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/kidspost/>
<http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/caldecottmedal/caldecottmedal>
<http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/newberymedal/newberymedal>
<http://www.hbook.com>
<http://www.guysread.com/>
<http://wendymass.com/>

Questions? Email me at c.veith@hrs-ken.org.

God be with you,

Mrs. Veith

Glossary of Story Elements Vocabulary

Setting: the location and time of the story. Where and when the story takes place. Details include: furniture, transportation, clothing, customs, scenery, weather, time of day/year, season.

Characters: the persons, animals, fantasy life forms and things that speak and act in the story.

Plot: the order of events in sequence--beginning, middle, end.

Choose one of the assignments below and complete it for one of the two books that you read from the list provided.

1. TACTILE REPORT: Select a 3-dimensional form for your report. It can be a can, a box, or anything else that might be appropriate for your book. Decorate the container to describe some of the major story elements: **setting, characters, conflict/problem, solution, and theme** from the book. Sort the information into various types that you might find on a normal book report. Remember, be creative.

2. LETTER TO THE AUTHOR: After reading a book, share your reactions and opinions to the book in a letter written to the author. If you write to an author that is still alive, research him or her to see if you can locate the email address or real address and consider sending a copy of your letter. In the letter, briefly talk about the **setting, plot, climax, and resolution** of the story. Be sure to use your best handwriting, or you may type it on your computer. Make a connection!

3. BE A JOURNALIST: Write 8 -10 questions to ask a main character in your book. Then write what the **character** would say in response to each question. The questions and answers should provide detailed information that shows that you read the book and understand significant details. Make sure the answers have good depth.

Glossary of Story Elements Vocabulary

Conflict: the problem that the main character in the story experiences--Character versus Character, Character versus Self, Character versus Nature, Character versus Society.

Climax: the turning point of the story when the main character faces the problem or conflict. Most exciting part of the story!

Resolution: the solution to the conflict or problem at the end of the story.

Theme: the author's "big idea" or main message about life.

4. CHARACTERS COME TO LIFE! Create a life-size "portrait" of one of the characters from the book. The portrait should include a written piece that tells about the character. It also needs to include information about the events, traits, or conflicts in the book that involve the character.

5. PICTURE BOOK: Create a picture book version of the story that would appeal to younger students. Be sure to include the beginning, middle, and end, **setting, characters, plot**, and anything else that you feel would help tell the story without words. However, you may use simple captions and phrases on each page.

6. HOLLYWOOD MOVIE: Create a simple video movie of your book, making the characters come to life with your acting skills. Get your family to be actors in your movie! You will need to plan carefully and craft a basic script first. We will play your movie on the white screen in the classroom, so utilize a memory stick for ease of use. Include a Movie poster advertising your movie!

7. BE AN ENGINEER: Create a model of a scene from the book, and describe the scene in depth, referencing the whole novel in terms of plot and character development. Be a builder!