

Research on Summer Reading

Children who **DO NOT READ** in the summer can **lose two to three months** of reading skills.

Kids who **DO READ** tend to **gain a month** of reading proficiency.



7th Grade

Directions: Read the TWO ASSIGNED books.

Complete the assignments for BOTH books.

Book # 1

Book Choice: Students should read a grade-appropriate book on a Catholic saint. You may choose a book at the public library or in a bookstore. I suggest a book in the Vision Saint Book Series by Ignatius Press.

Assignment for Book # 1 - due July 30

Assignment Directions: Post a video entry for your book on the class' Padlet:

<https://padlet.com/drosenberg10/jsq7oi185jh94gib>

1. Start by looking at my post for an example.
2. Put your name, the title of the book, and the author on the top line.
3. Upload a video attachment to your post reporting on your favorite saint.

Video Requirements: (Check off that you did each item)

The video must be 1 - 2 minutes in length.	
Say your name and the book's title and author in the first sentence of your video.	
● What is the name of the saint?	
● Where and when did they live?	
● What year s/he became a saint?	
● Why is this saint a role model for young adults?	
● Why does this saint in particular appeal to you?	

Look at your classmates' entries. Like or make positive comments on them to let your classmates know you appreciate their posts.

Book # 2

Book Choice: Choose ONE out of the three novels listed below as your second reading book for the summer.

Pam Munoz Ryan. *Esperanza Rising*. Fiction. (Drama readers, this is a great read!)

- Esperanza thought she'd always live with her family on their ranch in Mexico, and that she'd always have fancy dresses, a beautiful home, and servants. But a sudden tragedy forces Esperanza and Mama to flee to California during the Great Depression, and to settle in a camp for Mexican farm workers. Esperanza isn't ready for the hard labor, financial struggles, or lack of acceptance she now faces. When their new life is threatened, Esperanza must find a way to rise above her difficult circumstances; Mama's life - and her own - depend on it.

Gary Paulsen. *Brian's Return*. Fiction. (Concluding book to the five novel *Hatchet* series. It's another exciting adventure book!).

- Brian returns to the wilderness to discover where he truly belongs in this follow-up to the award-winning classic *Hatchet* from three-time Newberry Honor-winning author Gary Paulsen! As millions of readers of *Hatchet*, *The River*, and *Brian's Winter* know, Brian Robeson survived alone in the wilderness by finding solutions to extraordinary challenges. But now that's he's back to ordinary life, he can't make sense of high school life. He feels disconnected, more isolated than he did alone in the north woods. How can Brian discover his true path in life, and where he belongs? The answer is to return.

J.R.R. Tolkien. *The Hobbit*. Fiction. (The prequel of *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy. Learn how *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy begins!)

- The hobbit Bilbo Baggins, the wizard Gandalf, Gollum, and the spectacular world of Middle-Earth recount the adventures of a reluctant hero, a powerful and dangerous ring, and the cruel dragon, Smaug the Magnificent.

Assignment for Book # 2 - due September 2

(Friday, of the first week of school):

Assignment Directions: Use a piece of looseleaf paper. Start by writing the St. Louis School heading, which looks like this:

Student's First and Last Name St. Louis School	Date Grade
<u>Summer Book Paragraph</u>	
<i>Esperanza Rising</i> by Pam Munoz Ryan	

Below the heading, you will write:

1. **Title** and **author** of the book.
Skip a line, then:
2. Write the very **first sentence** of the book.
Skip a line, then:
3. Write the very **last sentence** of the book.
Skip a line, then:
4. Write a **paragraph** that answers this question:



After reading the entire book, look at just the first and last sentence of the novel. Do you think these two sentences together create a good summary of the plot? Explain why or why not.

- The paragraph should be 6-10 sentences long.
- Use details and examples from the novel to support your answer.
- (If you know how), use page citations for your examples.

All Summer reading work is officially due Friday, September 2.

Happy reading! Enjoy your summer!