



## Middle School Summer Reading List

Books are available through a variety of sources, including Amazon Bookstore, Amazon Kindle Store, iTunes, Barnes and Noble, or through our school library ebook catalogue. You can also visit the Perth Amboy Public Library!

### **Rising Grade 5:**

A Week in the Woods, by  
Andrew Clements  
Walk Two Moons  
by Sharon Creech

### **Rising Grade 6:**

Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key by  
Jack Gantos  
Al Capone Does My Shirts by  
Gennifer Choldenko

### **Rising Grade 7:**

Taking Sides by Gary Soto  
Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer

### **Rising Grade 8:**

The Pact by Sam Davis  
New Moon by Stephanie Meyer  
If You Come Softly by Woodson  
Safe at Second by Scott Johnson  
Whirligig by Paul Fleischman

### **Spanish Novels:**

Lectura del Verano  
Walk Two Moons by Creech  
Baseball in April by Soto  
Tia Lola by Alvarez  
Judy Moody by McDonald  
Hoot by Haaisen

## **Assignments:**

### **The Perfect 100**

You have the opportunity to choose tasks related to the book you read. You must choose enough tasks to earn 100 points for each book. Read below for more information:

1. To earn full credit, each task must be completed and you must follow the directions carefully.
2. For a 40-point task, you must write at least two paragraphs. A paragraph is 6-8 sentences and must include a topic sentence and a concluding or transitional sentence. You must also include supporting details from the book and personal connections whenever possible.
3. Your 100-point total must include at least one selection from each story element – setting, story structure, connection, and character. (Your total points *may* exceed 100 pts.)



# The Perfect 100



You have an opportunity to choose tasks related to the book you read. You must choose enough tasks to earn 100 points for each book. Please read the following:

1. To earn full credit, each task must be complete and you must **follow the directions carefully**.
2. For a 40-point task you must write **at least two paragraphs**. A paragraph is 6-8 sentences and must include a topic sentence and a concluding or transitional sentence. You must also include supporting details from the book and personal connections whenever possible.
3. Your 100 point total must include at least one selection from each story element – setting, story structure, connection, and character. (Your total points *may* exceed 100 pts.)
4. You must write your name, the title and author of the book, and the task letter below.

*Name:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Title of Book* \_\_\_\_\_

*Author* \_\_\_\_\_

Task	Task Letter	Point Value
<b>Example:</b> The Newspaper Connection	Q	40
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
<b>Total Points:</b>		

*Date your project is due:* \_\_\_\_\_



## Characters

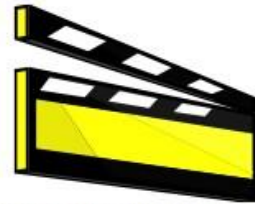
### A. Ups and Downs



How is a person's life like a seesaw? It's sure to be filled with plenty of ups and downs! What ups and downs has the main character of your book experienced? Draw a seesaw with one end up in the air, and one down. On the low end, list the low points the character experienced in the story, on the high end, the good experiences the character had. When you're finished, choose one of those events/experiences and write one paragraph about how it changed him or her for better.

**30 Points**

### B. Movie Casting



You have been asked to choose the actors and actresses that will star in a movie version of your book. Give a list of the actors and actresses that would play 3 of the characters in the book. Next to each actor/actresses name, give a reason why they would be the perfect choice for the role!.

**10 Points**

### C. Trophy Tribute



If you were going to give a character in your book a great big trophy, what would it be for? Maintaining a super sense of humor? Never giving up? Being the klutziest kid in America? Think about what makes a character in your book outstanding or unique; then write what you would engrave on the base of the trophy to honor him or her.

**20 Points**

### D. The Desert Island



If you were stranded on a desert island with any character from your book, who would it be? Why? Write one paragraph explaining your favorite choice and a second paragraph explaining your least favorite choice.

**40 Points**



## Setting

### E. Prized Setting



The book you read took place in different locations. Which one did you like the best? Why did you pick it? Did the place create a beautiful picture in your mind? Was the location important to the plot? Did it remind you of a spot you like? Explain your answer in 2 paragraphs.

**30 Points**

### F. Important Scenes

Pick your favorite character. Which settings deeply affect the character's decisions and feelings? Which create problems? Identify two or three settings and clearly explain the impact each has on the character. You must write two paragraphs.

**40 points**

### G. Place Post Card



Create a postcard that celebrates a favorite setting from your book. It could be a rainforest, an ice cream polar, or even the dust infested area underneath a character's bed. On one side draw a picture of the place (Greetings From ---). On the other, pretend you just vacationed there. Describe the setting so your friend might want to visit also!

**10 points**

### H. Timeline of your book



Do the events in your book take place all in a day or over a period of months or years?

Create a timeline for your book. Label the important events in your book (there should be at least 5) and label when they happened (ex. Monday morning at 10:00 AM)

**20 points**



## The Real-World Connection

### Q. The Newspaper Connection



Sometimes when we read a book, we can't see how it could possibly relate to the "real" world. Well, it turns out that every novel—even those crazy zombie-eating-your brains ones—*do* relate to the real world. It's up to you to make the connections!

Your job is to find an article in a newspaper or magazine that relates to your novel. Then write 2-3 paragraphs in which you explain how that article relates to your novel.

**40 Points**

### R. Letter to the Author



Hopefully when you're done reading your novel, you'll have a lot to say about it, and who better to say it to than the author?

For this assignment, you are to write a letter to the author of your novel. In your letter, you may wish to discuss what you liked, what you didn't like, how you can relate to the novel, questions you have about the novel, etc.

**30 Points**

### S. E-mail a Friend



Have you have read a book that you just *knew* a friend of yours would love? Maybe the novel you just read would be perfect for your best friend. If so, write an e-mail to that friend telling them about the novel and why they should read it.

**20 Points**

### T. Advertise!



Have you ever seen a poster advertising a movie or a television show and thought to yourself, "I could make something that"? Either way, take this challenge: Design a poster advertising your novel! Include pictures, words, and a brief description to interest potential readers.

**10 Points**



## Story Structure

### M. Step into the Story



Think of plot as a staircase full of steps leading up, up, and up to the book's conclusion. Make a staircase graphic organizer. Write a key event on each step (at least 5) until you reach the end of the story. Decide which step is the most important to the story and explain why in one paragraph.

**30 Points**

### N. Add a Chapter

When you've finished the very last page of a great story, do you ever find yourself thinking, "I wonder what happened next?" Think carefully about the book you just read, kick your imagination into high gear, and tell what you think would occur in the following chapter...if there were a following chapter. Write a summary of what would happen in the next chapter if the book continued (at least 2 paragraphs).

**40 Points**

### O. Key Event



What is the single most important event in the book you just read? A boy hitting a grand slam? A girl coming down with a case of scarlet fever? A smart fish choosing to attend a new school? Write a one paragraph description of what you consider the story's key event and explain why you think it is so important.

**20 Points**

### P. Changing Chapter Titles

Does the book you just read have chapter titles or just plain old numbers (ex. Chapter 9)? Try to come up with new names for each chapter (at least 5) that create some suspense and help us understand what the chapters are about. Write one paragraph explaining why you feel your chapter titles are an improvement!

**10 Points**