

## **Students Entering 7<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

Choose **one** novel from this list and **complete the journal assignment** on pages 2 and 3 of this packet. The rubric is on page 4.

### ***Parallel Journeys***

by Eleanor Ayer

Helen Waterford and Alfons Heck were born just a few miles from each other in the German Rhineland. But their lives took radically different courses: Helen's to the Auschwitz extermination camp; Alfons to a high rank in the Hitler Youth.

While Helen was hiding in Amsterdam, Alfons was a fanatic believer in Hitler's "master race."

While she was crammed in a cattle car bound for the death camp Auschwitz, he was a teenage commander of frontline troops, ready to fight and die for the glory of Hitler and the Fatherland.

This book tells both of their stories, side-by-side, in an overwhelming account of the nightmare.

### ***Amos Fortune Free Man***

by Elizabeth Yates

"It does a man no good to be free until he learns how to live." These were the words of Amos Fortune, born the son of a king of the At-mun-shi tribe in Africa. When Amos was only fifteen years old, he was captured by slave traders and brought to Massachusetts, where he was sold at auction.

Although his freedom had been taken, Amos never lost his dignity and courage. He dreamed of being free and of buying the freedom of his closest friends. By the time he was sixty years old, Amos Fortune began to see those dreams come true. Amos Fortune, Free Man is a Newbery Award winner that is based on a true story.

### ***Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key***

by Jack Gantos

To the constant disappointment of his mother and his teachers, Joey has trouble paying attention or controlling his mood swings when his prescription medications wear off and he starts getting worked up and acting wired. In this antic yet poignant new novel, Jack Gantos has perfect pitch in capturing the humor, the off-the-wall intensity, and the serious challenges that life presents to a kid dealing with hyperactivity and related disorders.

### ***The Graduation of Jake Moon***

by Barbara Park

Jake Moon's grandfather, Skelly, is descending from Jake's beloved confidante and unwavering champion into an embarrassing nightmare. The reason? Alzheimer's disease. But in a situation like this, it isn't just the grandfather who changes – it is those who love him as well. An honest, amusing, and touching account of an all-too-real situation.

### ***The 11:11 Wish***

by Kim Tomsic

Megan Meyers has a foolproof plan to reinvent herself at her new school. Good-bye, dorky math nerd; hello, friend magnet! But her first day at Saguaro Prep starts off weird to the tenth power.

When she's dared to "make something exciting happen," Megan is thrown into the middle of an epic power struggle between the two seventh-grade Spirit Captains. So with nothing to lose, Megan wishes for "some magic" as her classroom's cat clock chimes 11:11—and is granted an enchanted teen magazine promising miracle makeovers and sure-fire secrets for winning friends and crushes. But magic can have dangerous side effects, and as her social life grows exponentially worse, Megan begins to wonder if wishing was ever a purrfect idea.

## ***Matched***

by Ally Condie

Cassia has always trusted the Society to make the right choices for her: what to read, what to watch, what to believe. So when Xander's face appears on-screen at her Matching ceremony, Cassia knows he is her ideal mate . . . until she sees Ky Markham's face flash for an instant before the screen fades to black. The Society tells her it's a glitch, a rare malfunction, and that she should focus on the happy life she's destined to lead with Xander. But Cassia can't stop thinking about Ky, and as they slowly fall in love, Cassia begins to doubt the Society's infallibility and is faced with an impossible choice: between Xander and Ky, between the only life she's known and a path that no one else has dared to follow.

## ***The Girl Who Drank the Moon***

by Kelly Barnhill

THE GIRL WHO DRANK THE MOON is the story of Luna, taken as a baby from her family in the Protectorate as part of a cruel ritual designed to keep the populace fearful and compliant. Though the Elders circulate a story that an evil witch demands the annual sacrifice, they don't realize there's actually a good witch who saves and protects the babies. When Xan rescues Luna, she accidentally feeds her moonbeams that "enmagic" her, so she decides to adopt and raise Luna in a family that includes a dragon and a wise bog monster. Luna's magical powers prove to be unpredictable and unruly, so Xan casts a spell that cocoons the magic until her 13th birthday. Will Luna harness her magic successfully? This story is interwoven with stories from the Protectorate about an antagonist who feeds on the sorrow of others, Luna's mother who yearns for her lost daughter, and a brave couple who challenge the status quo.



## SUMMER JOURNAL READING ASSIGNMENT

Students entering 6th, 7th, and 8th grades are required to select one book from their grade level reading list and complete the bookmark journal provided. Entries may be typed, printed, or handwritten neatly. This assignment **will be collected** by your teacher in **September and graded**.

**Name:**

**Title:**

### Summary

In your own words, retell the important details of your reading in a few complete sentences.

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### Question (fill in the blank)

I wonder what it means when

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because \_\_\_\_\_

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### Connect

Does this book remind me of a:

- movie?
- another book?
- current event?
- event in history?
- song?

Choose one from above and make sure you explain why.

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## Rubric

### Score 4

The bookmark responses demonstrate **thorough comprehension** of ideas stated and implied in the summer reading by providing **thoughtful and accurate responses** with examples and details from the novel. The responses demonstrate a **full understanding of the reading**.

### Score 3

The bookmark responses demonstrate **comprehension** of ideas stated and/or implied in the summer reading by providing **mostly accurate responses** with some examples and details from the novel. The responses demonstrate an **adequate understanding of the reading**.

### Score 2

The bookmark responses demonstrate **basic comprehension** of ideas stated and/or implied in the summer reading by providing **generally accurate responses** with limited examples and details from the novel. The responses show only a **limited understanding** of the reading.

### Score 1

The bookmark responses demonstrate **little to no comprehension** of ideas stated and/or implied in the summer reading by providing **minimally or no accurate responses** with few or no examples and details from the novel.

The response **does not demonstrate reading comprehension** of the novel.

