



## Summer Reading Initiative for Rising 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students

May 2020

Horry County Schools value our students and want them to be the best they can be. Research shows if students do not read over the course of the summer, they could experience a decrease in their reading achievement. In order to avoid this, we highly encourage our students to read for pleasure during the summer. Because our district also supports student choice, students can decide what they want to read over the summer, with their parents' approval.

The HCS Summer Reading Assignment for grades 6-8 is an optional reading opportunity for students to read over the course of the summer, complete an activity about the reading, and receive **1 bonus point added to the first quarter grade** in the 2020-21 school year. The student may read 2 books (fiction or nonfiction) OR 20 informational text articles of his/her choice but must complete the reading activity by Friday, September 11, 2020. If you have any questions, contact your child's current English Language Arts teacher or your child's school. Copying or sharing student work will not be accepted and will cause forfeiture of the bonus point as well as any other incentives.

No matter what a student chooses to read, he/she should complete two options from the Choice Board on page 2 of this document to receive extra credit.

### Timeline:

May 11-15, 2020	Teachers send home summer reading information for parents and students to review via Google Classroom, Social Media, and/or Parent Link.
May 22, 2020	Students and parents virtually confirm they have received and understand the information.
September 11, 2020	Students in grades six through eight who read their two novel choices and complete their Choice Board option (based on their 20 articles) or a combination of the two will receive <b>one bonus point added to their first nine weeks' grade.</b>

- At the beginning of the 2020-21 school year, students will be able to share the books/articles they read over the summer in a variety of ways such as book talks, author celebrations, blogs, written conversations, etc.
- The document is attached and can also be accessed through the HCS website over the summer.

Students should check with their schools to see what other incentives are being offered for completion of summer reading. The Summer Reading Incentive documents will be available throughout the summer on the Horry County Schools website.

Student's name \_\_\_\_\_

### Middle School Summer Reading Choice Board Options

Directions: Complete **two** Choice Board options about what you read this summer to **earn 1 bonus point** on your first quarter grade in the fall. You may choose one of your non-fiction articles OR the fiction book you read to complete your option.

<p><b>Respond to one of the following prompts:</b> "What motivates the main character?" or "If your character were to be given an award, what award would it be and why?"</p>	<p><b>Write a friendly letter</b> to one of your favorite characters (from your book or article) sharing why you admire that character.</p> <p>OR</p> <p><b>Write a letter to the editor</b> of the publication of one of the articles you read explaining what you liked and/or disliked about the article.</p>	<p><b>Create a list</b> of 10 interview questions to ask the author or a character in your book or article.</p>
<p><b>Respond to the following prompt:</b> How would your book be different if it were told from the point of view of another character?</p> <p>OR</p> <p>How would the article you read be different if it were written by someone else?</p>	<p><b>Write a diary entry</b> from the point of view of one of the novel's main characters that they would have written before, during, or after the book's events. Remember that the character's thoughts and feelings are very important in a diary.</p>	<p><b>Choose an article</b> and record the headline, writer, and source information. Choose sentences or phrases that you find intriguing and combine key words chosen to <b>create a poem</b> (12-line minimum) relating to the article.</p>
<p><b>Respond to the following prompt:</b> Describe a suspenseful moment in the story. How did the author build the suspense?</p>	<p><b>Write a one-paragraph summary</b> of your novel or article. Add an image of the book cover or an image from the article.</p>	<p><b>Invent a new character</b> for your novel. Describe the character's looks, thoughts, actions, feelings, and any other important qualities or traits.</p>
<p><b>Respond to the following prompt:</b> Would you be friends with the main character in the book you are reading? Why or why not?</p>	<p><b>Create a comic strip</b> retelling the story or article in your own words. Be sure to include all of the important characters, exciting events, conflicts, and resolution.</p>	<p><b>Design a book cover</b> for a recent television show, movie, or newscast you have seen. Your cover must include the title, author, illustration, and captivating quotes and reviews about the show.</p>