



*Summer Reading Enrichment Program  
for Students in Basic, Average, and Advanced English Classes*

Dear Students and Parents:

Books provide the opportunity to see the world in a new way and inspire readers to think about life, universal truths, and the human experience. The **SRHS Summer Reading Enrichment Program** is designed to promote reading as a life-long pastime. While this program is voluntary, we encourage all students in Basic, Average and Advanced English classes to participate. **All “Advanced” English students must read two books. “Average” and “Basic” English students must read one.**

**Like last year, students will have even more freedom in making their selections.** As in the past, they may choose from a list of fiction and non-fiction works and authors that have been selected for their grade level. Many of these titles can be found in the high school libraries, local public libraries, and book stores. A list of locations is included at the end of this document. Low cost titles can also be purchased on-line (i.e. Amazon.com or barnesandnoble.com). **In addition, students can select a book of their own choice.** If they do, the book(s) must be age-appropriate and at least 184 pages. Students must also submit a parent permission slip along with the completed assignment(s)-see below.

Students will choose from the five assignments included in this packet. They must turn in their completed work to their English teacher no later than September 15<sup>th</sup>. By October 9<sup>th</sup>, English teachers will tell students if they will receive **three percentage points added to their final first marking period English class grade.** Additionally, successful completion of the program will be **recorded on the students’ transcripts.** This recognition will appear as follows: *“(Student’s Name) has successfully completed the Southern Regional High School Summer Reading Enrichment Program – a program that requires the reading of fiction and non-fiction works as well as the successful completion of related writing assignments.”*

It is our hope that all students will participate in the Summer Reading Enrichment Program, enhance their reading skills and discover a love of reading.

Sincerely,

Eric Wilhelm,  
Principal

Robert Johnson  
Humanities Supervisor

## Grade 9 Titles

Many of these titles can be found in the high school libraries, local public libraries, and book stores. Low cost titles can also be purchased on-line (i.e. [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) or [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com)). Please see the last page of this packet for more information.

### Abarat by Clive Barker

Teenage Candy Quackenbush of Chickentown, Minnesota, begins (unbeknownst to her) a prophesied journey toward her destiny when she dives into a mysterious sea that appears outside the town. She is carried to Abarat, an unusual archipelago of 25 islands. Happy to get away from her abusive father, resigned mother, and boring town, Candy eagerly enters a series of zany adventures, making friends and eluding enemies as she finds herself caught in the struggle for power between the Lord of Midnight and the architect of the high-tech Commexo City. **AWARDS: ALA Best Book for Young Adults, Book Sense 76 Pick, New York Public Library Books for the Teen Age**

### Acceleration by Graham McNamee

Seventeen-year-old Duncan is haunted by the fact that he was unable to save a drowning girl a few yards away one fateful afternoon the previous September. This summer he has a job working underground at the Toronto subway lost and found where he uncovers, amid the piles of forgotten junk, the diary of a serial killer. Unable to tear himself from the gory descriptions of tortured animals and arson, he discovers that the writer has started to stalk women on the subway. When the police seem disinterested, the teen takes matters into his own hands, and with the aid of his two best friends, tries to track and trap the murderer before he can strike. **AWARDS: 2004 Edgar Award for Best Young Adult Book, 2004 ALA Quick Pick for Reluctant Readers, 2004 - ALA Best Books for Young Adults Publisher's Weekly Starred Review, NOMINEE 2006 - New Jersey Garden State Teen Book Award**

### The Boy Who Couldn't Die by William Sleator

When his best friend dies in a plane crash, sixteen-year-old Ken has a ritual performed that will make him immortal, but soon learns that he had good reason to be suspicious of the woman he paid to lock his soul away. He awakens one night with blood-spattered clothes and the realization that he's sold more than his soul. **AWARDS: American Library Association (ALA) 2005 Quick Picks for Reluctant Readers, ALA 2005 Top 10 Quick Picks**

### Dragonflight (Book One: Dragonriders of Pern Trilogy) by Anne McCaffrey

After ten long turns, Lessa was ready to come out of hiding, to reclaim her birthright...and to Impress the young dragon queen and become Weyrwoman of Benden. Suddenly the deadly silver Thread once again threatened all Pern with destruction. But the mighty telepathic dragons that for centuries had defended Pern were now few in number, not nearly enough to protect the planet in its hour of greatest peril. So Lessa hatched a daring and dangerous scheme: Rally support from people who had long ago ceased to exist... **AWARDS: California School Grade 9-12 Recommended Lit., ALA Best Books For Young Teen Readers, Grades 7-10 - 2000**

### Emako Blue by Brenda Woods

Emako Blue was supposed to be a star. She was beautiful and good-hearted. She was Monterey's best friend. She was the only girl Jamal cared about, the one who saw through his player act. She was the one who understood the burden of Eddie's family. She was the best singer anyone had ever heard, with a voice like vanilla incense, smoky and sweet. She was Savannah's rival, the one who wouldn't play by the rules. She was destined for greatness, already plucked from South Central Los Angeles by the record producers. She was only fifteen when she died. **AWARDS: Nominee, California Young Readers Medal, Texas Tayshas H.S. Reading List, Rhode Island Teen Book Award Nominee, 2005**

### The Face on the Milk Carton by Caroline B. Cooney

No one ever really paid close attention to the faces of the missing children on the milk cartons. But as Janie Johnson glanced at the face of the ordinary little girl with her hair in tight pigtails, wearing a dress with a narrow white collar—a three-year-old who had been kidnapped twelve years before from a shopping mall in New Jersey—she felt overcome with shock. She recognized that little girl—it was she. How could it possibly be true? Janie can't believe that her loving parents kidnapped her, but as she begins to piece things together, nothing makes sense. Something is terribly wrong. Are Mr. and Mrs. Johnson really Janie's parents? And if not, who is Janie Johnson, and what really happened. **AWARDS: New Jersey Battle of the Books-Grade 7-9-1995-96, ALA "Recommended Books for the Reluctant Reader"**

### **The Greatest: Mohammad Ali by Walter Dean Myers**

Muhammad Ali has long been a source of inspiration. In this new book from Walter Dean Myers, we see a story of determination, energy, pride, and strength. From a daring young boxer to man at war with a disease, Myers covers Ali's life with prowess and honesty. **AWARDS: ALA Notable/Best Books 01/12/02, Books for the Teen Age (NYPL) 04/01/01**

### **The Hobbit, or, There and Back Again by J.R.R. Tolkien**

Bilbo Baggins is an upstanding member of a "little people, about half our height, and smaller than the bearded dwarves. This particular hobbit is the last person one would expect to see set off on a hazardous journey; indeed, when Gandalf the Grey stops by one morning, "looking for someone to share in an adventure," Baggins fervently wishes the wizard elsewhere. No such luck, however; soon 13 fortune-seeking dwarves have arrived on the hobbit's doorstep in search of a burglar, and before he can even grab his hat or an umbrella, Bilbo Baggins is swept out his door and into a dangerous adventure.

### **Life in the Fat Lane by Cherie Bennett**

Despite a strict diet and workout schedule, pretty and popular Lara soon weighs 200 pounds. Desperate to get her body back and find an explanation for her mysterious weight gain, Lara is diagnosed with a metabolic disorder with no known cure. Faced with the truth -- she may never be thin again -- Lara wonders who will be her true friends and who will shun her because of her weight. **AWARDS: Iowa Teen Book Awards 1996-97, New Jersey Garden State Teen Book Awards 1998, PA Young Readers Choice Awards 1999-2000**

### **My Sister's Keeper: A Novel by Jodi Picoult**

Anna is not sick, but she might as well be. By age thirteen, she has undergone countless surgeries, transfusions, and shots so that her older sister, Kate, can somehow fight the leukemia that has plagued her since childhood. The product of genetic diagnosis, Anna was conceived as a bone marrow match for Kate -- a life and a role that she has never challenged...until now. **AWARDS: Alex Top Ten Adult Books for Young Adults, ALA Best Books of the Year, School Library Journal Best Books of the Year/State Awards: IL, KS, KY, MO, TX**

### **Red Kayak by Priscilla Cummings**

Brady loves life on the Chesapeake Bay with his friends J.T. and Digger. But developers and rich families are moving into the area, and while Brady befriends some of them, like the DiAngelos, his parents and friends are bitter about the changes. Tragedy strikes when the DiAngelos' kayak overturns in the bay, and Brady wonders if it was more than an accident. Soon, Brady discovers the terrible truth behind the kayak's sinking, and it will change the lives of those he loves forever. Priscilla Cummings deftly weaves a suspenseful tale of three teenagers caught in a wicked web of deception. **AWARDS: 2006 ALA Best Books for Young Adults, New York Public Library Book for the Teen Age, VOYA's Review Editor's Choice List, 2005**

### **Troy by Adele Geras**

The siege of Troy has lasted almost ten years. Inside the walled city, food is scarce and death is common. From the heights of Mount Olympus, the Gods keep watch. But Aphrodite, Goddess of Love, is bored with the endless, dreary war. Aided by Eros's bow, the goddess sends two sisters down a bloody path to an awful truth: In the fury of war, love strikes the deadliest blows. **AWARDS: ALA Best Books for the College-Bound, ALA Best Books for Young Adults 2002, Shortlisted for Whitbread Children's Novel of the Year, Highly Commended for the Carnegie Medal in 2001**

## Grade 10 Titles

Many of these titles can be found in the high school libraries, local public libraries, and book stores. Low cost titles can also be purchased on-line (i.e. [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) or [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com)). Please see the last page of this packet for more information.

### Alchemy by Margaret Mahy

When Roland's teacher gives him an unusual assignment instead of punishment for shoplifting, he thinks he is home free. All he has to do is find out what he can about a classmate, Jess Ferret, and report back to his teacher. But there is something less than straightforward about this request, especially because the more Roland learns about Jess, the more confused he becomes. Her house is sinisterly tidy, her parents are never home, mysterious books line the bookshelves, and, most intriguing of all, Jess is apparently a student of alchemy. **AWARDS : Books for The Teen Age 2005, New Zealand Post Children's Book Award 2003**

### Alice, I Think by Susan Juby

Fifteen-year-old Alice keeps a diary as she struggles to cope with the embarrassments and trials of family, dating, school, work, small town life, and a serious case of "outcastitis." **AWARDS: American Library Association (ALA) Best Books For Young Adults, NJ Garden State Teen Book Awards**

### Amandine by Adele Griffin

Her first week at a new school, shy, plain Delia befriends Amandine. Amandine never fails to astonish Delia with her bold thrilling antics. What Delia does not anticipate are the dangerous turns their friendship would take. As the games Amandine invents and the lies she tells evolve to include cruel and disturbing behavior, Delia begins to fear Amandine and it's not until Delia finds the strength she needs to break away that she realizes what gaining her freedom will cost her. **AWARDS: ALA Best Books For Young Adults, Booklist Starred Review, Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year**

### The Battle of Jericho by Sharon Mills Draper

Sixteen-year-old Jericho is psyched when he and his cousin and best friend, Josh, are invited to pledge for the Warriors of Distinction, the oldest and most exclusive club in school. Just being a pledge wins him the attention of Arielle, one of the hottest girls in his class, whom he's been too shy even to *talk* to before now. But as the secret initiation rites grow increasingly humiliating and force Jericho to make painful choices, he starts to question whether membership in the Warriors of Distinction is worth it. How far will he have to go to wear the cool black silk Warriors jacket? How high a price will he have to pay to belong? The answers are devastating beyond Jericho's imagination. **AWARDS: Coretta Scott King Book Award, Books For The Teen Age 2004, 2004 Teens' Top Ten Books Nominee**

### Dunk by David Lubar

Chad finds a whole new summer occupation at the Jersey Shore- he wants to be the Bozo, the clown who sits inside the dunk tank and goads people into taking a shot. What could be better than using his razor-sharp wit against a random stranger? But Chad soon discovers he's entered a strange and twisted world where humor packs a loaded punch. **AWARDS: Books For The Teen Age 2004 & 2005, School Library Journal Starred Review**

### The First Part Last by Angela Johnson

Bobby is your classic urban teenaged boy -- impulsive, eager, restless. On his sixteenth birthday he gets some news from his girlfriend, Nia that changes his life forever. She's pregnant. Bobby's going to be a father. Suddenly things like school and house parties and hanging with friends no longer seem important as they're replaced by visits to Nia's obstetrician and a social worker who says that the only way for Nia and Bobby to lead a normal life is to put their baby up for adoption. **AWARDS: ALA Best Books For Young Adults, NJ Garden State Teen Book Award, Booklist Editors Choice 2003**

### Hole in My Life by Jack Gantos

In the summer of 1971, Jack Gantos was an aspiring writer looking for adventure, cash for college tuition, and a way out of a dead-end job. For ten thousand dollars, he recklessly agreed to help sail a sixty-foot yacht loaded with a ton of hashish from the Virgin Islands to New York City, where he and his partners sold the drug until federal agents caught up with them. For his part in the conspiracy, Gantos was sentenced to serve up to six years in prison. When he gets out he goes to college, all the while hoping to become a writer. **AWARDS: ALA Best Book for Young Adults, Booklist Editors' Choice, Michael L. Printz Award – Honor, Parents' Choice Award, School Library Journal Best Books of the Year**

### **Jake, Reinvented by Gordon Korman**

There is a mysterious new student at F. Scott Fitzgerald High, Jake Garrett—and he seems to have it all figured out. Looking as though he's just stepped off the cover of the J. Crew catalog, he is the greatest long snapper the football team has ever had—and best of all; he hosts *the* party to go to every Friday night. All the guys want to be like him, and all the girls want to date him; but Jake only has eyes for Didi, the gorgeous and totally unavailable girlfriend of alpha male and quarterback Todd Buckley. Through Jake's friend, Rick, readers get to know Jake, first admiring him, then liking him—but eventually fearing for him as they learn Jake's secret. **AWARDS: ALA Best Books for Young Adults, Books For The Teen Age 2004**

### **Prom by Laurie Halse Anderson**

Ashley is the only one at Philadelphia high school who doesn't care about the prom. It's pretty much the only good thing that happens there, and everyone plans to make the most of it—especially Ash's best friend, Natalia, who's the head of the committee and has prom stars in her eyes. Then the faculty advisor is busted for taking the prom money and Ash finds herself roped into putting together a gala dance. But she has plenty of help—from her large and loving (if exasperating!) family, from Nat's eccentric grandmother, from the principal, from her fellow classmates. And in making the prom happen, Ash learns some surprising things about making her life happen, too. **AWARDS: ALA Best Book for Young Adults 2006 Nominee, International Reading Association Young Adults' Choice, New York Times Bestseller List**

### **The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd**

Living on a peach farm in South Carolina with her harsh, unyielding father, Lily Owens has shaped her entire life around one devastating, blurred memory - the afternoon her mother was killed, when Lily was four. Since then, her only real companion has been the fierce-hearted, and sometimes just fierce, black woman Rosaleen, who acts as her "stand-in mother." When Rosaleen insults three of the deepest racists in town, Lily knows it's time to spring them both free. They take off in the only direction Lily can think of, toward a town called Tiburon, South Carolina - a name she found on the back of a picture amid the few possessions left by her mother. **AWARDS: Literature to Life Award, Book Sense Book of the Year 2004, 2003 Southeastern Book Sellers Association Award for Best Fiction Novel**

### **Things Not Seen by Andrew Clements**

Bobby Phillips is an average fifteen-year-old boy. Until the morning he wakes up and can't see himself in the mirror. Not blind, not dreaming—Bobby is just plain *invisible*. There doesn't seem to be any rhyme or reason to Bobby's new condition; even his dad the physicist can't figure it out. For Bobby that means no school, no friends, no life. He's a missing person. Then he meets Alicia. She's blind, and Bobby can't resist talking to her, trusting her. But people are starting to wonder where Bobby is. Bobby knows that his invisibility could have dangerous consequences for his family and that time is running out. He has to find out how to be seen again—before it's too late. **AWARDS: ALA Best Books for Young Adults 2003, Kirkus Starred Review**

### **ZigZag by Ellen Wittlinger**

Robin can't believe it when her boyfriend, Chris, tells her that his parents have enrolled him in a summer program in Rome. It's their last summer together before he goes away to college, and now they won't even have that time together. It feels like the worst thing that's ever happened to her. Since Chris is leaving, Robin agrees to join her aunt and cousins on a cross-country road trip, in spite of her reservations -- she and her younger cousins have never really gotten along, and since their father's death they've become even more problematic than before. Soon the four of them are zigzagging through the West on an eye-opening journey. They explore parts of the country Robin never dreamed existed -- and she discovers inner resources she never imagined she had. **AWARDS: Junior Library Guild Selection 2003, ALA Best Books for Young Adults 2004, Books for the Teen Age 2004**

## Grade 11 Titles

Many of these titles can be found in the high school libraries, local public libraries, and book stores. Low cost titles can also be purchased on-line (i.e. [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) or [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com)). Please see the last page of this packet for more information.

### Alive by Piers Paul Read

On October 12, 1972, a Uruguayan Air Force plane carrying a team of rugby players crashed in the remote snowy peaks of the Andes. Ten weeks later, only sixteen of the forty-five passengers were found alive. This is the story of those ten weeks spent in the shelter of the plane's fuselage without food and with scarcely any hope of a rescue. The survivors protected and helped one another, and came to the difficult conclusion that to live meant doing the unimaginable. Confronting nature at its most furious, two brave young men risked their lives to hike through the mountains looking for help -- and ultimately found it. **AWARDS: New York Times Bestseller for 7 months**

### Bleachers by John Grisham

High school all-American Neely Crenshaw was probably the best quarterback ever to play for the legendary Messina Spartans. Fifteen years have gone by since those glory days, and Neely has come home to Messina to bury Coach Eddie Rake, the man who molded the Spartans into an unbeatable football dynasty. Now, as Coach Rake's "boys" sit in the bleachers waiting for the dimming field lights to signal his passing, they replay the old games, relive the old glories, and try to decide once and for all whether they love Eddie Rake -- or hate him. **AWARDS: American Library Assoc. (ALA) Best Books of the Year, School Library Journal Best Books of the Year, State Awards: IL, NY**

### Catalyst by Laurie Halse Anderson

Meet Kate Malone--straight-A science and math geek, minister's daughter, ace long-distance runner, new girlfriend (to Mitchell "Early Decision Harvard" Pangborn III), unwilling family caretaker, and emotional avoidance champion. Kate manages her life by organizing it as logically as the periodic table. She can handle it all--or so she thinks. Then, things change as suddenly as a string of chemical reactions; first, the Malones' neighbors get burned out of their own home and move in. Kate has to share her room with her nemesis, Teri Litch, and Teri's little brother. The days are ticking down and she's still waiting to hear from the only college she applied to: MIT. Kate feels that her life is spinning out of her control--and then, something happens that truly blows it all apart. **AWARDS: YALSA Top Ten Best Books for Young Adults-2003, Garden State Teen Book Award Nominee, 2005**

### Cut by Patricia McCormick

Callie isn't speaking to anybody, not even to her therapist at Sea Pines, the "residential treatment facility" where her parents and doctor sent her after discovering that she cuts herself. As her story unfolds, Callie reluctantly becomes involved with the other "guests" at Sea Pines. **AWARDS: ALA Best Books of the Year, High School State Awards: AL, IL, KY, NY, SC, SD, TX, WY**

### The House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer

Matteo Alacrán was not born; he was harvested. His DNA came from El Patrón, lord of a country called Opium -- a strip of poppy fields lying between the United States and what was once called Mexico. He is a boy now, but most consider him a monster -- except for El Patrón. El Patrón loves Matt as he loves himself, because Matt is himself. Escape is the only chance Matt has to survive. **AWARDS: ALA Best Books of the Year, Newberry Award, Michael L. Printz Award for Excellence in Young Adult Literature/State Awards: AK, AZ, CO, CT, IL, IN, IA, KY, ME, MI, MO, NV, NJ, NM, NC, OK, PA, RI, SC, TN, UT, VT, WA, WY**

### The Lovely Bones: A Novel by Alice Sebold

When we first meet 14-year-old Susie Salmon, she is already in heaven. This was before milk carton photos and public service announcements, she tells us; back in 1973, when Susie mysteriously disappeared, people still believed these things didn't happen. Susie relates the awful events of her death, and her own adjustment to the strange new place she finds herself. With love, longing, and a growing understanding, Susie watches her family as they cope with their grief and begin the difficult process of healing. **AWARDS: ALA Best Books of the Year, School Library Journal Best Books of the Year/State Awards: CO, IL, IN, IA, KY, MO, NY, OH, PA, SC, TN**

### Nineteen Minutes by Jodi Picoult

Peter Houghton, an alienated teen who has been bullied for years by the popular crowd, brings weapons to his high school in Sterling, N.H., one day and opens fire, killing 10 people. Flashbacks reveal how bullying caused Peter to retreat into a world of violent computer games. Alex Cormier, the judge assigned to Peter's case, tries to maintain her objectivity as she struggles to understand her daughter, Josie, one of the surviving witnesses of the shooting. **AWARDS: Finalist for the 2010 Abraham Lincoln Illinois HS Book Award, Publisher's Weekly Starred Review**

**One of Those Hideous Books Where the Mother Dies by Sonya Sones**

*My name is Ruby. This book is about me.* It tells the hideous story of what happens when my mother dies and I'm dragged three thousand miles away from my boyfriend, Ray, to live in L.A. with my father, who I've never met because he's such a scumbag that he divorced my mom before I was born. The only way I've ever even *seen* him is in the movies, since he's this famous actor who's been too busy trying to win Oscars to even visit me *once* in fifteen years. Everyone loves my father. Everyone but me. **AWARDS: ALA Best Books of the Year /State Awards: AZ, IN, IA, ME, MO, PA, RI, TN, TX**

**Plain Truth by Jodi Picoult**

When a young Amish teen hides a pregnancy, gives birth in secret, and then flatly denies it all when the baby's body is found, urban defense attorney Ellie Hathaway decides to defend her. But she finds herself caught in a clash of cultures with a people whose channels of justice are markedly different from her own... and discovers a place where circumstances are not always what they seem. **AWARDS: A Booksense 76 Pick, A featured selection of the Literary Guild**

**Playing for Pizza by John Grisham**

Rick Dockery was the third-string quarterback for the Cleveland Browns. In the AFC Championship game, to the surprise and dismay of virtually everyone, Rick actually got into the game. With a 17-point lead and just minutes to go, Rick provided what was arguably the worst single performance in the history of the NFL. Overnight, he became a national laughingstock—and was immediately cut by the Browns and shunned by all other teams. But all Rick knows is football, and he insists that his agent find a team that needs him. Against enormous odds, Rick finally gets a job—as the *starting* quarterback for the Mighty Panthers . . . of Parma, Italy. The Parma Panthers desperately want a former NFL player—any former NFL player—at their helm. And now they've got Rick, who knows nothing about Parma (not even where it is) and doesn't speak a word of Italian. To say that Italy—the land of fine wines, extremely small cars, and *football americano*—holds a few surprises for Rick Dockery would be something of an understatement. . . .**AWARDS: New York Times Bestseller, 2007**

**Son of the Mob by Gordon Korman**

Vince Luca is just like any other high school guy. There is just one thing that really sets him apart from other kids -- his father happens to be the head of a powerful crime organization. How is he supposed to explain to a girl what his father does for a living? But when Vince finally meets one who seems to be worth the trouble, her family turns out to be the biggest problem of all. Because her father is an FBI agent-the one who wants to put his father away for good.

**AWARDS: ALA Best Books of the Year/State Awards: AZ, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, MD, MO, NV, NJ, NY, SC, SD, TX, TN, UT**

**This Lullaby Sarah Dessen**

Remy, a girl who always knows how to end a relationship before it becomes emotional, meets her match in Dexter, a musician who embodies everything that she despises and reminds her of the father who abandoned her, when she finds that she cannot break up with him, in a wonderful story about following your heart. **AWARDS: ALA Best Books For Young Adults 1997, Books For The Teen Age 2004, New Jersey Garden State Fiction Book Award 2004**

## Grade 12 Titles

Many of these titles can be found in the high school libraries, local public libraries, and book stores. Low cost titles can also be purchased on-line (i.e. [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) or [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com)). Please see the last page of this packet for more information.

### Chanda's Secrets by Allan Stratton

Chanda, 16, remembers the good times, when she lived with both parents on a cattle post in sub-Saharan Africa and even later on when her family moved to Bonang. Her family's troubles began after her father was killed in the diamond mines. Her first stepfather abused her; the second died of a stroke; the third is a drunken philanderer. Although Chanda lives in a world in which illness and death have become commonplace, it is not one in which AIDS can be mentioned. **AWARDS: ALA Best Books of the Year, Booklist Editor's Choice, Michael L. Printz Award for Excellence in Young Adult Literature, School Library Journal Best Books of the Year**

### Chinese Cinderella: The True Story of an Unwanted Daughter by Adeline Yen Mah

Adeline Yen Mah returns to her roots to tell the story of her painful childhood and her ultimate triumph and courage in the face of despair. Adeline's affluent, powerful family considers her bad luck after her mother dies giving birth to her. Life does not get any easier when her father remarries. She and her siblings are subjected to the disdain of her stepmother, while her stepbrother and stepsister are spoiled. Although Adeline wins prizes at school, they are not enough to compensate for what she really yearns for -- the love and understanding of her family. **AWARDS: Outstanding Books for the College Bound, National Christian School Association/State Awards: NV**

### The Color of Water by James McBride

This is the story of the author and his white, Jewish mother Ruth. Ruth was born in Poland and raised in Suffolk, VA, the daughter of an itinerant rabbi. At 17, Ruth fled the south, landed in Harlem, married a black man in 1941, founded an all black Baptist church in her living room, was widowed twice and raised 12 children in New York City. Despite hardship, poverty, and suffering, Ruth sent all 12 of her children to college. The result is a powerful portrait of growing up, a meditation on race and identity, and a poignant, beautifully crafted hymn from a son to his mother. **AWARDS: #1 New York Times Bestseller, ALA Notable Book**

### The Glass Castle by Jeanette Walls

When sober, Jeannette's brilliant and charismatic father captured his children's imagination, teaching them physics, geology, and how to embrace life fearlessly. But when he drank, he was dishonest and destructive. Her mother was a free spirit who abhorred the idea of domesticity and didn't want the responsibility of raising a family. The Walls children learned to take care of themselves. They fed, clothed, and protected one another, and eventually found their way to New York. Their parents followed them, choosing to be homeless even as their children prospered. **AWARDS: New York Times Bestseller, ALA Alex Award, Virginia Readers' Choice Award Master List**

### A Great and Terrible Beauty by Libba Bray

It's 1895, and after the suicide of her mother, 16-year-old Gemma Doyle is shipped off from the life she knows in India to a proper boarding school in England. Lonely, guilt-ridden, and prone to visions of the future that have an uncomfortable habit of coming true, Gemma's reception there is a chilly one. To make things worse, she's been followed by a mysterious young Indian man, a man sent to watch her. **AWARDS: ALA Best Books of the Year, Senior High Catalog, Young Adult Library Assoc.'s Teen's Top Ten/State Awards: CO, NJ, PA, TX**

### Hiroshima by John Hersey

On August 6, 1945, Hiroshima was destroyed by the first atom bomb ever dropped on a city. This book, John Hersey's journalistic masterpiece, tells what happened on that day. Told through the memories of survivors, this timeless, powerful and compassionate document has become a classic "that stirs the conscience of humanity". **AWARDS: American Library Assoc. Best Books of the Year, Outstanding Books for the College Bound, Sr. High Catalog/State Awards: CA**

### How I Live Now by Meg Rosoff

Daisy is sent from Manhattan to England to visit her aunt and cousins she's never met. Her aunt goes away on business soon after Daisy arrives. The next day bombs go off as London is attacked and occupied by an unnamed enemy. Despite the war, it's a kind of Eden, with no adults in charge and no rules, a place where Daisy's uncanny bond with her cousins grows into something rare and extraordinary. But the war is everywhere, and Daisy and her cousins must lead each other into a world that is unknown. **AWARDS: ALA Best Books of the Year, Booklist Editor's Choice, Michael L. Printz Award for Excellence in Young Adult Literature**

### **The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini**

Taking us from Afghanistan in the final days of the monarchy to the present, *The Kite Runner* is the story of the friendship between two boys growing up in Kabul. Raised in the same household and sharing the same wet nurse, Amir and Hassan nonetheless grow up in different worlds: Amir is the son of a prominent and wealthy man, while Hassan, the son of Amir's father's servant, is a Hazara, member of a shunned ethnic minority. Their intertwined lives, and their fates, reflect the eventual tragedy of the world around them. *The Kite Runner* is a novel about friendship, betrayal, and the price of loyalty.

**AWARDS: ALA Best Books of the Year, Alex Top Ten Adult Books for Young Adults, Outstanding Books for the College Bound (Chosen for required reading for all incoming Freshmen at Rutgers and several other colleges in 2005)**

### **A Northern Light by Jennifer Donnelly**

Grace Brown's body is discovered, and her murder, which also inspired Theodore Dreiser's *An American Tragedy*, is the framework for this coming-of-age story set in upstate New York in 1906. Mattie Gokey is a waitress at the Glenmore Hotel when Brown is murdered. As she learns Brown's story, her narrative shifts between the goings-on at the hotel and her previous year at home: her toil at the farm; her relationship with her harsh, remote father; her pain at being forbidden to accept a college scholarship. Mattie details the physical particulars of people's lives as well as deeper issues of race, class, and gender as she strains against family and societal limitations.

**AWARDS: ALA Best Books of the Year, Booklist Editor's Choice, School Library Journal Best Books of the Year/State Awards: GA, IL, IN, IA, KY, MO, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SD, TN, TX, VA**

### **Ordinary People by Judith Guest**

The Jarrets are a typical American family. Calvin is a determined, successful provider and Beth an organized, efficient wife. They had two sons, Conrad and Buck, but now they have one. In this memorable, moving novel, Judith Guest takes the reader into their lives to share their misunderstandings, pain and ultimate healing.

**AWARDS: ALA Best Of The Best Books For Young Adults-Top 100, Best Books For Young Teen Readers, Grades 7-10 – 2000, Outstanding Books For The College Bound 1996**

### **Swimming to Antarctica: Tales of a Long-Distance Swimmer by Lynne Cox, Martha Kaplan**

Lynne Cox trained hard from age nine, working with an Olympic coach, swimming five to twelve miles each day in the Pacific. At age eleven, she swam even when hail made the water "like cold tapioca pudding" and was told she would one day swim the English Channel. Four years later - not yet out of high school - she broke the men's and women's world records for the Channel swim. In 1987, she swam the Bering Strait from America to the Soviet Union - a feat that, according to Gorbachev, helped diminish tensions between Russia and the United States. Lynne Cox's relationship with the water is almost mystical: she describes swimming as flying, and remembers swimming at night through flocks of flying fish the size of mockingbirds, remembers being escorted by a pod of dolphins that came to her off New Zealand.

**AWARDS: 2005 (ALA) Alex Award, Kirkus Starred Review, Booklist Editor's Choice Adult Books for Young Adults**

### **Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace... One School at a Time by Greg Mortenson**

Anyone who despairs of the individual's power to change lives has to read the story of Greg Mortenson, a homeless mountaineer who, following a 1993 climb of Pakistan's treacherous K2, was inspired by a chance encounter with impoverished mountain villagers and promised to build them a school. Over the next decade he built fifty-five schools—especially for girls—that offer a balanced education in one of the most isolated and dangerous regions on earth. As it chronicles Mortenson's quest, which has brought him into conflict with both enraged Islamists and uncomprehending Americans, *Three Cups of Tea* combines adventure with a celebration of the humanitarian spirit.

**AWARDS: Kiriyaama Prize Nonfiction Award, Time Magazine Asia Book of The Year, Montana Honor Book Award, People Magazine – Critics Choice, Publisher's Weekly – Starred Review**

# ASSESSMENTS

## Summer Reading Enrichment Program

**FOR EACH BOOK THAT YOU READ, SELECT ONE OF THE ASSIGNMENTS LISTED BELOW, AND COMPLETE IT FOR 3 EXTRA POINTS ADDED TO YOUR FINAL FIRST MARKING PERIOD GRADE; ADDITIONALLY, YOU WILL RECEIVE RECOGNITION ON YOUR HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT FOR SUCCESSFUL PARTICIPATION IN THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER READING ENRICHMENT PROGRAM.**

The assessments listed below will be graded on a pass/no credit basis.  
In order to earn a passing grade, each and every part of the question must be addressed.

### **1. You didn't like the ending? Re-write it!**

Compose an alternative ending to the story (350-500 words). Your version must identify the point at which you "leave" the story as it is written. Be sure to address the outcome for the main character. Please include a brief paragraph describing the actual ending prior to your version. Conclude with a brief paragraph explaining why you changed the ending.

*This assignment will be scored by your teacher who will be using the following criteria:*

There will be very few, if any, grammatical or spelling mistakes.

It will be evident that the project was thoughtfully and carefully completed.

### **2. Diaries are interesting. . .**

To complete this project, you will pretend you are a major character in the book(s) that you have read. You will write his/her diary describing important events that have happened to you, how you feel about these things, and any other reflections you think your character might have regarding his/her experiences. For this project, you must write at least 350-500 words in the form of at least 3 diary entries. It is important, in this project, to work on writing as if you were your character. Pretend that you are a character in your book and write in the same fashion that you think s/he would write. The diary you write should have your character's "voice." Be certain to include the following bibliographic information for the book(s) that you read: (Author [last name first], title, publisher, date of publication).

*This assignment will be scored by your teacher who will be using the following criteria:*

It will be clear which character from the book is writing the diary. In other words, you will use that character's voice effectively.

Your character diary will address issues or events that are central or important to the book. It will be clear from the diary project that you have read and understood the book. The diary will show original thought and will be neatly presented.

There will be very few, if any, grammatical or spelling mistakes, and it will be evident that the project was thoughtfully and carefully completed.

### 3. Power Point Project

Create a Power Point Presentation based on the facts from the book. You will be graded on your technological creativity. The project must contain a minimum of twenty-five slides and clip art and/or photos must appear on the slides. One example for this project is to create a GAME such as "Jeopardy". If you are completing a game board with questions and answers, you must create a minimum of forty slides, (20 questions with 20 answers in 4 varied categories with 4 questions per category).

### 4. Collage

Using an 18x24 sturdy poster or press board, create a collage of pictures with captions that best depicts the plot of the story and relates to the character(s) in the novel. The board must be covered entirely! The background cannot be visible.

### 5. Newspaper

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Book: \_\_\_\_\_ Author: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Fill in the following spaces, or use this form as a template to complete the front page of a newspaper regarding the novel you have read. Provide a one-paragraph explanation of the significance of the title as well as the headline. You may use the back of this sheet or attach a second sheet for all explanations.

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Title of Newspaper: Banner

--

Headline (It must relate to main character, plot, or theme of novel)

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Brief summary of novel (who, what, where, when, why, how)

Picture with caption

		<p style="text-align: center;">* * * * *</p> <hr/> <p>Rate the novel by circling the amount of stars you feel it deserves.</p> <hr/> <p>Why this rating?</p>
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Background information about the author that you can connect to the text and explain how.

Your favorite quote from the novel. Provide a one-paragraph explanation of why it is your favorite.



*Summer Reading Enrichment Program  
for Students in Basic, Average, and Advanced English Classes*

**Students in Average and Basic English classes who participate in the voluntary summer reading program must read one book; those in Advanced classes must read two. The book(s) must be at least 184 pages in length and age appropriate.**

**I give my child, (first and last name) \_\_\_\_\_,  
permission to read the following alternate summer reading title(s) for credit as part of the  
Southern Regional High School Summer Reading Program.**

**1. Title** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**2. Title** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Parent/Guardian** \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print)

## *Where Can I Find The Book(s) That I Would Like to Read?*

Below, please find a listing of the public libraries and book stores in our area that will provide you with the book(s) of your choice:

### **Public Libraries:**

#### **Ocean County Library System**

Barnegat Branch  
112 Burr St.  
Barnegat  
609-698-3331

Little Egg Harbor Branch  
290 Mathistown Road  
Tuckerton, NJ  
609-294-1197

Long Beach Island Branch  
217 S. Central Avenue  
Surf City, NJ  
609-494-2480

Toms River Branch  
101 Washington Avenue  
Toms River, NJ  
609 area call 609-971-0514

Stafford Branch  
129 N. Main Street  
Manahawkin  
609-597-3381

Tuckerton Branch  
1 Shourds Land  
Tuckerton, NJ  
609-296-1470

Waretown Branch  
112 Main Street  
Waretown, NJ  
609-693-5133

Beach Haven Public Library  
S. Beach Avenue  
Beach Haven, NJ  
609-492-7081

#### **Book Stores**

Atlantic Books  
5 S. Bay Avenue  
Beach Haven, NJ 08008  
609-978-1003

Atlantic Books  
Route 72  
Manahawkin, NJ 08008  
609-693-1003

B. Dalton Bookseller  
Ocean County Mall  
Toms River, NJ 08753  
732-240-5440

Bookworm  
16<sup>th</sup> & Long Beach Blvd.  
Beach Haven, NJ 08008

Borders Books and Music  
2200 Wrangleboro Road  
Mays Landing, NJ 08330  
609-407-1960

Clamtown Books  
380 Bay Avenue  
Tuckerton, NJ  
609-296-6278

Island Book Stores  
20 S. Bay Avenue  
Beach Haven, NJ 08008  
609-492-8091