



Good Shepherd Catholic School

Eighth Grade Summer Reading List

Read *The Outsiders* and one other book from this list during the summer.
***/*The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton—must read during the summer with project

As Brave as You by Jason Reynolds
Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick
Ghost (Track #1) by Jason Reynolds
Lawnboy by Gary Paulsen
A Long Walk to Water: Based on a True Story by Linda Sue Park
A Night Divided by Jennifer A. Nielsen
Okay for Now by Gary D. Schmidt
Rose Under Fire by Elizabeth Wein
Terror at Bottle Creek by Watt Key
The Big Field by Mike Lupica
Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer by John Grisham
The Worst Class Trip Ever by Dave Barry

**This book is needed for the 8th grade year. We are going to read it as a class.

***Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls

You need *Where the Red Fern Grows* for the first full week of September.

Dear Eighth Grade Class of 2024,

Your summer Reading assignment is to read two books. One book I have chosen for you, but the second one you may choose from the list included. This will be your first 8th grade assignment. It is due in school on the first full day of school.

Please read the following book and complete the work.



The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton

This story was written by a teenager about teenagers. It is told in a first-person narration style, with the narrator being a 14-year-old boy.

Writing Assignment: There are many ways to report on a book once you have read it. After you have read *The Outsiders*, choose three methods of reporting on the book that interest you. There are two papers attached. One has nine options, and one has a diagram with numbers 1-9 and the methods. You are going to "play" a form of "Tic Tac Toe" when you make your three choices. Choose three in a row horizontally, vertically or diagonally.

Hopefully, you will be reading all summer. Read at least one other book from the list on the back of this paper. Be prepared to **write** a short summary of this book during the first week of school in school.

We will be reading *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls. You will need *WTRFG* in September. Please don't read this book or watch the movie during the summer. We will watch it when we finish reading the book.

Have a great summer!

Mrs. Blackwell

Activities for THE OUTSIDERS

1. **Guess Who or What!**

This report takes the form of the game "Twenty Questions." The reporter writes a series of clues about a character from the story in a vague to precise, general to specific order. It is necessary to have an answer sheet for the questions.

2. **Coming Attraction!**

The Outsiders is about to be made into a movie and you have been chosen to design the promotional poster. Include the title and author of the book, a listing of the main characters and the contemporary actors who will play them, a drawing of a scene from the book, and a paragraph synopsis of the story. Use poster board.

3. **Literary Interview**

Conduct the interview with a family member (they would ask you the questions). Record the interview. Bring the recording into school, and we will listen to your interview.

Your family member will play the role of a television or radio interviewer, trying to provide the audience with insights into the character's personality and life. It is your responsibility to create meaningful questions and appropriate responses.

4. **Sales Talk**

This report serves as an advertisement to "sell" *The Outsiders* to one or more specific groups. You decide on the group to target and the sales pitch you will use. Include some kind of graphics in your presentation. Google Slides is a way to do your presentation.

5. **A Character Comes to Life**

Suppose one of the characters in *The Outsiders* came to life and walked into our home or classroom? Write what this character sees, hears, and feels as he or she experiences the world in which you live.

6. **Into the Future.**

This report predicts what might happen if *The Outsiders* were to continue. It may take the form of a story in narrative or dramatic form, or a visual display.

7. **Make a Crossword Puzzle for *The Outsiders*.** You must have a minimum of 15 DOWN clues, and a minimum of 15 ACROSS clues. Since there are twenty chapters, have at least one clue from each chapter. This may be done on the computer or on graph paper. An answer key must be provided.

8. **"A Letter to the Author"**

In this report, you can write a letter to S.E. Hinton. Tell her what you liked about *The Outsiders*, and ask her any questions you may have about the writing of the book. You might want to give her new suggestions for a sequel!

9. **Make a Word Search Puzzle** with vocabulary words from *The Outsiders*. You will need to use at least 30 words for your puzzle. This may be done on the computer or graph paper. An answer key must be provided as well as a list of the 30 words.

1 Guess Who or What	8 A Letter to the Author	4 Sales Talk
5 A Character Comes to Life	2 Coming Attractions Poster	7 Crossword Puzzle
6 Into the Future	9 Word Search	3 Interview