

**Gill St. Bernard's School's
Middle School Summer Reading Assignments - 2008**

The purpose of summer reading at Gill St. Bernard's is to help promote a reading habit in our students. It is clear from the research that students who have developed an active reading habit do better on standardized tests including the SAT's. It is also clear that students who learn to enjoy reading and do it on a regular basis are better prepared for the academic tasks they face day to day in school.

The following list is offered as a guide to students for summer reading selections. Each student entering grades 7 and 8 is expected to read four books over the summer months. Two titles are required, and two may be chosen from the list of suggested selections. The two non-required books do not necessarily have to come from the suggested list. This allows a student to follow his or her personal interest.

If a student has already read one or both of the required readings recently, the student must review the book before the start of school. Activities related to the required books are planned for the first days back to school, and all students must be prepared to participate. All of the books on this list are reviewed and can be ordered on Amazon.com.

Entering 7th Graders:

Required books: Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls
Star Girl by Jerry Spinelli

Suggested selections: The Invisible Man by H.G. Wells
Homecoming by Cynthia Voigt
The Hound of Baskerville by Arthur Conan Doyle
The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin
The Devil's Arithmetic by Jane Yolen
Armageddon Summer by Yolen and B. Coville
All Creatures Great and Small by James Herriot
Burning Up by Caroline Cooney
Inkheart by Cornelia Funke
Inkspell by Cornelia Funke
Martyn Pig by Kevin Brooks
Define Normal by Julie Anne Peters
Scorpions by Walter Dean Myers
Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants by Ann Brashares
The Second Summer of the Sisterhood by Ann Brashares
Girls in Pants by Ann Brashares
The Old Man and the Sea by Ernest Hemingway
The Perfect Storm by Sebastian Junger
The Home of the Brave by David Klass

Entering 8th Graders

Required books: Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck
The Five People You Meet in Heaven by Mitch Albom

Suggested selections: Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams
The Andromeda Strain by Michael Crichton
All the President's Men by Woodward and Bernstein
Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury
Death Be Not Proud by John Gunther
Lord of the Flies by William Golding
The Golden Compass by Phillip Pullman
Things Not Seen by Andrew Clements
Coraline by Neil Gaiman
Dune by Frank Herbert
The Learning Tree by Gordon Parks
Zlata's Diary by Zlata Filipovic
Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Huston
Time Line by Michael Crichton
Relic by Lincoln Child and Douglas Preston
You Don't Know Me by David Klass
A Night to Remember by Walter Lord
Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom
The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd