

SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

MRS. KENNEY ENGLISH 6, 7 & 8

6TH GRADE - CHOOSE 1 OF THE NOVELS

Adam of the Road by Elizabeth J. Gray
The Samurai's Tale by Erik C. Haugaard
The Bronze Bow by Elizabeth G. Speare
The Golden Goblet by Eloise J. McGraw
The Secret Sign by Gladys Malvern

7TH GRADE - CHOOSE 1 OF THE NOVELS

Chains by Laurie H. Anderson
Blood on the River by Eliza Carbone
The Journal of Jasper Jonathan Pierce by Richard F. Abrahamson
Spy by Anna Meyers-

8TH GRADE - CHOOSE 1 OF THE NOVELS

Walk Across the Sea by Susan Fletcher
Elijah of Buxton by Christopher P. Curtis
The Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane
Jacob's Rescue: A Holocaust Story by Malka Druker
Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson

For the summer project and upcoming school year students will be exposed to a multitude of historical novels aligning with the history curriculum and themes of study. Students will be required to read a novel of their choice from their grade level list and complete a Project Based Learning assignment. Below are the requirements.

Project Based Learning is empowering learners to pursue content knowledge on their own and demonstrate their new understandings through a variety of presentation modes. (New York State Department of Education)

Why is project-based learning relevant for middle school students? The middle school years are challenging. We struggle with keeping students academically engaged during these years of tremendous change. Because projects build on authentic learning tasks that engage and motivate students, middle school is an ideal time to integrate project-based learning. Projects encourage students to encounter, and struggle with, important and "big" ideas. Project-based learning in all content areas (e.g., language arts, social studies, math, science, visual and performing arts, health) shifts the focus of teaching and learning from a set of known facts to a process modeled on the ways that experts in the field think and work.

Requirements:

The project will count for 20% of the 1st quarter grade and will consist of 4 components:

- 1) Biography of Author
- 2) Summary of Novel
- 3) Historical Connection
- 4) Biblical Connection

You may choose to prepare your project in 2 variations:

1. **Typed** and printed form (roughly adds up to 2 typed pages) FONT 12- Arial or Times New Roman- No Exceptions!

2. **Poster**- Type or printed information must be presented neatly. No lined paper is permitted.

*Please include your first and last name, Mrs. Kenney, grade level on your project.

**Checklist: * ALL INFORMATION MUST BE IN YOUR OWN WORDS!
DO NOT COPY FROM THE INTERNET SOMEONE ELSE'S WORK!**

- 1) Biography of the author (Paragraph- 6-8 sentences) = 25pts
- 2) Summary of the novel (2-3 Paragraphs- 6-8 sentences EACH)= 25pts
- 3) Historical Connection (2-3 Paragraphs (6-8 sentences EACH)=25 pts
- 4) Biblical Connection- A Christian Perspective (Verse + explanation- 3-5 sentences)= 25pts

All parts = 100 pts total

***Historical Connection-** The novels from the list cover the major topics you'll be learning about this school year (You will be responsible for researching the novel and in your Historical Connection written part- You will write about what time period in history your novel connects with and what is occurring during that time. (THIS IS NOT A SUMMARY OF THE NOVEL- this is about the Historical Setting of the novel and)

***Biblical Connection-** (What bible verse ties into your novel, main character or story plot?) You will select a verse from the bible, identify it and explain in 3-5 sentences)