

Palmetto Christian Academy
2010 Summer Reading List
Grades 6 - 7

The specific guidelines for each grade are listed below:

Rising Sixth Graders

Students will read **two** books from the list below. This includes the required book, *Amos Fortune, Free Man*, by Elizabeth Yates. A test will be given on this book during the first week of school. The test will include multiple choice questions pertaining to details of the story and the writing of a one paragraph character analysis of Amos Fortune. This character analysis includes these elements: physical appearance, personality description, character traits possessed by the main character, and **his perspective on freedom**. Observe these elements as you read the book this summer.

Students should complete **one** of the following creative writing projects to accompany this book. This activity will be turned in on the first full day of school.

Choice 1: Write diary entries for three important days in the life of the main character. Try to show the feelings of this person in the details that you include in diary entries. Choose significant points in Amos Fortune's life for your selected days. (Diary entries may be written in black or blue ink on notebook paper or typed. Length of each entry: 1 paragraph which consists of 8 sentences, including a topic sentence, 6 detail sentences, and a conclusion sentence.)

Choice 2: Time line: Make a time line of major events in the life of the main character. Be sure that the time divisions reflect the sequence of events in his life story. Use drawings or magazine cutouts to illustrate events along the time line accompanied by short explanations of each event.

Students will also choose one other book from the list. They will answer questions on this book. (Directions for Summer Reading Questions attached.)

Required - *Amos Fortune, Free Man* by Elizabeth Yates
Black Beauty - by Anna Sewell
National Velvet - by Enid Bagnold
Robin Hood - by Paul Creswick
Big Red - by Jim Kjelgaard
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry - by Mildred Taylor

After your child finishes reading the required book, please feel free to direct him in selecting one other book which you feel is appropriate from the list.

Directions for Summer Reading Questions

Grades 6-7

Please answer the following questions for the book that you chose from the reading lists. (These questions are not for the required book.) You may write your answers on notebook paper in blue or black ink or type your answers. Please write your name, grade, title of book and author, and a parent signature verifying that the book was read at the time of the report at the top of your paper in the right hand margin. **Use complete sentences.** Happy Reading! See you in August!

1. Plot Summary- The student will provide the basic plot (action) of the book. Generally, this information will take 3-6 sentences or a paragraph.
2. Setting- The student will provide the time and place of the book. This can be done in a sentence.
3. Main Character- The student will identify the protagonist(s) (leading character) and the antagonist(s) (the adversary or opponent), and other main characters. In a paragraph, describe one of the characters in the book.
4. Theme- The student will provide the central idea(s) which gives the book meaning. In other words, how do the characters and plot focus on some truth(s) that should be learned? This can be done in a paragraph.
5. Main Conflict/Resolution- The student will provide the main conflict(s) in the book. A conflict is the problem to be solved in the book, or the idea, force, or person that creates opposition in the book. Provide both the conflict and how it is resolved in a few sentences. This can be written in a paragraph.
6. Does the work portray tragic or unhappy consequences for immoral or unethical behavior? The student will answer this question with a yes or no, and explain what the behavior was and the consequences (or lack thereof) are in a paragraph.
7. Does the work attack or condemn evils in society? The student will answer this question with a yes or no, and then explain what the behavior was and the consequences (or lack thereof) in a paragraph.
8. Can the student draw moral points from the book and teach values from it? The student will answer this question in a brief paragraph.
9. Would you recommend this book to a friend? Give a specific reason(s) why or why not in a paragraph.

(Note: Paragraph length for answers - Rising 6th grade: 5 sentences;
Rising 7th grade: 6-8 sentences)

Rising Seventh Graders

Students will read **two** books from the list below. Each student will read Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes. This novel will be tested during the first week of school. (The test will be composed of multiple choice questions pertaining to specific details of the novel and an essay question.)

Students will keep a journal in which they summarize the main events of each of the twelve chapters. The entries should be dated and 3-6 sentences in length. Students should write in complete sentences. These journals will be collected on the first full day of school. The student will also choose **one** other book from the seventh grade list and answer questions on this book. (Summer Reading Directions are attached.)

Required: Johnny Tremain - by Esther Forbes
The Witch of Blackbird Pond - by Elizabeth George Speare
Summer of the Monkeys - by Wilson Rawls
Bridge to Terabithia - by Katherine Paterson
The Yearling - by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings
Shane - by Jack Schaefer

After your child finishes reading the required book, please feel free to direct him in selecting one other book which you feel is appropriate from the list.

Additional Journal Instructions

Presentation choices:

- Written (cursive) neatly in black or blue ink on notebook paper
- or*
- Typed: double spaced; font size: 12; font style: Times New Roman

(Note: You may choose another font style, but it must be easily Read, such as these styles: AR Julian or Lucida Sans Unicode.)

Journal Cover:

Design an attractive cover that includes the title, author, and a picture depicting the main character/s of the novel. The cover picture may be hand-made or computer generated. Have fun with this and let your creativity flow!

Other cover ideas: * a pencil sketch of the main character and/or the setting
* a collage of pictures or illustrations depicting the main character and objects of this historical time period as described in the novel.

The cover page and journal entry pages should be placed in a report binder that has a transparent cover. Grading criteria: Sentence structure, grammatical accuracy,

neatness, and creativity. *Special emphasis will be placed on the overall neatness in determining the final grade of the report and cover.*