

ECMCS Upper Elementary Summer Reading

All rising 4th, 5th, and 6th graders must complete two Summer Reading assignments.

Assignment #1: Social Justice Novel Study

Choose 1 book from the table below and complete the written assignment that supports your book choice. Book choices and writing assignments differ based upon grade level. Students will begin the school year in a social justice socratic seminar based upon their book choice. Students will use their writing assignment to guide the peer-to-peer novel discussion. Parents may want to guide the book selection process as content varies widely. All books were reviewed and approved by teachers and parent volunteers at ECMCS. Here are some helpful websites to go to and look up further information on each book.

- www.commonsemmedia.org
- www.lexile.com
- www.amazon.com
- www.barnesandnoble.com

Assignment #2: Genre Challenge

Students read as much as possible from a variety of genres and record their reading on the Genre Challenge Form. This is similar to a summer reading log and meant to encourage students to read with variety and enthusiasm.

SOCIAL JUSTICE NOVEL LIST

****If the lexile is out of range, we recommend using a book on tape or reading the book aloud as a family.**

<i>Rising 4th years - Choose 1</i>		
<i>Operation Redwood</i> by S. Terrell French	350 pages	700 Lexile
<i>Stella by Starlight</i> by Sharon Draper	300 pages	740 Lexile
<i>The Birchbark House</i> by Louise Erdrich	244 pages	970 Lexile
<i>Rising 5th years - Choose 1</i>		
<i>The Breadwinner</i> by Deborah Ellis	176 Pages	630 Lexile
<i>Operation Redwood</i> by S. Terrell French	350 pages	700 Lexile
<i>One Crazy Summer</i> by Rita Williams-Garcia	218 pages	750 Lexile
<i>Rising 6th years - Choose 1</i>		
<i>The Breadwinner</i> by Deborah Ellis	176 pages	630 Lexile
<i>One Crazy Summer</i> by Rita Williams-Garcia	218 pages	750 Lexile
<i>Echo</i> by Pam Munoz Ryan	592 pages	680 Lexile
<i>Return To Sender</i> by Julia Alvarez (*parent permission suggested due to some content**)	318 pages	890 Lexile

Social Justice Novel Study Writing Assignment

Format: You may either type your assignment or write it in cursive or print, very neatly in pencil. If typing, please use 12 point font, double spaced, and Times Roman or Arial font.

Due Date: August 22, 2018 (3rd day of school). Both assignments will be given language grades during the first marking period.

Rising 4th Years:

Write a letter to the author of the novel describing **your opinion of the challenge or problem in the book and how it was handled by the character(s)**. Your letter should include 3 paragraphs (introduction, body, conclusion). Your letter should **use evidence** from the novel to support your opinions (please cite at least one piece of evidence from the novel). Some sample letter topics are:

- Do you agree with the character(s) actions to resolve the problem? Why or why not?
- Would you make the same choice the character(s) made if presented with the same problem? Why or why not?
- Do you have other solutions for how this problem could be resolved?
- Did you feel the character(s) were treated fairly? Why or why not?
- Are there questions you would want to ask the author about this challenge or problem if you could?

Rising 5th & 6th Years:

Write a letter to the author of the novel describing your opinion of the **the overall theme or conflict in the book and how it was handled by the character(s)**. Your letter should include 5 paragraphs (introduction, 3 body paragraphs, conclusion) and **use evidence** from the novel to support your opinions (please cite at least 2-3 pieces of evidence from the novel).

In addition to describing your opinion of the challenge in the book, please be sure to address the question listed below in your letter. These questions will be used to facilitate a peer-to-peer group discussion at the start of the school year:

<i>One Crazy Summer</i>	Describe what you learned about the Black Panther movement. Give your opinion on the actions of the movement in the novel using evidence.
<i>Operation Redwood</i>	Do you think <i>Operation Redwood</i> is an example of civil disobedience? Defend or critique the the group's actions and use examples from the novel to support your opinion.
<i>The Breadwinner</i>	Parvana's mother and sister have been inside for over a year. How did being confined indoors change them both physically and mentally? Use examples from the novel.
<i>Return to Sender</i>	Is it ever okay to break the law? Use examples from the novel to support your opinion.
<i>Echo</i>	The three main characters all face difficult challenges. Which challenge would be the most difficult to face in your opinion? Use the novel to support your answer.

Part II: Upper Elementary Summer Reading Assignment

Genre Challenge Form

Name: _____

Your challenge is to read as many books in as many different categories as possible and record it on this log. If you discover a genre that isn't listed, add it on the back!

MYSTERY

1. _____
2. _____

POETRY

1. _____
2. _____

MAGAZINES/NEWSPAPER

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

FANTASY

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

SCIENCE FICTION

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

INFORMATIONAL/NONFICTION

1. _____
3. _____

HISTORICAL FICTION

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

BIOGRAPHY, AUTOBIOGRAPHY, MEMOIR

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

GRAPHIC NOVEL

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

REALISTIC FICTION

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

CLASSICAL FICTION

1. _____
2. _____

FREE CHOICE

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

Below are some **optional titles** for the genre challenge:

Rising 4th Graders:

Title of Book

The City of Ember

Out of My Mind

The Candymakers

KaKapo Rescue

The Thing About Georgie

Dream of Night

Eleven

Pie

Project Mulberry

Wildfire Run

The Fingertips of Duncan Dorfman

Dancing Home

One and Only Ivan

Vanished

The Name of This Book is Secret

A book from In the Forest series

Author

Jeanne DuPrau

Sharon M. Draper

Wendy Mass

Sy Montgomery

Lisa Graff

Heather Henson

Patricia Reilly Giff

Sarah Weeks

Linda Sue Park

Dee Garretson

Meg Wolitzer

Alma Flor Ada

Katherine Applegate

Sheela Chari

Pseudonymous Bosch

Art Collins

Rising 5th Graders:

Title of Book

Turtle in Paradise

Mango-Shaped Space

Weedflower

Anything But Typical

The Game of Silence

The Potato Chip Puzzles

Umbrella Summer

Star in the Forest

Sources of Light

Author

Jennifer L. Holm

Wendy Mass

Cynthia Kadohata

Nora Raleigh Baskin

Louise Erdrich

Winston Breen

Lisa Graff

Laura Resau

Margaret McMullan

<i>Slob</i>	Ellen Potter
<i>Ravenmaster's Secret</i>	Elvira Woodruff
<i>Faith, Hope, and Ivy June</i>	Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
<i>Four Perfect Pebbles</i>	Lila Perl and Marion Blumenthal Lazan
<i>Ninth Ward</i>	Jewell Parker Rhodes
<i>Gingersnap</i>	Patricia Reilly Giff
<i>Orphan of Ellis Island</i>	Elvira Woodruff
<i>90 Miles to Havana</i>	Enrique Flores Galbis
<i>Green Glass Sea</i>	Ellen Klages
<i>The Whole Story of the Half Girl</i>	Veera Hiranandani
<i>The Other Half of My Heart</i>	Sundee Tucker Frazier
<i>Matilda Bone</i>	Karen Cushman
<i>Duke</i>	Kirby Larson

Rising 6th Graders:

Title of Book	Author
<i>Touching Spirit Bear</i>	Ben Mikaelson
<i>The Same Stuff as Stars</i>	Katherine Patterson
<i>Honey</i>	Sarah Weeks
<i>Beneath My Mother's Feet</i>	Amjed Qamar
<i>All the Broken Pieces</i>	Ann E. Burg
<i>Every Soul A Star</i>	Wendy Mass
<i>Freedom's Children</i>	Ellen Levine
<i>42 Miles</i>	Tracie Vaughn Zimmer
<i>The Year of Goodbyes</i>	Debbie Levy
<i>A Friendship for Today</i>	Patricia C. McKissack
<i>Countdown</i>	Deborah Wiles
<i>Starry River of the Sky</i>	Grace Lin
<i>A Tangle of Knots</i>	Lisa Graff
<i>Streams to River, River to the Sea</i>	Scott O'Dell
<i>Project Sweet Life</i>	Brent Hartinger
<i>Titanic: Unsinkable</i>	Gordan Korman

Moon Over Manifest

The Pharaoh's Secret

The Lions of Little Rock

Woodrunner

Shooting Kabul

Saving Sky

Katherine Called Birdy

Farewell to Manzanar

A book from In the Forest series

Caminar

Counting by 7's

Courage Has No Color:

The True Story of the Triple Nickles

Sophia's War

Catch a Falling Star

Clare Vanderpool

Marissa Moss

Kristen Levine

Gary Paulsen

N.H. Senzai

Diane Stanley

Karen Cushman

Jeanne and James D. Houston

Art Collins

Skila Brown

Holly Goldberg Sloan

Tanya Lee Stone

Avi

Kim Culberston