

Dear 8th Grade Middle School Parents and Students,

As you head into your exciting summer, I encourage you to take some summer reading with you! The more you read, the better! That being said, when you return to school next year, you will be expected to have read at least **two** books during your summer break. Please choose **two** books from the list below.

- *Out of the Silent Planet* by C.S. Lewis
- *Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson
- *Nowhere Boy* by Katherine Marsh
- *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio
- *Carry On, Mr. Bowditch* by Jean Lee Latham
- *Wednesday Wars* by Gary D. Schmidt
- *The Giver* by Lois Lowry

**After reading a book, please select one of the following projects to complete.** You must do a different project for each book. Any of these choices can be completed **digitally** using Google Slides, Google Docs, Canva, or any other program of your choice. You can also complete one of these assignments using traditional pen and paper. To submit a **hard copy** assignment, you can either hand it in on the first day of school or take a photo and submit it digitally.

Be sure to **include your full name and the title and author of your book in the file name** of your projects. Submit completed projects to the following Google Form. If you do not have a school Google account or access to a Google account, you may bring your completed projects with you to school on the first day, or email a digital copy of your project. If you do have a Google account, please do not email your project to me. These projects are due by the first day of school. [8th grade summer reading projects](#)

In addition to the books you choose from the reading list, please continue reading all summer. At this age, reading levels and interests widely vary. Therefore, I encourage parents to look at these selections with your child when they are choosing. Common Sense Media (<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>) is a wonderful website to preview books before your child reads them. In some cases, you may want to read the book with your child to discuss difficult topics, and don't dismiss reading aloud to each other. They are NOT too old! No matter what they choose to read for pleasure, it is important to simply get them reading. A short, easy read can spark an interest and encourage reluctant readers to keep reading. You can never read too many books!

Summer is also a great time to continue building grammar skills. A great website for grammar practice is [www.ixl.com](http://www.ixl.com). This is completely optional.

I hope you enjoy your summer reading, and I will see you in August!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lindsay Anderson

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## PROJECT CHOICE BOARD

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Timeline</b></p> <p>Create an illustrated timeline of important events in the novel. You must include at least <b>ten</b> of the most meaningful developments. (Hint: Think of the <b>plot diagram</b> as you complete this assignment.)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Postcard</b></p> <p>Illustrate a detailed postcard from one character to another. Include <b>setting information</b> from the novel as well as a <b>letter</b> that would show important details about both characters.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Movie Poster/Trailer</b></p> <p>Design a movie poster for the novel. Include an <b>important scene</b> as the main image. Write the script for the movie trailer.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Graphic Novel Scene</b></p> <p>Choose a scene from the novel to depict in graphic novel style. Include at least <b>ten squares</b> in your new interpretation. Research popular graphic novels to get inspiration for your own.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Rewrite the Ending</b></p> <p>Hate the way the story ended? Write a new one! Choose an <b>important scene</b> from the story and plot the rest of the novel from there. Your new version should be at least <b>500 words</b>.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Character Sketch</b></p> <p>Pretend you are creating a <b>profile</b> for someone searching for your character. Include an <b>actual sketch, physical details, actions, personality traits</b>, or anything that might help someone find your character.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Book Talk</b></p> <p>Pitch the book to an audience in a <b>detailed 5 minute presentation</b>. You should be persuasive in tone and <b>convince them</b> to read it. (This will be written, not performed.)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Letter to the Author</b></p> <p>Write a <b>letter</b> to the author of the novel. Include your <b>opinion</b> of the text as well as <b>any suggestions</b> you would make to improve the story.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Selfie Reactions Timeline</b></p> <p>Create a <b>selfie reactions timeline</b> on a Google slide of one character's reaction to important events in the novel. For each event, take and embed a selfie reaction (surprise, sadness, horror, etc.). Be sure to write about <b>their thoughts on the event, and incorporate a fun design!</b> (Hint: Think of the <b>plot diagram</b> as you complete this assignment.)</p>