



Palmyra High School 7th Grade Summer Reading

Choose one book from the list and complete the attached handout to summarize your book in order to participate in a class discussion .

Title and Author	Synopsis (from Amazon.com)
<i>Hidden Talents</i> David Lubar	<i>Hidden Talents</i> is the first novel in a hit supernatural duology for young readers by award-winning author David Lubar. This hilarious coming-of-age-with-powers story starring the misfits at Edgeview Alternative School was shortlisted for the Printz Award. When thirteen-year-old Martin Anderson arrives at the Edgeview Alternative School, it's the end of the road. Literally. He's been expelled from every other school. Edgeview is the last stop. A warehouse for the system's rejects. Martin fits right in. Everyone has given up on Martin. Even Martin. But at Edgeview Martin falls in with a group of five outsiders who make the other Edgeview rejects appear gifted by comparison. He makes a remarkable discovery: each of his friends possesses a remarkable talent. One is telekinetic. Another is empathic. Others have psychic abilities. Martin thinks these talents make them special. They think it makes them freaks. Martin has one shot to convince them otherwise.
<i>Out of My Mind</i> Sharon M. Draper	From multiple award-winning author Sharon Draper comes a story that will forever change how we all look at anyone with a disability, perfect for fans of RJ Palacio's <i>Wonder</i> . Eleven-year-old Melody is not like most people. She can't walk. She can't talk. She can't write. All because she has cerebral palsy. But she also has a photographic memory; she can remember every detail of everything she has ever experienced. She's the smartest kid in her whole school, but NO ONE knows it. Most people—her teachers, her doctors, her classmates—dismiss her as mentally challenged because she can't tell them otherwise. But Melody refuses to be defined by her disability. And she's determined to let everyone know it...somehow.
<i>One Crazy Summer</i> Rita Williams-Garcia	Eleven-year-old Delphine is like a mother to her two younger sisters, Vonetta and Fern. She's had to be, ever since their mother, Cecile, left them seven years ago for a radical new life in California. But when the sisters arrive from Brooklyn to spend the summer with their mother, Cecile is nothing like they imagined. While the girls hope to go to Disneyland and meet Tinker Bell, their mother sends them to a day camp run by the Black Panthers. Unexpectedly, Delphine, Vonetta, and Fern learn much about their family, their country, and themselves during one truly crazy summer. This moving, funny novel won the Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction and the Coretta Scott King Award and was a National Book Award Finalist. Delphine, Vonetta, and Fern's story continues in <i>P.S. Be Eleven</i> and <i>Gone Crazy in Alabama</i> .
<i>The Other Side of Dark</i> Joan Lowery Nixon	Stacy wakes up in a hospital room, in a body she doesn't recognize. Her mother is dead—murdered—and Stacy is recovering from a gunshot wound. She is the sole eyewitness to the crime, but she has only a shadowy memory of the killer's face. Will Stacy be able to regain a clear memory of that fateful day before the killer reaches her? <i>The Other Side of Dark</i> is one of Joan Lowery Nixon's most intriguing, suspenseful, and dramatic mysteries.
<i>Walk Two Moons</i> Sharon Creech	Thirteen-year-old Salamanca Tree Hiddle, proud of her country roots and the "Indian-ness in her blood," travels from Ohio to Idaho with her eccentric grandparents. Along the way, she tells them of the story of Phoebe Winterbottom, who received mysterious messages, who met a "potential lunatic," and whose mother disappeared. As Sal entertains her grandparents with Phoebe's outrageous story, her own story begins to unfold—the story of a thirteen-year-old girl whose only wish is to be reunited with her missing mother.

Please return this form on the first day of school.

I, _____, hereby give my child, _____, permission to read the book circled above and watch the movie for a summer reading assignment. I understand that he/she will not receive a grade without this permission form.

Student Name (print) _____

Parent Name (print) _____

Parent Name (sign) _____

Date _____

Name _____

Date _____

Period _____

Summer Reading Homework

Directions: Complete each section about your summer reading book. Where appropriate, restate the question/prompt, and answer in complete sentences. This assignment is due on the Friday of the first full week of school, and it will count as a homework assignment. You may type your responses (which is recommended). You may also complete this assignment in Google Forms by going to Ms. Van Zandt's website and clicking on the link or by going to <https://goo.gl/forms/1Jyk2ztPWCOOfFwC2>.

General Information about the Book

1. Title _____
2. Author _____

Main Character

3. Who is one of the main characters?

4. Describe the main character. Use adjectives and examples from the book.

Adjective	Example from the book

5. How does the main character change from the beginning of the story? What is he or she like by the end of the story? What causes this change?

6. I can understand/relate to the main character's actions when _____

because _____

Other Characters

7. Identify another character in the story. _____

8. Describe the character using details from the book.

Adjective	Example from the book

9. How and why is this character important to the story? What is his/her relationship to the main character?

Setting

10. Describe the time and places/locations of the story. There may be more than one.

11. Choose one sentence starter to evaluate the setting:

- i. The setting makes the story exciting because...
- ii. The setting has an important effect on the main character because...
- iii. The setting is/is not interesting or new because...
- iv. The setting increased my knowledge of... by...

Theme

12. What is the author trying to say in this story? What is the lesson in life? What is the moral to this story? This book showed me.../I learned from this book...

Conflict

13. Identify and describe the *main* problem in the story and explain how it was resolved.

Plot

Summarize the story (briefly describe six events that happened in the story). Keep them in order. Include events from the beginning, middle, and end.

1.

2.

3.

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

Evaluation of the book

14. What did you like about the book? What made you choose this book?

15. What didn't you like about the book?
