

Our Lady of Good Counsel School
6th Grade Summer Reading Assignment 2018

- **Specific Required Reading – *Archimedes and the Door of Science* by Jeanne Bendick**
- **Plus 1 additional book of the student’s choice.**

Students must read the required reading “*Archimedes and the Door of Science*” by Jeanne Bendick, plus 1 additional book of the student’s choice (for a total of 2 books this summer). Please select a second book that is grade-level appropriate in terms of content and challenge, and also supports the faith and belief of Catholic values. A list of recommended titles is below, but students are not obligated to choose from this list for their second book. Other resources for book suggestions are: www.readkiddoread.com, www.goodreads.com, the local librarian, or a favorite bookstore. Parents may also opt to use their student’s Scantron data (more specifically, the Lexile score on the student’s reading test) from the 2017/2018 school year to select a book that is appropriately challenging for the student. Parents and students may search for books by Lexile score at www.lexile.com. For the choice reading, students should choose a book that is the original work (no illustrated classics or abridged versions) and one that they have not previously read.

- **Be warned Ms. Gonzales will give a short basic reading comprehension quiz on the required book on the first day of school.**
- **Students are required to have a copy of *Archimedes and the Door of Science* to use in class starting on the second day of school.**
- **Students will be expected to complete in-class assignments on the novel during the first two weeks of school.**

Suggested Choice Reading Books – 6th Grade

Students may choose one of these books if they so desire; however, this is by no means an extensive list. Please see www.lexile.com, www.readkiddoread.com, and www.goodreads.com for more suggestions.

Note that with the choice reading assignment, parents are ultimately responsible for approval of the content of the book selected by the student. If your parent does not approve of the content of your choice book, please choose another book.

Lexile: 700 – 950

- ***The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan:** Percy learns that he has special powers after he makes his pre-algebra teacher disappear. Further investigation reveals that he is the son of Greek god Poseidon. To save human kind, Percy embarks on an adventure to return a lightning bolt his father stole from Zeus.
- ***The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain:** The adventures of a mischievous Missouri boy named Tom Sawyer, growing up a few decades before the Civil War.
- ***A Long Way from Chicago* by Richard Peck:** A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother.
- ***The Red Blazer Girls: The Ring of Rocamadour* by Michael D. Beil:** As sleuths solve each puzzle (tied to math, literature, or religion) they close in on a legendary ruby ring in this engaging mystery.
- ***Flush* by Carl Hiaasen:** Hysterical mystery adventure for young readers, set in the Florida Keys. This family adventure harkens back to the Hardy Boys in its simplicity and quirky characters.
- ***False Prince* by Jennifer Nielsen:** The thrilling first book in a brand-new trilogy filled with danger, deceit, and hidden identities will keep readers clinging to the edge of their seats.
- ***Cosmic* by Frank Cottrell Boyce:** Liam is a twelve-year-old boy who is often mistaken for and treated as a thirty-year-old man. He uses this to his advantage when he cons his way into the first spaceship to take civilians to space, posing as an adult chaperone, and Liam finds himself once again stuck between two worlds.

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Lexile: 951+

- ***Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen:** Thirteen-year-old Brian Robeson is on his way to visit his father when the single engine plane in which he is flying crashes. It will take all his know-how and determination, and more courage than he knew he possessed, to survive.
- ***Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor:** The vivid story of a black family whose warm ties to each other and their land give them the strength to defy rural Southern racism during the Depression.
- ***The Watsons Go to Birmingham* by Christopher Paul Curtis:** Hilarious and deeply moving novel, winner of the Newbery Honor and the Coretta Scott King Honor, blends the fictional account of an African American family with the factual events of the violent summer of 1963.
- ***Savvy* by Ingrid Law:** For generations, the Beaumont family has harbored a magical secret. They each possess a “savvy” – a special supernatural power that strikes when they turn thirteen.
- ***Travel Team* by Mike Lupica:** Inspirational tale that will leave readers cheering. Danny Walker is the smallest kid on the basketball team, but he plays with the most heart and common sense. He is cut from his local travel team, the same team his father led to national prominence as a boy. Danny’s father knows that Danny isn’t the only kid who was cut from the team for the wrong reasons, and together, this father-son team proves that heart cannot be measured.
- ***Lincoln’s Grave Robbers* by Steve Sheinkin:** True crime story: In 1876, a group of Chicago counterfeiters conspired to steal President Lincoln’s corpse from its grave near Springfield, Illinois, and hold it for ransom: \$200,000 and the release of their leader, counterfeiter Benjamin Boyd.
- ***The Hive Detectives: Chronicle of a Honeybee Catastrophe* by Loree Griffin Burns:** *The Hive Detectives* discusses the strange disappearance of honeybees from hives around the world beginning in 2006 and examines scientists’ efforts to discover the cause of colony collapse.

Our Lady of Good Counsel School
7th Grade Summer Reading Assignment 2018

- **Specific Required Reading – *The Boys in the Boat (Young Readers Edition)* by Daniel James Brown**
- **Plus 2 additional books of the student's choice.**

Students must read the required reading *The Boys in the Boat (Young Readers Edition)* by Daniel James Brown, plus 2 additional books of the student's choice (for a total of 3 books this summer). Please select two more books that are grade-level appropriate in terms of content and challenge, and also supports the faith and belief of Catholic values. A list of recommended titles is below, but students are not obligated to choose from this list for their second and third books. Other resources for book suggestions are www.readkiddoread.com, www.goodreads.com, the local librarian or a favorite bookstore. Parents may also opt to use their student's Scantron data (more specifically, the Lexile score on the student's reading test) from the 2017/2018 school year to select a book that is appropriately challenging for the student. Parents and students may search for books by Lexile score at www.lexile.com. For the choice reading, students should choose a book that is the original work (no illustrated classics or abridged versions) and one that they have not previously read.

- **Be warned that Ms. Gonzales will give a short basic reading comprehension quiz on the required book on the first day of school.**
- **Students are required to have a copy of *The Boys in the Boat (Young Readers Edition)* by Daniel James Brown to use in class on the second day of school.**
- **Students will be expected to complete in-class assignments on the novel during the first two weeks of school.**

Suggested Choice Reading Books – 7th and 8th Grade

Students may choose one of these books if they so desire; however, this is by no means an extensive list. Please see www.lexile.com, www.readkiddoread.com, and www.goodreads.com for more suggestions.

Note that with the choice reading assignment, parents are ultimately responsible for approval of the content of the book selected by the student. If your parent does not approve of the content of your choice book, please choose another book.

Lexile: 800 - 999

- ***Things Not Seen* by Andrew Clements:** When 15-year-old Bobby wakes up and finds himself invisible, he and his parents and his new blind friend, Alicia, try to find out what caused his condition and how to reverse it.
- ***PEAK* by Roland Smith:** Peak Marcello's dad wants him to be the youngest boy ever to climb Mt Everest--and takes him there to do it!
- ***The Giver* by Lois Lowry:** *The Giver* is written from the point of view of Jonas, an eleven-year-old boy living in a futuristic society that has eliminated all pain, fear, war, and hatred.
- ***Night of the Howling Dogs* by Graham Salisbury:** Based on a true story about a Boy Scout troop that goes into Halape, Hawaii for a weekend campout. When an earthquake strikes unexpectedly and causes a tsunami, the boys' survival skills are put to the test.
- ***The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin:** Highly inventive mystery involving sixteen people who are invited to the reading of Samuel W. Westing's will.
- ***Stealing Freedom* by Elisa Carbone:** Inspired by a true story, the riveting novel of a young slave girl's harrowing escape to freedom on the Underground Railroad.
- ***The Black Stallion* by Walter Farley:** When young Alec is stranded on a tropical island, he finds his best and most loyal friend is a wild, remarkable stallion.

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Lexile: 1000-1200

- ***Chasing Lincoln's Killer* by James L. Swanson:** A fast-paced thriller about the pursuit and capture of John Wilkes Booth.
- ***The Beekeeper's Apprentice* by Laurie King:** A wonderfully original and entertaining story that is funny, heartwarming, and full of intrigue, with Sherlock Holmes and his young apprentice, Mary Russell, matching wits with some of the finer criminal minds of the times, including the brilliantly diabolic daughter of Holmes' old enemy, Professor Moriarty.
- ***Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different* by Karen Blumenthal:** Blumenthal chronicles the life and accomplishments of Apple mogul Steve Jobs, discussing his ideas, and describing how he has influenced life in the twenty first century.
- ***I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World (Young Readers Edition)* by Malala Yousafzai:** Malala Yousafzai's describes her fight for education for girls under Taliban rule, the support she received from her parents to pursue an education, and how the Taliban retaliated by trying to kill her.

Lexile: 1200+

- ***Washington at Valley Forge* by Russell Freedman:** George Washington's army almost perished in the winter of 1777 when they endured severe hardship at Valley Forge. Read about how the soldiers survived the harsh conditions and went on to defeat the British in 1783.
- ***His Majesty's Dragon* by Maomi Novik:** The first in a series of books about Temeraire and Captain William Laurence. Captain Laurence is a member of the British Royal Navy, which is serving in combat against Napoleon's navy. While serving in the navy, he obtains a dragon egg unlike any other dragon egg known to the British, and Temeraire the dragon is born. This series chronicles the adventures of Temeraire and Captain William Laurence.
- ***The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho:** Santiago is a young Andalusian shepherd who goes on a journey to Egypt after having a recurring dream of finding treasure there, hoping that the dream is a prophecy that will eventually lead him to the treasure.
- ***The Hobbit* by J. R. R. Tolkien:** The adventures of the well-to-do hobbit, Bilbo Baggins, who lived happily in his comfortable home until a wandering wizard granted his wish.

Our Lady of Good Counsel School
8th Grade Summer Reading Assignment 2018

- **Specific Required Reading** – Sparknotes Side-by-Side version of *Twelfth Night* by William Shakespeare
 - **Please note: a copy of this book will be distributed to current 7th Grade OLGC students by Ms Gonzales at the end of the current school year.**
- **Plus 2 additional books of the student's choice.**

Students must read the required reading **Sparknotes Side-by-Side version of *Twelfth Night* by William Shakespeare**, plus 2 additional books for the student's choice (for a total of 3 books this summer). Please select two more books that are grade-level appropriate in terms of content and challenge, and also supports the faith and belief of Catholic values. A list of recommended titles is below, but students are not obligated to choose from this list for their second and third books. Other resources for book suggestions are www.readkiddoread.com, www.goodreads.com, the local librarian or a favorite bookstore. Parents may also opt to use their student's Scantron data (more specifically, the Lexile score on the student's reading test) from the 2017/2018 school year to select a book that is appropriately challenging for the student. Parents and students may search for books by Lexile score at www.lexile.com. For the choice reading, students should choose a book that is the original work (no illustrated classics or abridged versions) and one that they have not previously read.

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- **Students are required to have a copy of Sparknotes Side-by-Side version of *Twelfth Night* by William Shakespeare to use in class on the second day of school.**
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Suggested Choice Reading Books – 7th and 8th Grade

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Lexile: 800 - 999

- ***Things Not Seen* by Andrew Clements:** When 15-year-old Bobby wakes up and finds himself invisible, he and his parents and his new blind friend, Alicia, try to find out what caused his condition and how to reverse it.
- ***PEAK* by Roland Smith:** Peak Marcello's dad wants him to be the youngest boy ever to climb Mt Everest--and takes him there to do it!
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