

Incoming Eighth Grade Summer Reading Assignment

In order to prepare for the 8th grade trip to the East Coast, you must choose one of the following historical fiction novels to read. While you are reading the book, please complete the assignment listed below. You will also be tested on the novel during the first week of class.

Novels to choose from: (please choose one which you have not previously read!)

Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes
My Brother Sam is Dead by James Lincoln Collier and Christopher Collier
The Witch of Blackbird Pond by Elizabeth George Speare
The Fighting Ground by Avi
The Secret of Sarah Revere by Ann Rinaldi
Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson
Forge by Laurie Halse Anderson (sequel to *Chains*)

Part One: Reading Log

For each book, keep a reading log. The reading log can be handwritten or typed, and it should follow the example format on the back of this paper. Each entry should include the following:

1. Key characters in the section (some names will be repeated from section to section)
2. Setting: where the section takes place, could be multiple locations
3. One paragraph summary (6-8 sentences) of the main events in the section
4. One memorable quote from each section with the page number. Include a one-sentence explanation as to why you think it is a memorable/important quote.

The books should be broken up in the following manner:

Johnny Tremain and *My Brother Sam is Dead*: one reading log entry per chapter

The Witch of Blackbird Pond and *The Secret of Sarah Revere*: one reading log entry for every 2 chapters

Chains and *Forge*: one reading log for every 4 chapters

The Fighting Ground: one reading log entry for every 6 time intervals (the novel is written in time increments, not chapters)

Part Two: In-class assessment

During the first full week of school, you will be tested on the novel. You will be allowed to use both your book and completed reading log on the test. On the day of the assessment, you will turn in the reading log for a grade.