



## Eighth Grade Summer Reading: 2021



**Students entering eighth grade will read three books in total and hand in three assignments.**

**1.) Choose two books to read from the following list:**

*The House of the Scorpion* by Nancy Farmer

*Lord of the Flies* by William Golding

*The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman

*Life as we Knew It* by Susan Beth Pfeffer

*The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak

*The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander

*Murder on the Orient Express* by Agatha Christie

**1.) Complete both assignments listed below. You choose which book you want to do for each assignment.**

In a five paragraph essay, analyze the characterization of a single, central character from your book. Provide details and quotes from the story which inform the reader about the character. State whether each example is direct or indirect characterization. You should include at least **one** example of indirect characterization.

*Direct characterization:* direct statements made about the character which describe them

*Indirect characterization:* dialogue spoken by the character, the character's thoughts and actions, and statements about the character made by other characters

**2.) Answer the following question on notebook paper and in cursive handwriting:**

In a five paragraph essay, explain the book's theme. What was the theme and how did the author present it? Give specific examples.

**3.) Read *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. The book should be annotated as you read; be prepared to hand in the book when you return to the school in the fall.**

**Be on the lookout for:**

- Figurative language (similes, metaphors, personification, etc.)
- Words you don't know
- Where you have questions
- Interesting information
- Introduction, Climax, Resolution
- Foreshadowing
- Anything that stands out!