

## **2019 Summer Reading Choices for Rising 8<sup>th</sup> Graders**

Summer reading is mandatory for rising middle schoolers. Choose one of the options below to read this summer. Then, follow the instructions on Tic-Tac-Toe paper to complete your summer reading assignments. Complete your work and turn it in to your Language Arts teacher (WITH the Tic-Tac-Toe paper) no later than:

**Monday, September 16, 2019**

### ***The Pearl* by John Steinbeck Accelerated Reader Level 7.1**

Like his father and grandfather before him, Kino is a poor diver, gathering pearls from the gulf beds that once brought great wealth to the Kings of Spain and now provide Kino, Juana, and their infant son with meager subsistence. Then, on a day like any other, Kino emerges from the sea with a pearl as large as a sea gull's egg, as "perfect as the moon." With the pearl comes hope, the promise of comfort and of security.

A story of classic simplicity, based on a Mexican folk tale, *The Pearl* explores the secrets of man's nature, the darkest depths of evil, and the luminous possibilities of love.

### ***Chasing Lincoln's Killer* by James L. Swanson Accelerated Reader Level 7.5**

New York Times bestselling author James Swanson delivers a riveting account of the chase for Abraham Lincoln's assassin. Based on rare archival material, obscure trial manuscripts, and interviews with relatives of the conspirators and the manhunters, *Chasing Lincoln's Killer* is a fast-paced thriller about the pursuit and capture of John Wilkes Booth: a wild twelve-day chase through the streets of Washington, D.C., across the swamps of Maryland, and into the forests of Virginia.



## **Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge for Grades 6, 7, and 8**

**In addition to the required summer reading, middle schoolers have an opportunity to participate in the Scholastic Read-A-Palooza Summer Reading Challenge. It's easy, fun, and rewarding. Students can log their reading minutes between May 6 and September 6 to help us try to earn "Best In State" for reading minutes.**

**Each student has an accounts set up for the program. Go to [digital.scholastic.com](http://digital.scholastic.com) and enter the username and password to gain access to the minute tracker, videos, book excerpts, printable book lists and reading logs, and badges.**

**This year, the Summer Reading Give Back is a great new feature that meshes perfectly with Archbishop Neale School's dedication to serving others. As kids reach designated minute milestones in the Summer Reading Challenge, they unlock book donations from Scholastic and United Way to kids with limited or no access to books. Once all participants' minutes combine to reach three different minute milestones, they get 200,000 books into the hands of kids in needs. We've already hit the 25 million minutes milestone. At 50 million minutes and 100 million minutes, more books will be donated. And our kids can help make that happen!**

**There's a potential reward for each student (in addition to the knowledge and skill gained by doing the summer reading). Everyone who earns at least nine of the Summer Reading Challenge badges can print of his/her badge sheet and bring it to school the week of September 9 to be rewarded with a Chick-fil-a Be Our Guest card!**

**If your child would like to participate but has misplaced his/her login information, please contact Mrs. Renner at [trenner@archbishopnealeschool.org](mailto:trenner@archbishopnealeschool.org) to request the information.**

## Summer 2019 Reading Assignments

All Junior High Students are required to read **one** of the books listed below and the instructions on the Tic-Tac-Toe board on the back of this sheet *for that book*. Turn in both your work **and** the Tic-Tac-Toe sheet.

**Summer Reading Work is due by Monday, September 16, 2019.**

For Students entering 6th Grade:

- **Holes** by Louis Sachar
- **The Wednesday Wars** by Gary Schmidt

For students entering 7<sup>th</sup> Grade:

- **Hatchet** by Gary Paulsen
- **Rules** by Cynthia Lord

For students entering 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:

- **The Pearl** by John Steinbeck
- **Chasing Lincoln's Killer** by James Swanson

In addition to this **required assignment**, students are encouraged to continue reading throughout their summer vacation. Please remember to log your reading time in the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Book: \_\_\_\_\_

## Tic Tac Toe

*Mark the boxes you complete. They should form a tic-tac-toe across, down or diagonally.*

**Turn in this paper with your work.**

<input type="checkbox"/> Setting  Choose a passage from the novel that helped you imagine a setting. Copy the passage (should be no more than 1-2 paragraphs). Use colored pencils to underline the most descriptive words.	<input type="checkbox"/> Vocabulary  Are there any words in the novel that you have a difficult time understanding? List at least 5 words. Use a dictionary to define these words (correct usage). Then, write a sentence for each word which uses it correctly and includes context clues.	<input type="checkbox"/> Different Ending  What events might have changed the story's ending? Change at least one key event to write an alternative ending to the story.
<input type="checkbox"/> New in Class  Think about one of the characters in your novel who may have a difficult time making friends. Imagine that this character is a new student in our class. Write about what you might do to help this person feel comfortable.	<input type="checkbox"/> Acrostic Poem  Make an acrostic poem out of the title of your novel. Use the letters to give a summary of the reading to complete the poem.	<input type="checkbox"/> Test  Create a 5 to 10 question comprehension test for your novel. Include an answer key on a separate piece of paper.
<input type="checkbox"/> Character Poster  Create a poster to show a main character in your novel. On the poster, place the character in his or her setting, and surround the character with elements from the story. The poster should be no larger than 8 ½ x 11" (regular computer paper is fine!)	<input type="checkbox"/> Conflicts  A main character in your novel struggles with something that they may not be able to change. Write about a struggle you or someone close to you has or has had and explain how they would deal with it.	<input type="checkbox"/> In the future?  Do you think that this story could take place one hundred years from now? Why or why not? Explain your reasons in 1-2 full paragraphs.