

Summer Reading Program for Grade 7

- Students entering grade 7 will read two books during the summer: *The Cay* and one book of their choice.
- All students will read *The Cay* by Theodore Taylor. The following pages include the activities to be completed by all students before, during, and after the book has been read. All directions need to be followed exactly as they are given. These activities will be used to complete other assignments related to *The Cay* during the first weeks of seventh grade.
- Students will choose another book from the book list found on the last page of this packet. A book report using the following guidelines will be written for the book read.

Paragraph 1: Tell about the main characters and setting of the story, using five to seven well-organized sentences. Describe the main characters. Describe the setting of the story, when and where it takes place. Include the title and author in this part.

Paragraph 2: Describe the action or plot of the story using five to seven well-organized sentences. Be sure to include how the story begins, where it reaches its most intense action, and how the story ends.

Paragraph 3: Tell how you feel about the story in a well-organized paragraph of five to seven sentences. Was it realistic? Would you recommend it to your classmates or to other friends? Why or why not?

The book report needs to be typed in Arial or Times New Roman, double-spaced, 12 point.

All work is due on the first day of school in August. Grading will be based on how thorough the assignments have been completed as well as how the directions for the activities have been followed.

Before reading *The Cay*, answer the following questions:

These questions require complete sentence responses.

1.) What is a cay?

2.) If you were stranded on a deserted island with just one other person, how would you handle food, shelter, clothing, recreation, and signaling for help?

3.) How would you overcome fear if you were left alone and had no electronic devices to use for communication?

For the following, mark each statement with A for agree and D for disagree.

- 1.) _____ Feeling sorry for yourself doesn't help anything.
- 2.) _____ Sometimes life is so hard it would be better not to go on living.
- 3.) _____ To keep on top of things, stay positive.
- 4.) _____ When there is no one around, I feel lonely.
- 5.) _____ There are ways to handle fear.
- 6.) _____ I am afraid of different things as I grow older.

Mini-Research for Ideas Related to *The Cay*

For this activity you may type your information, or on headed loose leaf paper you may write your information. Three or four sentences should be written about each of the following:

- Curacao
- Use of submarines by Germans during World War II
- Three important events of 1942
- Hurricanes
- How cays were formed

Be sure to cite your source(s) for the information you found. Use the following formats for your bibliography:

Book - Author- last name, first name, Title, date published

Encyclopedia - Title, date published

Internet source - Address, date information was accessed

Vocabulary - to be done on loose leaf paper with a heading

Choose from the following words found in *The Cay*. Make a word map (see the sample) for ten words from this list. The number in parentheses is the page where the word is used.

schooner (12)

alabaster (32)

Langosta (60)

reeve (75)

rancid (80)

malaria (93)

flayed (116)

muted (125)

ballast (22)

aimlessly (41)

fronds (67)

catchment (77)

conniving (86)

crevice (98)

groped (119)

flailing (130)

priority (141)

haunches (31)

harass (50)

scorpions (69)

pompano (80)

voodoo (85)

slithering (112)

legacy (122)

gingerly (130)

Antonym

Synonym

Word

Definition

Use in a sentence

After reading *The Cay* answer these questions in complete sentences:

1.) What is the general setting of this book? (Remember setting indicates when and where).

2.) Give at least four adjectives for each character listed. Then tell what evidence from the book let you know why you listed those adjectives.

	Adjectives	Book Evidence
Phillip	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Timothy	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Phillip's father	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Phillip's mother	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

3.) What is prejudice? Give a synonym and an antonym for the word prejudice. What does it have to do with this book?

4.) What was the author's message when he wrote this book? What is the most important thing to remember about this story?

Complete the graph on how Phillip handles fear for each chapter in the story. Place a colored mark on the line for each chapter where it makes sense to you.

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Not at all</u> <u>Afraid</u>	<u>Learning to</u> <u>be brave</u>	<u>Trying to</u> <u>be brave</u>	<u>Afraid</u>	<u>Terrified</u>
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Book List for Seventh Grade Summer Reading

Required: *The Cay* by Theodore Taylor

- *A Man Who Was Poe* by Avi is a mystery about a young boy who searches for his missing mother and sister. Will Edgar Allen Poe be able to help him?
- In *The View from the Cherry Tree* by Roberts Rob admits to having seen a murder, but no one believes him, except the murderer.
- The novel, *Holes*, by Louis Sachar, tells of the adventures of Stanley Yelnat, a regular kid who is charged with a crime he didn't commit. Find out about his family curse, his really bad luck, and his really good friend.
- *The Call of the Wild* by Jack London describes the adventures of Buck, a large dog, who is kidnapped in California and sent to the Yukon during the Gold Rush to become a sled dog.
- *A Single Shard* by Park is the story of tree-Ear, a ten-year-old Korean boy. In this tale of courage and devotion, a piece of broken pottery changes the life of this orphan and his master.
- In *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry, Annemarie Johansen and her friend Ellen Rosen live in Copenhagen, Denmark in 1943. Annemarie must find the strength to save Ellen's life as she hides from the Nazis.
- *My Brother Sam Is Dead* by Collier is historical fiction. Tim Meeker looks up to his brother Sam, a soldier in the rebellion against the British. Will he have to make a choice between his brother, a revolutionary, and his father, a British supporter?
- The fantasy *Ella Enchanted* by Levine finds Ella placed under a spell by a fairy at birth. She must go through life obeying each and every order. Can she survive under these conditions?
- *Redwall* by Brian Jacques is a powerful tale of fantasy, courage, and epic adventure.
- *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeline L'Engle is a science fiction book about a brother and sister who search for their father lost in the fifth dimension.
- In *Bearstone* by Hobbs fourteen-year-old Cloyd Atcitty is sent to Colorado to work on a ranch because of his misbehavior. Life-changing experiences and his love and respect for the bear cause this young man to come to terms with his heritage, himself, and his attitude towards his future.
- Spereare's *The Bronze Bow* takes place in the time of Jesus. Daniel, an outcast, is fighting against the Romans. After his grandmother's death, he must take care of his sister. Will the miracle worker be able to help him?