

**SUMMER READING LIST & PROJECT IDEAS**

Reading outside the classroom is an essential ingredient in your child's academic success. For this reason we have chosen to establish a summer reading program for the students of Faith Christian Academy. The summer reading program is designed to provide your child with opportunities to extend skills they have developed during the previous year's instruction. Reading is an essential life skill. It is imperative that students are able to increase their abilities in reading and comprehension rather than recovering skills lost over the summer months. Not all literature is good literature, and reading for reading's sake is not as advantageous as exposure to quality literature selected for its literary distinction. The summer reading list is intended to challenge your child to extend his or her abilities beyond what they would normally choose to read.

Middle school students will be reading with a purpose and using six novels to enhance their skills throughout the school year.

Rather than just reading a novel over the summer, the following project options below are listed for you (Parents/Families) to assign to your child. FCA will NOT require students to complete a project for a grade this summer, however, if your child chooses to complete a project, extra credit will be given.

**The following elements of a novel should be understood by its completion:**

- 1) Title
- 2) Author
- 3) Main character(s)
- 4) Setting when and where the story takes place
- 5) Brief summary
- 6) Your opinion of the book.

1. **Create a comic book** based on the novel. Create individual comic strips depicting major scenes. Include color drawings, speech bubbles, captions, and even onomatopoeic sound words to bring action to the comic (Kaboom! Bang! Eeek! Ping! Boo!). Be sure to design original front and back cover pages for your comic book. Please produce 10 + frames.
2. **Technology:** Create a Power Point presentation about the book. Include introduction, setting, character, plot, theme, and your final thoughts etc. in your presentation. Present the Power Point to the class. Please produce 10 + slides.
3. **Choices Paper:** Select parts from the story that were the funniest, saddest, happiest, most unbelievable, most frightening, etc. and write a 1+ page paper explaining and supporting your choices.

The following list includes a wide variety of books to appeal to the interests and reading levels of many students. Students may select books from this list, or they may read a comparable book that is approved by their parents.

**Parents:** While we have created a reading list full of interesting and well-written stories at appropriate reading levels, we recommend researching the individual books your son or daughter chooses. Sites such as [www.common sense media.org](http://www.common sense media.org) or [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) <https://www.pluggedin.com/book-reviews/> will help you to learn more about a book so that you may decide as a family on appropriateness of content.

**Suggested reading Selections:**

Adams, Richard. *Watership Down*

Bishop, Claire. *Twenty and Ten*

Crane, Stephen. *The Red Badge of Courage*

Lewis, C. S. *The Magician's Nephew*

Lewis, C. S. *The Last Battle*

Anna Sewell. *Black Beauty*

Woodson, Jacqueline. *Each Kindness*

Barrett, Tracy. *The 100-year-old secret.*(Mystery)

Fleming, Candace. *Amelia Lost*(*Bioqraphy*)

Freedman, Russell. *Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglas*

Sheila Burnford. *The Incredible Journey*

Rudyard Kipling. *The Jungle Books*

Sharon Robinson. *Promises to Keep*

Archer Wallace. *The Boys of Grit*

Will James. *Smoky the Cowhorse*

**Have a safe and enjoyable summer!**

Blessings,  
ELA Department