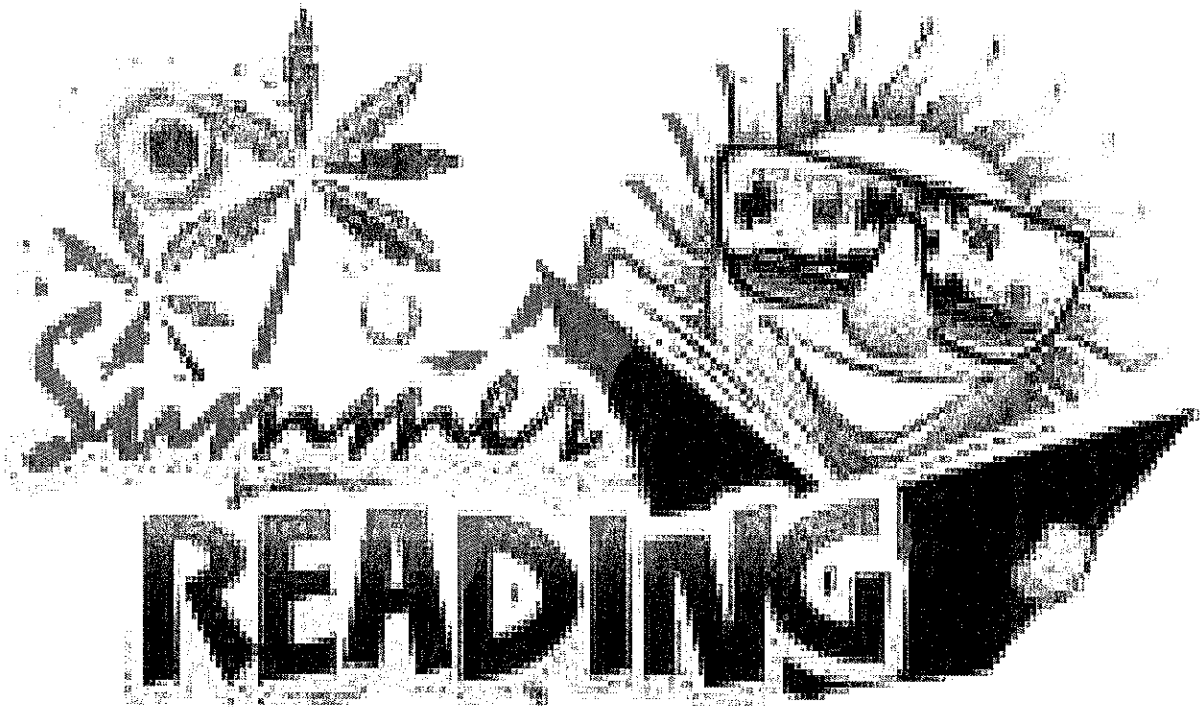


Englewood on the Palisades Charter School

7th Grade Reading List



Assignments are due on the first day of school in September. Your child has received instructions on what is expected of them.

Dear Entering 7th Graders and Families,

Entering 7th Grade Summer Reading Requirements:

- All 7th grade students are required to read *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton.
- Choose an additional book from the list.

Once you have read *The Outsiders* and an additional book of your choice, you must complete 2 of the following options to complete. On the first day of school, YOU MUST hand in 2 different assignments for both books. Choose two of the assignments listed below, one for each book.

Writing about a book can help you understand it better, and if we write about the books we read, we can share our experiences with other people. When you finish the books this summer, you can write about it in any of the following ways:

Option A: Write a book review. Do you recommend this book to other readers? Why or why not? (Check newspapers, in print or online, and magazines like *Time* for examples of book reviews.)

Option B: Do some creative writing. Your creative work can be anything that relates to the book: a song, a poem, a short story, a play, a film, or any combination of genres. You can re-write a scene from the perspective of another character. You could re-imagine the plot in a different setting. You could rewrite the ending. You could write a poem that deals with a theme or a character in the book. Whatever kind of text you write, include an explanation that links your creative work back to the book you read. Explain how your work is related to the author's work.

Option C: Write a letter to the author about the book. The content of the letter is up to you. You can talk about your favorite parts of the book. You can ask the author how he came up with the idea for the book or why she chose to develop the plot or characters or theme in a certain way. You can explain ways you think the book relates to your own life, or you can make connections between the book and the real world.

Option D: Select an interesting issue raised in the book. Write a brief explanation of how the issue was raised and why you find it interesting. Research the topic further, and write about your research, citing sources as needed.

Option E: Create a multi-media presentation about the book. This can be a PowerPoint presentation, a digital story, a series of film clips, or any other multi-media form, and it can document any of the ways the text connects with you, with other texts, or with the world around you.

Sincerely,

Seventh Grade Teachers

Required Reading:

Hinton, S.E. *The Outsiders*

According to Ponyboy, there are two kinds of people in the world: greasers and socs. A soc (short for "social") has money, can get away with just about anything, and has an attitude longer than a limousine. A greaser, on the other hand, always lives on the outside and needs to watch his back. Ponyboy is a greaser, and he's always been proud of it, even willing to rumble against a gang of socs for the sake of his fellow greasers—until one terrible night when his friend Johnny kills a soc. The murder gets under Ponyboy's skin, causing his bifurcated world to crumble and teaching him that pain feels the same whether a soc or a greaser.

Please see the list below for suggestions on appropriate grade level books for your child to choose from.

Fiction Options:

Alcott, Louisa May. *Little Women*

Little Women is the heartwarming story of the March family that has thrilled generations of readers. It is the story of four sisters—Jo, Meg, Amy and Beth—and of the courage, humor and ingenuity they display to survive poverty and the absence of their father during the Civil War.

Alexie, Sherman. *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven*

Contains a collection of twenty-four short stories by the National Book Award-winning author that chronicle the daily life on a Native American Indian Reservation in Spokane, Washington.

Babbit, Natalie. *Tuck Everlasting*

The Tuck family is confronted with an agonizing situation when they discover that a ten-year-old girl and a malicious stranger now share their secret about a spring whose water prevents one from ever growing any older.

Bradbury, Ray. *The Illustrated Man*

This is one of the classics from the golden age of sci-fi—sixteen tales of horror and terror in the tattoos on an "illustrated" man's body. Even though most were written in the 1940s and 1950s, these 18 classic stories will be just as chillingly effective 50 years from now.

Bradbury, Ray. *The Martian Chronicles*

In this science fiction classic, the first Earth people to attempt the colonization of Mars try to build their new world in the image of the civilization they left behind.

Boyne, John. *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*

Bored and lonely after his family moves from Berlin to a place called "Out-With" in 1942, Bruno, the son of a Nazi officer, befriends a boy in striped pajamas who lives behind a wire fence.

Cameron, Peter. *Someday This Pain Will be Useful to You*

James Sveck tells the reader about his life, including the reasons he became the "Missing Misfit" and is seeing a psychiatrist.

Dahl, Roald. *Skin and Other Stories*

"These bizarre, fascinating, and sophisticated short stories, selected from Dahl's body of adult writings, are...full of irony and unexpected twists, they smack of the master's touch—every word carefully chosen, characters fully fleshed out in only a few pages, the sense of place immediate."—Booklist

Danziger, Paula. *The Cat Ate My Gymsuit*

High school junior, Marcy Lewis, campaigns to get Ms. Finney, an English teacher and Marcy's mentor, reinstated after she is suspended.

Doctorow, Cory. *Little Brother*

Interrogated for days by the Department of Homeland Security in the aftermath of a major terrorist attack on San Francisco, California, seventeen-year-old Marcus is released into what is now a police state, and decides to use his expertise in computer hacking to set things right.

Doerr, Anthony. *All the Light We Cannot See*

A blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II.

Hesse, Karen. *Witness*

This contemporary classic is made up of a series of poems that express the views of various people in a small Vermont town, including a young black girl and a young Jewish girl, during the early 1920s when the Ku Klux Klan is trying to infiltrate the town.

Houston, Jeanne Wakatsuki. *Farewell to Manzanar*

Biography of Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston relating her experiences of living at the Manzanar internment camp during World War II and how it has influenced her life.

Kidd, Sue Monk. *The Secret Life of Bees*

Set in South Carolina during 1964, *The Secret Life of Bees* tells the story of a fourteen year old white girl, Lily Owens, whose life has been shaped around the blurred memory of the afternoon her mother was killed. When Lily's fierce-hearted "stand-in mother," Rosaleen, insults three racists in town, they escape to Tiburon, South Carolina—a town that holds the secret to her mother's past. Taken in by an eccentric trio of black beekeeping sisters, Lily finds refuge in their mesmerizing

world of bees, honey, and the Black Madonna.

L'Engle, Madeleine. *A Wrinkle in Time*

Three extraterrestrial beings take Meg and her friends to another world.

Martel, Yann. *Life of Pi*

Pi Patel, having spent an idyllic childhood in Pondicherry, India, as the son of a zookeeper, sets off with his family at the age of sixteen to start anew in Canada, but his life takes a marvelous turn when their ship sinks in the Pacific, leaving him adrift on a raft with a 450-pound Bengal tiger for company.

Meminger, Neesha. *Shine, Coconut Moon*

Sixteen-year-old Samar—aka Sam—is an Indian American teenager whose mom has kept her away from her old-fashioned family. It's never bothered Sam, who is busy with school, friends, and a demanding boyfriend. But things change after 9/11. A guy in a turban shows up at Sam's house—and turns out to be her uncle. He wants to reconcile the family and teach Sam about her Sikh heritage. She is eager to learn, but when boys attack her uncle, shouting "Go home Osama!" Sam realizes she could be in danger—and just how dangerous ignorance is.

Potok, Chaim. *The Chosen*

Recounts the story of Reuven Malter and Danny Saunders—one an orthodox Jew, the other the son of a Hasidic rabbi—and the course of their friendship as they grow up in Brooklyn.

Smith, Betty. *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*

Francie Nolan, avid reader, penny-candy connoisseur, and adroit observer of human nature, has much to ponder in colorful, turn-of-the-century Brooklyn. Betty Smith's poignant, honest novel created a big stir when it was first published over 50 years ago. Her frank writing about life's squalor was alarming to some of the more genteel society, but the book's humor and pathos ensured its place in the realm of classics.

Steinbeck, John. *The Pearl*

Terrible events follow the discovery of a magnificent pearl by a poor Mexican fisherman in this classic tale of destiny and fate.

Stevenson, Robert Lewis. *Treasure Island*

Climb aboard for the swashbuckling adventure of a lifetime. *Treasure Island* has

enthralled (and caused slight seasickness) for decades. With its dastardly plot and motley crew of rogues and villains (including the famous Long John Silver) it seems unlikely that anyone who ever reads this exciting classic will ever forget it (just ask Phil)!

Taylor, Mildred D. *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*

An African-American family living in Mississippi during the Depression of the 1930s is faced with prejudice and discrimination which its children do not understand. A powerful contemporary classic.

Nonfiction Options:

Angelou, Maya. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*

In this first of five volumes of autobiography, poet Maya Angelou recounts a youth filled with disappointment, frustration, tragedy, and finally hard-won independence. Marvelously told, with Angelou's "gift for language and observation," this "remarkable autobiography by an equally remarkable black woman from Arkansas captures, indelibly, a world of which most Americans are shamefully ignorant."

Bridges, Ruby. *Through My Eyes*

Ruby Bridges tells the moving story of her year in first grade at the all-white William Frantz Public School in New Orleans in 1960.

Campbell Bartoletti, Susan. *Terrible Typhoid Mary: A True Story of the Deadliest Cook in America*

This book peels back the myths and legend that surround this well known, but little known about, character who shaped much of American lore. The story told gives great insight not only into the time period at the turn of the 20th century, but also how Americans viewed science at the time, the idea of germs and how then, as in now, the rights of person versus society's good are hard to determine.

Choi, Sook Nyul. *Echoes of the White Giraffe*

This is a story of a Korean family's hardships after the bombing of Seoul.

Coerr, Eleanor. *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*

This book tells the story of Sadako Sasaki, who was two when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan. As a result of radiation from the bomb, Sadako

developed leukemia.

Eastway, Rob; Jeremy Wyndham; and Tim Rice. *Why Do Buses Come in Threes?: The Hidden Mathematics in Everyday Life*

Why can't I find a four-leaf clover? How can I win without cheating? How many people watch Friends? This intriguing book explains how math and the laws of probability are at work in our lives.

Jian, Ji-Li. *Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution*

Ji-Li tells the story of her hardships and survival during China's Cultural Revolution.

Kehret, Peg. *Small Steps*

Peg Kehret, author of the Nightmare series, tells the story of her struggles to survive a severe case of polio at the age of twelve. She uses humor in describing her emotional and physical battles against the dreaded disease.

McCourt, Frank. *Angela's Ashes*

The author chronicles his impoverished childhood in Limerick, Ireland in the 1930s and 1940s, describing his father's alcoholism and talent for storytelling; the challenges and tragedies his mother faced, including the loss of three children; and his early experiences in the Catholic church, and balances painful memories with humor.

Murphy, Jim. *The Giant: And How He Humbugged America*

One day in 1869, workers digging a well discovered what appeared to be a stone or petrified man leading people to believe it as proof that giants once roamed the earth. Could it be that the legendary giants of the native Onondaga tribe were real? Or was it one of the most successful hoaxes played on Americans in the 1800s. This book looks at a little known, but largely impactful hoax that was imagined and perpetuated by a man named George Hull, along with many accomplices. This Cardiff Giant, as it was later named, captivated the minds of Americans for several months before the truth finally came out.

Noyes, Deborah. *Ten Days as a Madwoman*

A biography chronicling Nellie Bly's experience working to become a reporter. To impress an editor and get a job, she was locked up in an insane asylum for one week. This book is a great look into one of the United States first truly investigative reporters and how she could write about the stories she wanted. However, things didn't always work out for Nellie as she would have liked, and the road she picked

wasn't an easy one.

Woodson, Jacqueline. *Brown Girl Dreaming*

Brown Girl Dreaming is a novel in verse biography of Woodson's early years and how she tried to resolve her love of the South, with some of the harsh realities of her younger years. She also moved to NYC when she was still fairly young, and the differences between the two climates and cultures made her feel split often..

(Some of these annotations are an amalgamation of the Library of Congress's Cataloging in Publication notes.)

Rubric: Seventh Grade Summer Reading Assignment

4 (90-100)	3 (79-89)	2 (68-78)	1 (<67)
<p>Content: Student completes all elements of the task including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A thoughtful summary which discusses the central idea of the text • A thoughtful discussion of the importance of a character or event • A great deal of thought into choosing meaningful text-based evidence and quote • Appropriate opening and closing paragraphs 	<p>Content: Student is missing one of the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A thoughtful summary which discusses the central idea of the text • A thoughtful discussion of the importance of a character or event • A great deal of thought into choosing meaningful text-based evidence and quote • Appropriate opening and closing paragraphs 	<p>Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student is missing two of the following elements: • A thoughtful summary which discusses the central idea of the text • A thoughtful discussion of the importance of a character or event • A great deal of thought into choosing meaningful text-based evidence and quote • Appropriate opening and closing paragraphs 	<p>Content: Student is missing three or more of the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A thoughtful summary which discusses the central idea of the text • A thoughtful discussion of the importance of a character or event • A great deal of thought into choosing meaningful text-based evidence and quote • Appropriate opening and closing paragraphs
<p>Writing Craft: Student consistently includes all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete sentences • Correct verb tense • Sophisticated and appropriate vocabulary • Correct paragraph formation 	<p>Writing Craft: Student is missing one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete sentences • Correct verb tense • Sophisticated and appropriate vocabulary • Correct paragraph formation 	<p>Writing Craft: Student is missing two of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete sentences • Correct verb tense • Sophisticated and appropriate vocabulary • Correct paragraph formation 	<p>Writing Craft: Student is missing three or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete sentences • Correct verb tense • Sophisticated and appropriate vocabulary • Correct paragraph formation
<p>Conventions of Language: Student consistently uses all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A formal writing style • Standard English grammar • Correct punctuation • Standard spelling 	<p>Conventions of Language: Student is missing one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A formal writing style • Standard English grammar • Correct punctuation • Standard spelling 	<p>Conventions of Language: Student is missing two of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A formal writing style • Standard English grammar • Correct punctuation • Standard spelling 	<p>Conventions of Language: Student is missing three or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A formal writing style • Standard English grammar • Correct punctuation • Standard spelling



HAPPY CAMPER

Take a Reading Adventure

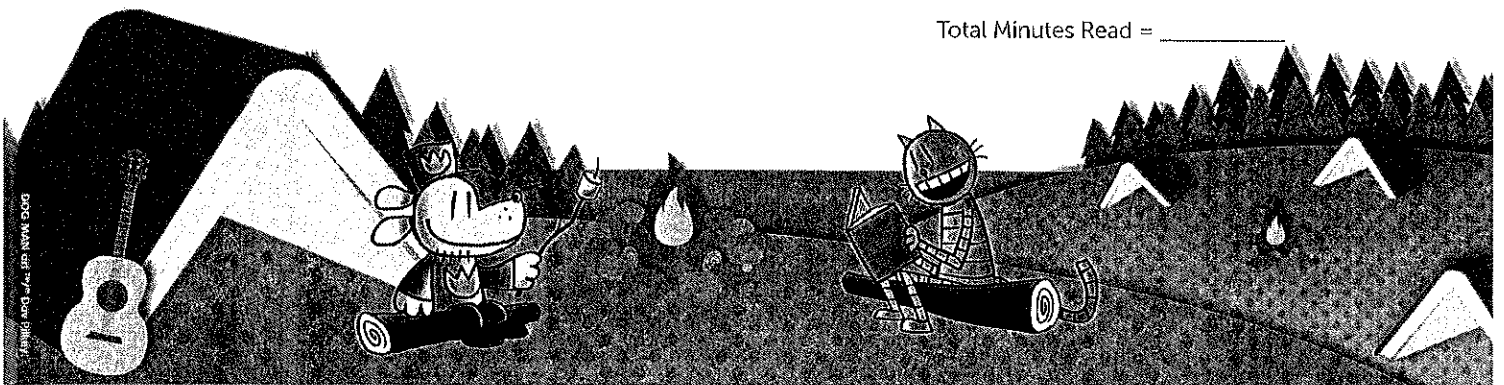
READING LOG: Log your minutes at scholastic.com/summer

Name _____ Grade/Class _____

Use this reading log to record your minutes read. To make sure your minutes get counted in the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge, please log them online at www.scholastic.com/summer.

Book Title	Minutes Read	Total
Week 1 _____	_____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____	_____
Week 2 _____	_____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____	_____
Week 3 _____	_____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____	_____
Week 4 _____	_____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____	_____
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Week 6 _____	_____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____	_____
Week 7 _____	_____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____	_____
Week 8 _____	_____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____	_____
Week 9 _____	_____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____	_____
Week 10 _____	_____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____	_____
Week 11 _____	_____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____	_____
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Week 14 _____	_____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____	_____
Week 15 _____	_____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____	_____
Week 16 _____	_____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____	_____
Week 17 _____	_____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____	_____
Week 18 _____	_____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____	_____

Total Minutes Read = _____



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Take a Reading Adventure

READING LOG: Log your minutes at scholastic.com/summer

Name _____ Grade/Class _____

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Week 1 _____	____ + ____ + ____ + ____ = _____	
Week 2 _____	____ + ____ + ____ + ____ = _____	
Week 3 _____	____ + ____ + ____ + ____ = _____	
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Week 5 _____	____ + ____ + ____ + ____ = _____	
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Week 18 _____	____ + ____ + ____ + ____ = _____	

Total Minutes Read = _____

