

## SKY Academy Venice Summer Reading Assignments

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading Assignment: Choose one of the Activities: map, diorama, build a quiz etc.**

1. Choose a grade level or above book to read of your choice.
2. Choose 1 of the activities on the reading project form.
3. Review the rubric for grading.
4. Have the summer assignment completed and brought in to Language Arts class the first day of school.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading assignment: Book Share Project**

1. Choose a grade level book or above of your choice.
2. Follow steps for building your essay paragraph by paragraph
3. Have the summer assignment completed and brought to Language Arts class the first day of school.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading Assignment: Literary Analysis**

1. Choose a grade level book or above of your choice.
2. Follow and complete the Literature Analysis Packet.
3. Have the summer assignment completed and brought to Language Arts class the first day of school.

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### 2017 Entering Sixth Grade Suggested Summer Reading List

All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook RL 4.2 Fic Raised inside a minimum security facility by his loving, incarcerated mom and extended prison family, eleven-year-old Perry is content--until the DA decides that his situation constitutes a crime. Equal parts mystery, prison narrative, and courtroom drama, this strikingly original story follows Perry's quest for family and forgiveness through the labyrinth of the law's gray areas.

Awkward by S. Chimakova RL 2.8 Fic Penelope "Peppi" Torres has two cardinal rules for surviving middle school--do not draw the attention of mean kids, and seek out friends with similar interests. She breaks the first one when she trips into nerdy Jaime Thompson, and the mean kids see it.

Beneath by R. Smith RL 4.5 Fic Patrick follows his daring older brother Coop into an underground (literally) conspiracy involving secret subterranean communities, decades-old radical plots, unsolved murders, and a mysterious girl in sunglasses. (May Contain Mature Themes)

A Blind Guide to Stinkville by B. Vrabel FL 4.5 Fic Leaving her best friend and the familiarity of Seattle for the paper mill town of "Stinkville," South Carolina, twelve-year-old Alice, who lives with albinism and blindness, takes on the additional challenge of entering the Stinkville Success Stories essay contest.

Book Scavenger J. Chambliss Bertman RL 5.5 Fic Garrison Griswold, mastermind of the hidden-book game Book Scavenger, is mugged; his new edition of an Edgar Allan Poe story is missing. Twelve-year-old Emily and fellow code-enthusiast James find the book and discover typos in the text that spell out words. Codes and ciphers star in this puzzle-game of a novel.

Echo by P. Munoz Ryan RL 5.3 Fic When Otto meets three ethereal sisters, he has no idea that the harmonica they enchant will one day save a life. Decades later, the very same harmonica makes its way to America, and in three sections, Ryan tells the stories of kids whose lives are changed by its music.

Falling Over Sideways by J. Sonnenblick RL 5.4 Fic When Claire's father suffers a debilitating stroke at breakfast one morning, her life goes from feeling like a comedy where everyone is laughing at her, to a tragedy where everyone is feeling sorry for her. (May Contain Mature Themes)

The Firefly Code by M. Blakemore RL 5.3 Fic Mori and her friends live a normal life on Firefly Lane in Old Harmonie, a utopian community where every kid knows he or she is genetically engineered to be better and smarter, but when a strangely perfect new girl named Ilana moves in, the friends begin to question the only world they have ever known.

Ghost by J. Reynolds RL 5.4 Fic At school, Castle "Ghost" Crenshaw is taunted about where he lives and what he wears. He also has an anger management problem, but the kid can run, really run. Supported by a loving mother and a tough but caring track-and-field coach, Ghost learns a few lessons about life and teamwork while reminding readers of the potential in everyone.

It Ain't So Awful, Falafle by F. Dumas RL 4.9 Fic Recently moved from Compton to Newport Beach, Zomorod Yousefzadeh has started calling herself Cindy to fit in. But late-1970s world politics keep her ever aware that she's Iranian.

Lily and Dunkin by D. Gephart RL 4.3 Fic "I guess everyone has secrets," 13-year-old Tim muses, and his secret is known only to his family and his best friend, Dare. Born a boy, Tim knows he is really a girl named Lily. And then there is her new friend Norbert, whom she has nicknamed Dunkin (acknowledging his passion for Dunkin Donuts). Dunkin has a secret, too: he is bipolar. (May Contain Mature Themes)

The Nest by K. Oppel RL 4.0 Fic Steven's parents just had a baby, Theo, but there's something wrong with him. Steven starts to dream of an angelic wasp who promises to fix whatever's wrong with the baby. At first, Steven is comforted by the wasp's soft assurances. But the wasp's plans grow more and more sinister, until they turn shockingly ugly.

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When Friendship Followed Me Home by P. Griffin RL 4.1 Fic Twelve-year-old Ben, a science fiction fan with low self-esteem after years of foster care, meets a stray dog outside the Coney Island Public Library. Flip, with his big eyes and propensity to lick everyone's mouth, in turn helps Ben get to know a girl who is fighting cancer, and her family. When Ben's life gets turned upside down again, Flip remains.

Drowned City: Hurricane Katrina and New Orleans by D. Brown RL 5.6 N Fic Author and illustrator Brown traces the impact and effects of Hurricane Katrina on New Orleans from August of 2005 up through 2012, by which time "only 80 percent of New Orleans' residents had returned." (YA, Mature Themes)

I will Always Write Back Alifirenka, & M. Ganda N Fic Seventh grader Caitlin selects a pen pal from Zimbabwe, the most exotic place she has heard of. Caitlin and Martin correspond for six years, building a friendship and trust that widens Caitlin's world view and allows Martin to be honest about his incredible challenges. (May Contain Mature Themes)

Orbiting Jupiter by G. Schmidt FL 4.4 Fic When Jackson Hurd, a foster son with a loving family of farmers in Maine, gets a new foster brother in 14-year-old Joseph Brook, he never could have imagined a boy more broken. Joseph became a father at 13. He has never seen his daughter, Jupiter—before she was born he was placed in juvie, where he faced a year of abuse and bullying. (May Contain Mature Themes)

Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom by L. Blackmon Lowery RL 5.1 N Fic By the time she turned 15 during a voting rights march in Alabama, Linda Blackmon Lowery had already been jailed nine times for demonstrating on behalf of African American rights.

### **Fiction:**

Secret Keepers by T. Stewart RL 5.6 Fic A magical watch .A string of secrets. A race against time

When Reuben discovers an extraordinary antique watch, he soon learns it has a secret power and his life takes an intriguing turn.

Raymie Nightingale by K. DiCamillo RL 4.2 Fic Raymie Clarke has a plan. Her father has run off with a dental hygienist without a word, but Raymie is certain that if she wins the Little Miss Central Florida Tire competition, her father will see her picture in the newspaper and return.

### **Graphic Novel:**

Newsprints by R. Xu Fic Blue is an orphan who disguises herself as a newsboy. There's a war going on, and girls are expected to help the struggling economy by selling cookies. But Blue loves living and working at the Bugle, the only paper in town that tells the truth. And what's printed in the newspapers now matters more than ever.

### **Nonfiction Book:**

Sachiko: A Nagasaki Bomb Survivor's Story by C. Stelson RL 5.7 N Fic This book tells the true story of six-year-old Sachiko Yasui's survival of the Nagasaki atomic bomb on August 9, 1945 and the heartbreaking and lifelong aftermath. Having conducted extensive interviews with Sachiko Yasui, Caren Stelson shares the true story of a young girl who survived the atomic bomb and chronicles her long journey to find peace.

### **Challenge Books—For students looking for a more difficult book:**

Anne of Green Gables by L. Montgomery RL 6.9 Fic Anne, an eleven-year-old orphan, is sent by mistake to live with a lonely, middle-aged brother and sister on a Prince Edward Island farm and proceeds to make an indelible impression on everyone around her.

The Prince and the Pauper by M. Twain RL 7.2 Fic When young Edward VI of England and a poor boy who resembles him exchange places, each learns something about the other's very different station in life.

Terrible Typhoid Mary: A True Story of the Deadliest Cook in America by S. Bartoletti RL 6.8 N Fic Mary Mallon cooked for wealthy families in turn-of-the-20th-century New York City until she became the first documented "healthy carrier" of typhoid in the U.S. and was imprisoned in hospitals for most of her remaining life.

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Beneath by R. Smith RL 4.5 Fic Patrick follows his daring older brother Coop into an underground (literally) conspiracy involving secret subterranean communities, decades-old radical plots, unsolved murders, and a mysterious girl in sunglasses. (May Contain Mature Themes)

A Blind Guide to Stinkville by B. Vrabel FL 4.5 Fic Leaving her best friend and the familiarity of Seattle for the paper mill town of "Stinkville," South Carolina, twelve-year-old Alice, who lives with albinism and blindness, takes on the additional challenge of entering the Stinkville Success Stories essay contest.

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Echo by P. Munoz Ryan RL 5.3 Fic When Otto meets three ethereal sisters, he has no idea that the harmonica they enchant will one day save a life. Decades later, the very same harmonica makes its way to America, and in three sections, Ryan tells the stories of kids whose lives are changed by its music.

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The Nest by K. Opper RL 4.0 Fic Steven's parents just had a baby, Theo, but there's something wrong with him. Steven starts to dream of an angelic wasp who promises to fix whatever's wrong with the baby. At first, Steven is comforted by the wasp's soft assurances. But the wasp's plans grow more and more sinister, until they turn shockingly ugly.

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### **Fiction:**

The Inquisitor's Tale by A. Gidwitz RL 4.5 Fic In thirteenth-century France, peasant Jeanne has visions of the future; William, illegitimate son of a crusader knight and an African "Saracen," has supernatural strength; Jacob, a learned Jewish boy, has healing powers. Together they try to thwart King Louis's plan to burn all the Jewish texts in France.

### **Graphic Novel:**

Princess Decomposia and Count Spatula by A. Watson RL 3.0 Fic This graphic novel follows the adventures of Princess Decomposia, the overworked princess of the underworld who has to take on her lazy father's extra duties, as she starts to fall in love with dapper count Spatula, the vampire she hires as a castle chef.

**Nonfiction Book:** (look on the K-12 eBook Database for other choices):

Samurai Rising: The Epic Life of Minamoto Yoshitsune by P. Turner RL 7.2 NFic This excellent biography of Japan's legendary samurai has great appeal as military history. Turner's action-packed accounts of Yoshitsune's daring and courageous feats in battle and his ensuing meteoric rise through the ranks of the samurai make for compelling reading. (YA, Mature Themes)

### **Challenge Books: For students looking for a more difficult book:**

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by M. Twain RL 8.1 Fic Presents the adventures of a mischievous young boy and his friends growing up in a Mississippi River town in the nineteenth century.

The Count of Monte Cristo by A. Dumas Fic After falsely imprisoned on his wedding day and enduring years of incarceration, Edmond Dantes escapes prison, discovers a vast hidden treasure, transforms into the mysterious and wealthy Count of Monte Cristo, and seeks vengeance on his enemies.

Comics Confidential: Thirteen Graphic Novelists Talk Story by L. Marcus RL 8.3 NFic Examines the lives and work of thirteen comic book artists and writers, discussing how each of them fell in love with comics and started working on their own. Each artist and writer contributes a graphic short on the theme of "the city," set wherever and whenever the artist wants.

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The Other Boy by M. Hennessey RL 4.4 Fic Shane, now in sixth grade, has been living with his mom in L.A., where he has good friends and a crush, is a star on the baseball team, and spends his free time working on his sci-fi graphic novel. However, Shane is dealing with issues in his private life that his schoolmates know Shane was assigned female at birth, and his dad still acts like Shane is just going through a phase, and refuses to accept Shane's gender identity. (May Contain Mature Themes)

The Scourge by J. Nielsen RL 5.3 Fic Under orders from Governor Felling, wardens enter the River People's country to extract five grubs, a derogatory name given to its citizens. But the grub, Ani Mells, turns out to be a handful. When Ani is tested for the Scourge, a disease plaguing the people of Keldan, she gets quarantined on Attic Island with the other Colonists who test positive for the disease. The problem is, patients enter the island but never leave.

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### **Nonfiction Books:**

First Flight Around the World: The Adventures of American Pilots Who Won the Race by T. Grove RL 7.7

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NFic Author Grove follows the U.S. team, eight pilots and mechanics in four planes, around the world beginning and ending in Seattle, tracking close-calls, diplomatic incidents, and moments of beauty in the air. “The result is a nonstop true action/adventure tale” (BCCB).

Ida M. Tarbell: The Woman Who Challenged Big Business and Won by E. McCully RL 8.6 NFic Born in 1857 and raised in oil country, Ida M. Tarbell was one of the first investigative journalists and probably the most influential in her time. Her series of articles on the Standard Oil Trust, a complicated business empire run by John D. Rockefeller, revealed to readers the underhanded, even illegal practices that had led to Rockefeller's success. (YA, Mature Themes)

### **Graphic Novels:**

Maus 1: A Survivor's Tale by A. Spiegleman RL 3.0 NFic A story of a Jewish survivor of Hitler's Europe and his son, a cartoonist who tries to come to terms with his father's story and history itself. ( YA, Mature Themes).

Junior Braves of the Apocalypse: 1 A Brave is a Brave by M. Tanner Fic The Junior Braves of Tribe 65 were glad to be returning home to video games and smartphones after a week-long camping trip where they worked on merit badges. However, a mutant apocalypse has struck and their neighbors are now zombies. (YA, Mature Themes)

### **Fiction Book:**

Wolf Hollow by L. Wolf RL 4.9 Fic In 1940s Pennsylvania, vagabond WWI vet Toby is falsely accused of attacks carried out by new-girl Betty. As the crimes become more serious, tension builds.

### **Challenge Books For students looking for a more difficult book:**

20,000 Leagues Under the Sea by J. Verne RL 8.9 Fic Jules Verne's classic nineteenth-century science-fiction tale about a French professor and his companions who are trapped aboard a futuristic submarine with a mad sea captain and come face to face with exotic ocean creatures and strange sights hidden from the world above.

Pride and Prejudice by J. Austen Fic In early nineteenth-century England, a spirited young woman copes with the courtship of a snobbish gentleman as well as the romantic entanglements of her four sisters.

Vietnam: A History of the War by Russell Freedman RL 8.8 NFic Author Freedman offers a short, succinct account of the 20-year conflict, describing how America, a superpower caught up in Cold War politics, became involved in a conflict 8,000 miles away.



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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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