



8th Grade Summer Reading Assignment

All incoming 8th grade students should come to the first day of school having read the selected summer reading text. Summer is a great opportunity for students to leisurely read a story (or many stories!).

Educators and parents alike have long lamented how much students forget over summer break. Studies show that prolonged detachment from academic endeavors sets a young mind back significantly. Unfortunately, teachers must spend a considerable amount of time at the beginning of each year getting rid of the academic rust students accumulate over the summer.

A summer assignment attempts to remedy this situation. Not only does a summer assignment keep students thinking during their time away from the classroom, but it also provides their classes a springboard for the beginning of the year. Additionally, summer assignments give students a chance to engage in independent thinking and learning, which is an incredibly valuable opportunity.

8th grade students will read and annotate the following text:

- *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, Robert Louis Stevenson
 - ISBN 978-0486266886

What are annotations?

1. Notes made in the margins of a text or other resource with a purpose of “having a conversation with the text”.
2. Underlining important passages, including descriptions of characters, important moments, and powerful phrases/sentences.
3. Circling and defining unfamiliar words.
4. Short summaries after chapters or sections.