

## Grade 7 & 8 Summer Assignment

**Three (3) book reports are due the first day of school. Please pick a book from the list below and follow the attached book report guide. Direct any questions to Mr. Snavelly ([asnavelly@fcsnyc.org](mailto:asnavelly@fcsnyc.org)).**

### Report #1: Biblical Narrative (and #of chapters)

- Genesis (50)
- Exodus (40)
- Joshua (24)
- Judges/Ruth (25)
- 1-2 Samuel (55)
- 1-2 Kings (47)
- Ezra/Nehemiah/Esther (33)
- Matthew (28)
- Mark (16)
- Luke (24)
- John (21)
- Acts (28)
- Revelation (22)

### Biography (with explanation)

- Anne Frank Remembered (Gies)
- Joni (Eareckson Tada)
- Through Gates of Splendor (Elliot)
- Kon-Tiki (Heyerdahl)
- The Story of My Life (Keller)
- If I Perish (Esther Ahn Kim)
- Never Give In (Winston Churchill; author Mansfield)
- Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus (Qureshi)
- Rachel Smiles (Columbine martyr; Scott)
- God's Smuggler (Brother Andrew; author Sherrill)
- The Hiding Place (Corrie ten Boom)
- Up From Slavery (Booker T. Washington)

### Nonfiction

- Mere Orthodoxy (Chesterton)
- This Changes Everything (Crowe)
- Amusing Ourselves to Death (Postman)
- Hiroshima (Hersey)
- Oogy (Levin)
- Screwtape Letters (Lewis)
- Know Why You Believe (Little)
- A Practical Guide to Culture (Stonestreet)

### Fiction/Fantasy/Mystery

- Safely Home (Alcorn)
- Jane Eyre (Bronte)
- Pilgrim's Progress (Bunyan)
- Through the Looking Glass (Carroll)
- Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (Carroll)
- Father Brown Mysteries (Chesterton)
- Murder on the Orient Express (Christie)
- Life with Father (Day)
- Robinson Crusoe (Defoe)
- Circle Trilogy (Set of 3; Dekker)
- Oliver Twist (Dickens)
- The Lost World (Conan Doyle)
- Adventures of Sherlock Holmes (Conan Doyle)
- The Three Musketeers (Dumas)
- The Count of Monte Cristo (Dumas)
- Dangerous Journey (Hamori)
- Chase Me, Catch Nobody (Haugaard)
- The House of Seven Gables (Hawthorne)
- I Am David (Holm)
- Rip Van Winkle (Irving)
- The Legend of the Sleepy Hollow (Irving)
- Captain Courageous (Kipling)
- Kim (Kipling)
- The Red House Mystery (Milne)
- Anne of Green Gables (Montgomery)
- Mutiny on the Bounty (Nordhoff)
- The Black Pearl (O'Dell)

### Fiction/Fantasy/Mystery (cont'd)

- Island of the Blue Dolphin (O'Dell)
- My Friend Flicka (O'Hara)
- Monster (Peretti)
- The Yearling (Rawlings)
- Where the Red Fern Grows (Rawls)
- The Silver Sword (Serraillier)
- Ivanhoe (Scott)
- The Bronze Bow (Speare)
- The Witch of Blackbird Pond (Speare)
- The Red Pony (Steinbeck)
- The Black Arrow (Stevenson)
- Kidnapped (Stevenson)
- Treasure Island (Stevenson)
- The Hobbit (Tolkien)
- The Fellowship of the Ring (Tolkien)
- The Two Towers (Tolkien)
- The Return of the King (Tolkien)
- A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court (Twain)
- The Prince and the Pauper (Twain)
- 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea (Verne)
- Mysterious Island (Verne)
- Around the World in Eighty Days (Verne)
- The Time Machine (H. G. Wells)
- The Sword in the Stone (T.H. Wells)
- The Once and Future King (T.H. Wells)
- The Bridge of San Luis Rey (Wilder)
- Swiss Family Robinson (Wyss)

**Note:**

- These guides are **for students entering 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade**. 6<sup>th</sup> graders will need to see the guides for their own reports.
- You will need to read **a total of 3 books with reports** this summer.
- At least **one book from the Bible** must be read (see suggestions on the reading list).
- If you want to read a book *not* on the list (even a Bible book), **please ask before reading**. I will not accept book reports unless the book (size, content, reading level) are approved ahead of time.
- You may use a **creative book report** for *one* of the three book reports.
- All reports are **due the first day of school**.
- Each report will need to include **a statement signed** by both student and parent/guardian affirming that you have *read/listened to* the entire book:

*(Student name)* \_\_\_\_\_ has read *(Book Title)* \_\_\_\_\_ entirely.  
This has taken about *(#)* \_\_\_\_\_ hours to complete.

Parent/guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Flushing Christian School Creative Book Report Requirements**

You may pick one of these options for a creative book report.

About the story:

1. **Add onto the end of the story.** Tell what happens next, how the conflict reappears, and how the characters respond. At least 40 handwritten lines.
2. **Find examples of foreshadowing.** Explain how you are given spoilers at the beginning of the story if you could only recognize them. At least 40 handwritten lines.
3. **Give a plot twist/alternate ending.** Describe how the story would have changed if a character made a different choice. Continue the story using the author's style. At least 40 handwritten lines.
4. **Develop a diorama of an important scene from the story.** Use clay, Legos, or 3D art to recreate a scene. Include and label at least ten specific details in the scene. Write a paragraph explanation with your scene.
5. **Illustrate at least five scenes from the story.** Draw each scene with at least five specific details and give a short description explaining why it is important to the story.

About the characters:

1. **Interview some of the characters.** Ask a series of questions and imagine how that characters would answer. Try to use their own way of speaking and favorite phrases. At least 40 handwritten lines.
2. **Keep a daily dairy** as one of the characters. Have them relive the most important parts of the story through their perspective. At least 40 handwritten lines.
3. **Compare a character with someone in real life.** How are they the same? How are they different? At least 40 handwritten lines.
4. **Write a letter to one of the characters.** Suggest how the story would have changed if he/she acted in a different way. Try to give helpful Biblical advice what they could do differently in the story. At least 40 handwritten lines.
5. **Record yourself acting like one of the characters.** Pick a scene to act out as one of the characters. Dress up as the person and imitate their body language, accent, and other features as you portray the scene.

**Flushing Christian School**  
**Biblical Narrative Book Report Guide (for a book of the Bible)**

Each report may be handwritten or typed (12 point font, double spaced).

Heading in the upper right-hand corner:  
*Student name, date, "Book Report," # of pages*

*The name of the book should be centered above the report.*

Follow these directions for the details of the report:

- Paragraph 1: **Survey the book.**
  - What is the book about?
  - How is the book divided? What stories are included?
- Paragraph 2: **Evaluate a character.**
  - Who in this book was a major character?
  - What part of this person's story was new or fresh to you?
  - Is this person a positive or negative example? How?
- Paragraph 3: **Consider God's character.**
  - What attributes of God stand out in this book?
  - What one verse or description of God best summarizes the book?
  - What part was most encouraging to you?
- Paragraph 4: **Give analysis and make applications**
  - How were you challenged or inspired by this book?
  - What changes can you make in your life based on what you've read?
- Write down **three key verses** that were discussed.

## Flushing Christian School Biography Book Report Requirements

Each report may be handwritten or typed on your computer. If a computer is used, please use 12 point font size and double space.

Book reports should have the proper heading in the upper right hand corner:

*Name, date, "Book Report," # of pages*  
*The title of the book should be centered above the report.*

Follow these directions for the details of the report:

- Title of the book needs to be *italicized* or underlined. Give the author's name.
- Paragraph 1: Describe the **main character**.
  - o What was his or her historical setting?
  - o How can you identify with him or her?
  - o What makes this person so unique?
- Paragraph 2: Explain the **challenges** that the character faced.
  - o What kind of challenges were these (financial, physical, spiritual, mental, etc.)?
  - o Who or what was the person's greatest opposition?
- Paragraph 3: Describe this person's **response** to his or her challenges.
  - o What *thoughts* did he or she have?
  - o What *actions* did he or she take to respond?
  - o What *feelings* did he or she have to overcome?
  - o Did God play a role in the response?
- Paragraph 4: Your **opinion and analysis** of the book.
  - o How was this person a *positive* example?
  - o How was he or she a *negative* example?
  - o Would you have made the choices this character did? Why or why not?
  - o Would he or she be considered a success?
- Write down **three new words** that you learned **with their definitions**.

## Flushing Christian School Nonfiction Book Report Guide

Each report may be handwritten or typed on your computer. If a computer is used, please use 12 point font size and double space.

Book reports should have the proper heading in the upper right hand corner:

*Name, date, "Book Report," # of pages*  
*The title of the book should be centered above the report.*

Follow these directions for the details of the report:

- Title of the book needs to be *italicized* or underlined. Give the author's name.
- Paragraph 1: **Describe the topic.**
  - What is the book about?
  - How is the book divided? What chapters are included?
- Paragraph 2: **Reflect on the topic.**
  - What makes this such an important topic?
  - What information was already familiar to you?
  - What information was new or surprising to you?
- Paragraph 3: **Analyze the book.**
  - Remember the three key components of the biblical worldview (Creation, Fall, Redemption).
  - What parts of the book would agree with the biblical worldview?
  - What parts disagree or contradict a biblical worldview?
- Paragraph 4: **Review the book.**
  - Why do you think the author wrote this book?
  - Was this book interesting to you?
  - What would you change about the book or the way they discussed the topic?
- Write down **three new words** that you learned **with their definitions**.

## Flushing Christian School Historical Fiction Book Report Guide

Each report may be handwritten or typed (12 point font, double spaced).

Heading in the upper right-hand corner:  
*Student name, date, "Book Report," # of pages*

*The name of the book should be centered above the report.*

Follow these directions for the details of the report:

- Title of the book needs to be *italicized* or underlined. Give the author's name.
- Paragraph 1: Describe the **main characters (at least three)**.
  - Which character can you most identify with?
  - Which character would make a good friend for you? Why?
- Paragraph 2: Explain the **problem or plot** of the story.
  - What is **the driving question** that the characters are trying to answer?
  - Include **three main events** or details that occur.
- Paragraph 3: The **climax** (turning point) of the story and the **resolution** (ending).  
Was the resolution satisfying to you as a reader?
- Paragraph 4: Your **opinion and analysis** of the book.
  - *Why* do you think the author wrote this book?
  - *Did* you like the book? Why or why not?
  - *What parts* of the book match the Bible? What parts contradict the Bible?
- Write down **three new words** that you learned **with their definitions**.