

5th Grade Summer Reading 2022

Summer reading is an important part of the curriculum in the Frederica Academy Middle School. Not only does it provide us with a common ground on which to stand at the beginning of the school year, it also keeps young minds active and engaged during the summer. This year, we are asking middle school students to read two books, one common book that all students in the middle school will read and one that he/she chooses from a list of books below. Please read the descriptions and assignments carefully. All assignments must be completed by the first day of school.

Mandatory Common Book: *Count Me In* by Varsha Bajaj

As you read the book, please annotate for setting, characterization, and conflict.

ISBN: 978-0525517269

Karina Chopra would have never imagined becoming friends with the boy next door--after all, they've avoided each other for years and she assumes Chris is just like the boys he hangs out with, who she labels a pack of hyenas. Then Karina's grandfather starts tutoring Chris, and she discovers he's actually a nice, funny kid. But one afternoon something unimaginable happens--the three of them are assaulted by a stranger who targets Indian-American Karina and her grandfather because of how they look. Her grandfather is gravely injured and Karina and Chris vow not to let hate win. When Karina posts a few photos related to the attack on social media, they quickly attract attention, and before long her #CountMeIn post--"What does an American look like? #immigrants #WeBelong #IamAmerican #HateHasNoHomeHere"--goes viral and a diverse population begin to add their own photos. Then, when Papa is finally on the road to recovery, Karina uses her newfound social media reach to help celebrate both his homecoming and a community coming together.



--Taken from Amazon.com

Written Assignment:

Answer **all three** questions. Please type or handwrite your response on lined paper. This assignment is due the **first day of school**. Remember to include your name on your paper. If typing, use New Times Roman font size twelve.

Question One: Mr. C makes a big impact in Chris's life. What does he do to help Chris? How have teachers made an impact on your life?

Question Two: What is the genre of this book? Could it belong to more than one genre? Explain your answer.

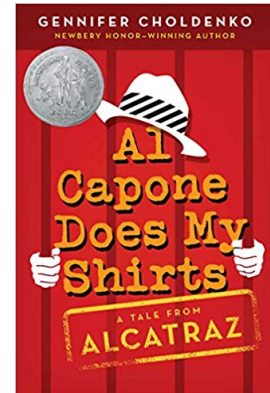
Question Three: If you could ask one of the characters one question, what would it be and why would you want to know the answers?

Mandatory 2nd Book

Choose one of the following books that you have *not* previously read to read this summer in addition to *Count Me In*. Read the novel and be prepared to discuss it during the first weeks of school.

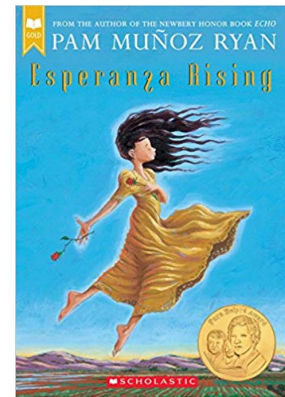
***Al Capone Does My Shirts* by Gennifer Choldenko**

Moose Flanagan and his family have just moved to Alcatraz Island so that his father can take a job as a prison guard and his sister Natalie can go to a special school in San Francisco. Moose struggles for recognition in his new school. Then his sister Natalie, who suffers from autism, is rejected from the Esther P. Marinoff School, crushing his parents' hopes for Natalie's education. Now Moose must take care of Natalie after school while his mother teaches music lessons, and he must find a way to deal with Natalie's screaming fits and constant needs. Complicating Moose's life even more is Piper, the daughter of the prison warden. Piper lures Moose into her scheme to make money by collecting laundry from their classmates with the promise that Al Capone is among the convicts assigned to laundry duty on Alcatraz.



***Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan**

Esperanza thought she'd always live a privileged life on her family's ranch in Mexico. She'd always have fancy dresses, a beautiful home filled with servants, and Mama, Papa, and Abuelita to care for her. But a sudden tragedy forces Esperanza and Mama to flee to California and settle in a Mexican farm labor camp. Esperanza isn't ready for the hard work, financial struggles brought on by the Great Depression, or lack of acceptance she now faces. When Mama gets sick and a strike for better working conditions threatens to uproot their new life, Esperanza must find a way to rise above her difficult circumstances-because Mama's life, and her own, depend on it.



***The Watsons Go to Birmingham - 1963* by Christopher Paul Curtis**

Enter the world of ten-year-old Kenny and his family, the Weird Watsons of Flint, Michigan. When Momma and Dad decide it's time for a visit to Grandma, Dad comes home with the amazing Ultra-Glide, and the Watsons head South to Birmingham, Alabama... toward one of the darkest moments in America's history. A hilarious, touching, and tragic novel about civil rights and the impact of violence on one African American family.

