

Required SAIL Summer Reading Project Instructions

Step 1: Choose a book from the list on the back. Look at the project choices before reading so you will be able to take notes appropriately. Critically read the book.

Step 2: Complete a project from the list below.

Step 3: Bring your project to SAIL on 8/22/08; **prizes** will be given for the top 3 winners in the Writing and Graphic/Fine arts categories. **This will count as a significant grade in English class.**



Project Choices Overview

All projects have a writing component, even the graphic/fine arts projects. See the SAIL Website for more details and required information or ask for a copy from the media center or your English teacher.

Writing Projects

- Write a Book Review.
- Interview a character from the story and write the questions and responses.
- Write a Play - continue the story line on your own or show interactions between characters outside the original story.
- Write an alternative ending to the story.

Graphic /Fine Arts Projects

- Create a Comic Strip/Cartoon depicting pivotal scenes from the book.
- Create an advertisement to “sell” the book, create a new cover illustration, spine, back flap.
- Make a quilt square depicting character, setting, theme, etc.
- Paint the setting, character(s), or an abstract representation of an element from the book.
- Create a PowerPoint presentation representing research on a topic from your book. For example, research World War II, Hitler or Holocaust if reading *Book Thief*.
- Group Project - Bringing books to life - dramatize a scene from the book and perform it for an audience. (Be ready to share with the school.)
- Group Project - Video Book Review - Become a publicist and make a commercial to “sell” the book. It will be shown on the morning announcements.

Project of your choice

- You must have your idea approved ahead of time. Email your project idea along with your name and the book you are reading to Linda Weitzel(weitzell@mail.sail.leon.k12.fl.us) for approval. No approvals after August 1.

SAIL Reading Choices 2008

***All Over but the Shoutin'* by Rick Bragg (recommended for 11th and up)**

The author recalls his poverty-stricken youth in Alabama in the 1960s and 70s, focusing on the extraordinary efforts of his mother to protect her sons from the violence of their father, a man scarred by war, and telling of the sacrifices she made so her children could have a better life.

***Book Thief* by Markus Zusak (recommended for 9th and up)**

Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel--a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.

***Crystal Singer* by Anne McCaffrey (recommended for 9th and up)**

A young woman faced with the prospect of losing her musical career travels to a mining planet, where the mining of crystal requires musical talent but causes irreversible physiological changes.

***East of Eden* by John Steinbeck (recommended for 11th and up)**

Presents the 1952 novel in which Cal and Aron, twin brothers in early twentieth-century California, act out a modern-day version of the Bible story of Cain and Abel.

***Eaters of the Dead* by Michael Crichton (recommended for 11th and up)**

Ibn Fadlan sets out in A.D. 922 as an ambassador from Bagdad to the King of Saqaliba, but before he arrives, he meets Viking chieftain Buliwyf, and joins him on a mission to Scandinavia where they must battle the monsters threatening the land.

***Family: a novel* by J. California Cooper (recommended for 9th and up)**

Set in the years just before and after the Civil War, tells the story of four generations of an African-American family whose emotional center is Always, a willful and gentle young woman born into slavery.

***Fast Food Nation: the dark side of the all-American meal* by Eric Schlosser (recommended for 11th and up)**

Presents an examination of the fast food industry, tracing its history and discussing how it arose in postwar America, as well as the impact it has had on economy, food production, and popular culture.

***Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury (recommended for 9th and up)**

After learning that books are a vital part of a culture he never knew, a book-burning official in a future fascist state clandestinely pursues reading until he is betrayed.

***I am Legend* by Richard Matheson (recommended for 11th and up)**

Presents the complete novel, "I Am Legend," about Robert Neville, the last living man on an Earth in which every other man, woman, and child has become a vampire.

***Inexcusable* by Chris Lynch (recommended for 9th and up)**

High school senior and football player Keir sets out to enjoy himself on graduation night, but when he attempts to comfort a friend whose date has left her stranded, things go terribly wrong.

***A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier* by Ishmael Beah (recommended for 11th and up)**

Ishmael Beah describes his experiences after he was driven from his home by war in Sierra Leone and picked up by the government army at the age of thirteen, serving as a soldier for three years before being removed from fighting by UNICEF and eventually moving to the United States.

***Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen (recommended for 11th and up)**

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.

***The Skin I'm In* by Sharon Flake (recommended for 9th and up)**

Thirteen-year-old Maleeka Madison, insecure about her very dark skin, rejects the support of a new teacher, Miss Saunders, whose skin looks blotched because of a rare medical condition--but soon Maleeka begins to see that Miss Saunders could be a role model, and that she must learn to love herself and accept love from others.

***Son of the Mob* by Richard Korman (recommended for 9th and up)**

Seventeen-year-old Vince's life is constantly complicated by the fact that he is the son of a powerful Mafia boss, a relationship that threatens to destroy his romance with the daughter of an FBI agent.

***Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen (recommended for 11th and up)**

Ninety-year-old Jacob Jankowski finds himself haunted by memories of his past in the circus and the freaks, exotic animals, and other people he encountered as a performer.

See the SAIL Website (<http://www.sail.leon.k12.fl.us>) for more details and required information for each project.