



## Friendship Junior High School Summer Reading Program

**Grade 8  
2015-2016**

Dear Eighth Grader,

Your future language arts teacher is asking that you read **one** book this summer. Your job is to read the book, make annotations, and pass the AR test upon returning to school. You must choose one book from the following list that you have not taken an AR test for. This will be the first grade you receive in eighth grade-a passing AR test score will get you off to a great start!

Each book is part of a series-we hope you will like this book so much that you check out the ones that follow in the series.

The following books can be purchased at a local bookstore or checked out at the local library. Choose books that seem interesting to you, and enjoy!

--Your 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts Teachers

### Novel Choices: Choose one

- \***Raven's Gate** by Anthony Horowitz (Lexile: 620)
- \***Cirque Du Freak #1: A Living Nightmare** by Darren Shan (Lexile: 650)
- \***City of Bones** by Cassandra Clare (Lexile: 720)
- \***Found** by Margaret Haddix (Lexile: 750)
- \***Last Song** by Nicholas Sparks (Lexile: 790)
- \***Catching Fire** by Suzanne Collins (Lexile: 820)
- \***Evermore** by Alyson Noel (Lexile: 940)

There are two things you will need to do while/after reading your book:

#### **1. Make annotations while you read.**

What is an annotation? An annotation is a note of explanation or comment added to a text as you are reading. This is a necessary skill for both eighth grade and high school.

#### **2. Pass the AR test.**

## Further explanation:

Over the course of reading your book, you should *handwrite*, on a piece of paper, or type 40 annotations. Each annotation should include three pieces of information: the **page number** on which you thought of the annotation, a **brief explanation** of what was going on when you thought of the annotation, and the **actual annotation**.

Try and make a variety of annotations. Below is a reminder of the different types of annotations and some sample sentence starters to help you.

Making predictions: I'll bet that...

Asking questions: What does \_\_\_\_\_ mean?

Answering questions: Maybe this means...

Making comparisons: This reminds me of...

Stating opinions: I feel/think...

\*Remember: make annotations as they “pop” into your head while reading.

This is what you will turn in to your teacher the first week of school. Your first assignment in eighth grade will be based on these annotations, so make them detailed. In addition, the annotations will help you review the book before you have to take the AR test the first week of school.

A sample annotation should look like this:

p. 75: Mark is getting ready to climb Mt. Everest. **(This is the brief explanation.)**

My annotation: Mark has trained so hard for this moment and he must be feeling really nervous yet excited. I wonder if he's going to achieve his lifelong dream of reaching the summit of the mountain. **(This is an example of the “stating opinions” annotation.)**

**If you have any questions over the summer, please reach out to one of the language arts teachers:**

Mrs. Biasi: [biasi.kimberly@ccsd59.org](mailto:biasi.kimberly@ccsd59.org)

Ms. Schrage: [schrage.rachel@ccsd59.org](mailto:schrage.rachel@ccsd59.org)

Ms. Wall: [wall.jessica@ccsd59.org](mailto:wall.jessica@ccsd59.org)

Mrs. Wing: [wing.annmarie@ccsd59.org](mailto:wing.annmarie@ccsd59.org)