

June 2021

Dear Upper Elementary Students and Families,

The following will outline the summer assignments you are to complete prior to the beginning of school in August 2021. Each student is to read one piece of literature from the HAISLN (Houston Area Independent School Library Network) list (<http://www.haisln.org/reading-lists.html>) and write a book report to be turned in at your before school conference. The books are listed by grade level.

The book report should include the following components (if applicable): title, author, date of publication, setting, theme/problem and plot, as well as any other pertinent information. *You may find the book report template below and on the school website.*

A broad selection of reading choices appears on the HAISLN recommended reading list. All selections have been reviewed by a team of educators. Please read the lists carefully and make informed selections at or above your reading level. “Amazon.com” can be a useful source to find out information about and/or order books on the list. All works should be available from the Houston Public Library, and many are available in paper editions.

You may choose works from any on the appropriate lists that interest you.

Please know that we encourage you to read as many of the literature selections as you wish. We only *require* that you read one full-length book or play. We hope you find a love of reading and enjoy your summer.

We also ask that you complete the summer math packet.

Name
Book Report
Date

Title of the Book
Name of the Author
Publication Date

The first paragraph should be a **summary** that gets the reader excited about the book. Include: names of main characters with a descriptive phrase or word about each one, a description of the setting, the conflict or problem, the climax of the story, and a hint about the ending.

The second paragraph should be about the **main idea** of the story. What do you think the author is trying to get across? Most authors want their readers to learn, experience, or understand certain feelings, ideas, or information. Use quotations or examples from the book that you think show the author's main idea.

The third paragraph should be about what you think the **special features** of the book are. What do you think made the book unique? Maybe it was the plot, the action, the setting, the style the author wrote in, etc. *Back up your ideas by adding quotations or examples.*

The fourth paragraph should be about your **opinion** of the book. This is your chance to tell the reader whether or not you liked the book and why or why not. Do you recommend this book? Should the reader be excited to read the book themselves or should they avoid it? Why or why not? *Back up your opinion with examples from the book.*