



# Grade 8 Summer Reading Assignment 2026

Freeport Middle School

Mrs. Cowperthwaite

Dear Students,

*I hope your summer is filled with fun times, relaxation, and a few good books! Summer reading is an important part of your development as a student and helps you expand your vocabulary, grow your thinking and analysis skills, and sustain focus.*

*The list on the other side of this page includes a variety of genres and titles of books that feature characters that are close to your age. These titles are fairly easy to find at libraries and book stores. We also have several of the titles available to borrow for the summer from our FMS library.*

*I am looking forward to reading your thoughts and hearing about your reading when you return for the next school year. Until then, enjoy every minute of our break!*

Sincerely,

Mrs. Cowperthwaite

## Summer Reading Assignment:

From “[Grade 8 Book Recommendations](#)” on the back of this paper, choose two books from two different genres to read.

Complete all eight response tasks (below) for each of the books.

Make sure you answer thoroughly and use specific details from the book. Write using your own thoughts. You may not copy text from another source or use generative AI to write.

You may hand write on your own paper or type. Bring a printed copy to class on the first day or send the document to my email: [cowperthwaitek@rsu5.org](mailto:cowperthwaitek@rsu5.org)

## Eight Response Tasks:

1. List the title, author, and genre
2. Write a BRIEF 3-5 sentence summary of the plot.
3. Describe the setting.
4. Describe the main character and how they changed by the end of the book.
5. Pretend the main character comes out of the book to visit you. Where in Maine would you bring them and why would you bring them there?
6. Tell what you think the theme of the book is and why you think this. What life lesson was the author trying to share? (i.e. “Never give up,” or “Help can come from the most unexpected places”)
7. Choose a quote that was meaningful to you and explain why you chose it.
8. Choose a word from the book that was new or interesting to you. Copy the sentence and define the word.

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