



## Genesis Innovation Girls Academy

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Dear GEMS-

Summer is a wonderful time for traveling, going to camp, and hanging outside with friends, but for those days when it's too hot, or you think "I'm bored," we have the GIA Summer Reading Requirement!

Reading during the summer helps improve your reading skills as well as building your vocabulary, and help develop critical thinking skills to help you through life's many challenges.

Choose TWO books from the list for your upcoming grade level. I have compiled a list of four to five books that you may choose from. At the beginning of next school year, your teacher will take up your completed Summer Reading Assignment for a grade.

You can find your summer reading books at the public library, bookstores, or online. Share your books with friends and family and talk about what you've read.

Most importantly, choose two books from the list that you will enjoy! Reading is meant to be fun. :)

Enjoy your summer,  
Mrs. Dees  
Girls Academy Director

## **UPPER SCHOOL Booklists**

### ***Rising 5<sup>th</sup> Graders:***

Sugar  
The Girl Who Drank the Moon  
Brown Girl Dreaming  
The Lions of Little Rock

### ***Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Graders:***

Serafina's Promise  
The Secret School  
One Crazy Summer  
Where the Mountain Meets the Moon

### ***Rising 7<sup>th</sup> Graders:***

Fever 1793  
Outcasts United  
Out of My Mind  
Fish in a Tree  
I Am Malala  
(non-fiction/ young readers edition)

## **Upper School Required Assignment:**

As your summer vacation starts and the new school year is just around the corner, it's time to consider these essential questions: What makes a family? What does it take to be a good friend? In what ways should friends be alike or act alike? How do you know if a relationship is healthy or hurtful? How are people transformed through their relationship with others?

### ***Assignment***

Select two of the novels listed on your grade level list. As you read, think about the relationships that the main character has with their family members or friends. 1) What is the main character's relationship like with their family or friends? 2) Does their relationship with their family or friends have a positive or negative effect on them? 3) What did the character learn from their family or friends? 4) Is the character changed by their relationships with family or friends?

Answer the 4 questions listed for both of the books you read and write a detailed response. You do not have to answer them in the order they are listed.

1. You must answer all four questions on the assignment above for both books.
2. Each answer must be at least 50 words in length, written neatly (or computer generated) and in complete sentences.
3. The response cannot present a simple summary of the passage or chapter.
4. The answer must make it clear that you read the book. That means that you should include textual evidence (specific details or descriptions) and page numbers to back up what you said.
5. Each entry should begin on a new page and be clearly labeled with the book title and question number at the top. You may rewrite the question at the top of the page if you choose.



In addition to the summer reading assignments we are requiring Genesis Scholars to learn and be able to recite a poem from memory this summer. Memorizing poetry is not busy work. It's not an assignment to just give our scholars something else to do this summer. Memorizing poetry is an investment in our scholars' future ability to communicate. Poetry memorization builds vocabulary and reading comprehension. When a scholar performs a recitation, she is building speech and presentation skills. As the girls completely learn and are able to recite the poems they will feel a huge sense of pride, satisfaction, and accomplishment.

*The poem titles for each grade level are as follows:*

**Rising 1<sup>st</sup>:** Unexpected Holiday – by Alana for Ada

**Rising 2<sup>nd</sup>:** The Voice – by Shel Silverstein

**Rising 3<sup>rd</sup>:** The Swing – by Robert Louis Stevenson

**Rising 4<sup>th</sup>:** Invictus – by Ernest Henley

**Rising 5<sup>th</sup>:** Don't Go Into the Library – by Alberto Rios

**Rising 6<sup>th</sup>:** Life Doesn't Frighten Me at All – by Maya Angelou

**Rising 7<sup>th</sup>:** Tending – by Elizabeth Alexander

**Upper School Scholars**

Each scholar should write a draft letter to their chosen poet, telling him/her what in the poem spoke to them, and asking questions relating to how the poet wrote this poem and how they write other poems.

## E<sup>5</sup> Summer Focus- ENGINEERING

Rising 5<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> grade scholars need to participate in one workshop through Home Depot. Scholars are to email me a picture of themselves and the instructor while holding their project. Please email photo to [jpotter@giacademy.org](mailto:jpotter@giacademy.org) by Wednesday, July 25, 2018.

