

## Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School 2010-2011 Summer Reading

- **Required Summer Reading for Academic Convocation:** Required for ALL students in preparation for opening academic convocation in the fall.
  - Middle School: *The Omnivore's Dilemma for Kids* by Michael Pollan
  - Upper School: *The Omnivore's Dilemma* by Michael Pollan
- **Grade Level Required Summer reading:**
  - **Sixth Grade:** *Crispin: The Cross of Lead* by Avi
  - **Seventh Grade:** *Wednesday Wars* by Gary Schmidt
  - **Eighth Grade:** *Something Rotten* by Alan Gratz
  - **Ninth Grade:** *The Chosen* by Chaim Potok (Honors section must also read *Purple Hibiscus* by Chimamanda Adichie)
  - **Tenth Grade:** *Life of Pi* by Yan Martel & *Catcher in the Rye* by JD Salinger (Honors section must also read *Mrs. Dalloway* by Virginia Woolf.)
  - **Eleventh Grade American Literature:** *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck (Honors students are required to also read *The Metaphysical Club* by Louis Menand.)
  - **Eleventh Grade AP Language and Composition:** *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck and *Autobiography of Malcolm X*
  - **Twelfth Grade Fall Electives**
    - **Magical Realism:** *Song of Solomon* by Toni Morrison
    - **Contemporary Literature I:** *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien (Honors must also read one piece (except *The Bear*) in *Three Famous Short Novels* by Faulkner.)
    - **British Literature:** *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens
  - **AP Literature and Composition:** *Sophie's World* by Jostein Gaarder and *The Fountainhead* by Ayn Rand (Be prepared to write in-class essays on each during the first week of class.)

**Choice Books:** Students are required to choose one selection from below. During the first week of school, students will meet in a discussion group with a designated teacher to discuss the selected text. These discussions will be graded and will count as part of the student's English grade.

### Middle School Selections: Students Entering Grades 6-8

- ~ *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* by Elizabeth George Speare
- ~ *Heart of a Champion* by Carl Deuker
- ~ *My Dog Skip* by Willie Morris
- ~ *Alabama Moon* by Watt Key
- ~ *A Night to Remember* by Walter Lord (7-12)
- ~ *Gentle's Holler* by Kerry Madden.
- ~ *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins (7-10)
- ~ *Speak* Laurie Hales Anderson (8-12 girls only)
- ~ *Left for Dead: A Young Man's Search for Justice* by Pete Nelson
- ~ *Shadowland* by Meg Cabot
- ~ *Crusader* by Edward Bloor

## Upper School Selections: Students entering Grades 9-12

- ~ *Eaarth: Making a Life on a Tough New Planet* by Bill McKibbin
- ~ *Outliers* by Malcom Gladwell
- ~ *Joe Turner's Come and Gone* by August Wilson
- ~ *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins (7-12)
- ~ *Say You're One of Them* by Uwem Akpan
- ~ *Where Men Win Glory* by Jon Krakauer
- ~ *The Bullpen Gospels* by Dirk Hayhurst
- ~ *Stones to Schools* by Greg Mortenson
- ~ *Jesus Wants to save Christians* by Rob Bell
- ~ *Drops Like Stars* by Rob Bell
- ~ *1491* by Charles Mann
- ~ *Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson (8-12 girls only)
- ~ *Michelangelo and the Pope's Ceiling* by Ross King
- ~ *Life As We Knew It* by Susan Beth Pfeffer
- ~ *Bringing it to the Table* by Wendell Berry
- ~ *A Night to Remember* by Walter Lord (7-12)
- ~ *Nineteen Minutes* by Jodi Picoult
- ~ *Never let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro
- ~ *Girl in Translation* by Jean Kwok
- ~ *Band of Brothers* by Stephen Ambrose
- ~ *Siddartha* by Hermann Hesse
- ~ *The Dubliners* by James Joyce
- ~ *Waiting* by Ha Jin (10-12)
- ~ *The Iliad* by Homer (Penguin Classics; Peter Jones editor)
- ~ *When the Game Was Ours* by Larry Bird and Earvin Magic Johnson
- ~ *Therese Desqueyroux* by Francois Mauriac; translated by Raymond MacKenzie
- ~ *The Collected Songs of Cold Mountain* by Han Shan translated by Red Pine

### Guidelines for Student Preparation:

- **You MUST bring a copy of your required book to school**, as you will be using it during the first weeks. Annotate (underline, highlight, take notes) as you read and mark important pages, so that you will be better prepared for the tests and writing assignments in your English class. Use a journal or notebook, and follow the directions for the prompts below.

#### Middle School:

**Required Grade book:** Do prompts 1 and 2.

**Choice summer reading book:** Do prompts 1 and 2.

#### Upper School:

**Required Book:** Do all five prompts.

**Choice Book:** Do prompts 1, 2 and choose one prompt from 3, 4 or 5. Do a total of THREE.

### Prompts:

1. Find, underline or highlight at least five important passages in the book that have meaning for you, help you understand the characters, major themes or symbolism or point to pivotal moments in the book. After highlighting these passages, in a journal or notebook, write a detailed explanation of each passage.
2. Name, identify and describe in detail the important characters in the book.
3. Identify the narrative point of view; is it first person, third person, omniscient?
4. Identify the following literary elements: setting, exposition, rising action, climax, resolution, conflicts, major themes and examples of figurative language such as metaphors, similes, symbols or personification.
5. Identify the diction (word choices) used by the author; formal, colloquial, flowery, harsh, colorful, local dialect etc. How does the diction impact the tone of the author? What is the tone? Does the tone vary?