

2010 Summer Reading Assignment for Incoming 8th Graders

Mrs. Fortier English 8

Books are uniquely portable magic. –Stephen King

*I find television very educating. Every time somebody turns on the set,
I go into the other room and read a book.* –Groucho Marx

Book

Read *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck. At the end of each chapter, write 2-3 bullet points that summarize the plot. If you'd like, underline important passages.

Assignments

1- Create a list of the characters with a brief description for each character.

2-Create a Choices Chart. Identify 4 **key** choices that either protagonist makes, explain the circumstances that lead the character to make the choice (what is happening at the time?) and then explain the consequences of the choice (what happens as a result?).

Your chart should look something like this (with *much* more room to type!):

Key Choice	Circumstances of Choice	Consequences of Choice
1-		
2-		
3-		
4-		

3-Design an original book cover using an 8.5x11 piece of unlined paper. Include title and author and designs/pictures that relate to the greater meaning of the book. Then, type a one-paragraph explanation of your choices: why did you choose certain colors? a particular design? specific pictures? did you use symbols from the book? does anything on the cover reflect the overall message of the book or the setting? Use the paragraph to give yourself credit for your solid thinking behind your book cover!! Attach this paragraph to the back of your book cover.

ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS BRING...

- your copy of *Of Mice and Men*
- a typed character list
- a typed Choices Chart
- an original book cover with typed explanatory paragraph attached to the back side

Enjoy a relaxing, book-filled summer! Feel free to email if you have any questions.

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