



DMHS Summer Work Assignment 2018

7th + 8th Year Students

Purpose: While you enjoy your summer, your guides in the Farm School want you to stay connected to all the great work that you will have the opportunity to do when the school year begins in August. This assignment will keep you reading and thinking mathematically over the summer and will give you the opportunity to share some of your summer work with your community in August.

Components: There are **two** main components to this assignment:

1. Reading + Book Report
2. Math: Daily Reviews and Quizzes

Due Dates: Both components of this assignment are due **on the first day of school: Tuesday, August 14**. Please bring BOTH components in with you on the first day of school. You will hand the homework into your advisor at the beginning of the day, and **you will present on your summer homework to your advisement the very first day of school.**

Component 1: Reading + Book Report

This summer, we are asking all returning and incoming DMHS students to complete a book report. If you don't think of yourself as someone who reads, consider that there are a LOT of different books to choose from (here are some descriptions/examples):

- Mysteries: murder, espionage, spies, and cold-blooded killers!
- Fantasy: magic, mythical beasts, super powers, and epic journeys!
- SciFi: alien worlds, interstellar adventure, steampunk, and time travel!
- Adventure: action, danger, amazing escapes, and treasure to be found!
- Horror: twisted, insane, and disturbed!
- Romance: epic love, tricky relationships, and drama!
- Historical Fiction: life as a king, fighting the gladiators, and seeing history up close!!
- Non-Fiction: science, art, travel, and reality!
- Biography/Autobiography: all the details about your favorite famous people!
- Translated Texts: epic poems, adventures, and love stories from far away lands!!
- Religious Texts: Buddhism, Taoism, the Koran, the Bible, and Zoroastrianism!
- Graphic Novels: All of the above but told through visual images!

This assignment has the following requirements and **is due on the first day of school**:

1. Choose a book from the following list of top books for adolescents:
<http://www.npr.org/2012/08/07/157847723/top-100-teen-books>, or, if you prefer, choose a book that you haven't read but have always wanted to read. We do ask that you read a book that is at or slightly above your current reading level (in other words, not too easy for you).
2. Find your book at the local public library!
3. Write a book report using the step-by-step guide that we have provided for you.
4. Have fun with this project!

How to Obtain a Library Card

- 1) You will need to do some research about where the closest public library is to your house and about how to get a library card (you can easily find this information on Google or on the Denver Public Library's website: www.denverlibrary.org). **Do not wait until the end of summer to find your book!**

- 2) Here is a link to learn about obtaining a library card:
<https://www.denverlibrary.org/library-card>. You can also just go to ANY library branch in the city and sign up there. From the library website: "To receive your library card, present photo identification and verification of Colorado address at any of our locations. Applicants 13 and under must be accompanied by a parent or guardian with picture ID and proof of address."
 - a) Note: if you have a MyDenver card from Denver Parks and Rec, you can activate it as a library card at your local library.
 - b) If the book you want to read is not located at your library branch, ask a librarian how to put it on hold -- you can get almost ANY book through the library, so take advantage of the vast network!

- 3) **Note to families:** if there is no local public library close to your house, then have your student find a book through some other means. ****They do need to come to school with the following information written down on a piece of paper: the name and location/address of the closest library to their house.**

How to Write a Book Report

A Book Report Outline and Tips for Students: Time4writing.com.

<http://www.time4writing.com/writing-resources/writing-a-book-report/>

Before you write, read. There's no substitute for reading the book. Choose a book you'll enjoy—reading should be fun, not a chore! **Read with a pen and paper at your side.** Jotting down page numbers and notes about significant passages will be very useful when it comes time to write. Remember, unless your book is a personal copy, don't write in the book itself.

Use a Book Report Outline. After reading the book, you are ready to start the writing process. In writing a book report, or any writing prompt, you'll find writing easier if you follow the proven steps of the writing process: prewriting, writing, revising, editing, and publishing.

In the first step, prewriting, you'll plan what you want to say. An outline is a great prewriting tool for book reports. Start your book report outline with the following five ideas. Each idea should correspond to a paragraph:

1. Introduction
2. Summary of Book
3. Book Details: Characters
4. Book Details: Plot
5. Evaluation and Conclusion

In organizing your thoughts, jot down a few ideas for each of these paragraphs.

Introductory Paragraph: Most book reports begin with the basic information about the book: the book's title, author, genre, and publication information (publisher, number of pages, and year published). The opening paragraph is also your opportunity to build interest by mentioning any unusual facts or circumstances about the writing of the book or noteworthy credentials of the author. Was the book a bestseller? Is the author a well-known authority on the subject? Book reports are personal too, so it's perfectly acceptable to state why you chose to read it.

What's the Book About? In the body of the book report—paragraphs 2, 3, and 4—you'll describe what the book is about. This is your chance to show you've read and understood the book. Assuming you've read a fiction book, here are helpful writing tips:

Summary: Start this paragraph by writing an overview of the story, including its setting,

time period, main characters, and plot. Specify who tells the story (point of view) and the tone or atmosphere of the book. Is it a creepy tale of suspense or a lighthearted adventure?

Character Details: In this paragraph, describe the main characters and identify the major conflict or problem the main characters are trying to solve. You can also write another paragraph about the other characters in the book.

Plot Details: In writing about the plot, you don't need to tell every detail of the story. Instead, focus on the main sequence of events. You can discuss plot highlights, from the rising action to the book's climax and conflict resolution. Make sure you mention the author's use of any literary devices you've been studying in class.

Personal Evaluation and Conclusion: You'll like writing the final paragraph because it is here that you'll be able to offer your own critique of the book. What are the book's strengths and weaknesses? Did the book hold your interest? What did you learn from the book? If you read a work of fiction, how did the book affect you? If you read non-fiction, where you swayed by the author's arguments? Try to be balanced in your opinions, and support your statements with examples from the book. Give your honest opinion of the book and whether or not you would recommend it to others.

Revising, Editing, and Publishing: After you've drafted your book report, you're ready to follow the next three steps of the writing process: revising, editing, and publishing. Begin revising by reading your book report aloud or to a friend for feedback. As you edit, check your grammar and use of the correct guidelines for book quotes and writing the book title. Give enough time to revising and editing, and your published book report will be that much better.

Component 2: Math -- Daily Reviews and Quizzes

Part 1: Montessori Integrated Math Daily Reviews

Keep your mathematical mind fresh! Review your middle school math skills before getting deeper into algebraic concepts next year. You will receive an individualized math packet that will get you ready for your math cohort next year. Please complete the two cycles and check your work using the answers provided. When you feel ready, complete the Daily Review quiz at the end of each unit of Daily Reviews. You will be turning in all of your work, including your quizzes, to your advisor on the first day of school.