

SLA SUMMER READING PROJECT 2026

Students are encouraged to choose a book from the list below and complete a project from the choice board. Completed projects are to be turned in to the student's ELA teacher by Friday, August 14, 2026.
Each fully completed project will earn 3 casual days!

ENTERING 6th Grade

Ungifted by Gordon Korman

Amal Unbound by Aisha Saeed

The Science of Breakable Things by Tae Keller

The Stars Beneath Our Feet by David Barclay Moore

The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan

Fish in a Tree by Linda Mullaly Hunt

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson

ENTERING 7th Grade

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis

Brian's Winter by Gary Paulsen (sequel to Hatchet)

White Fang by Jack London

The Giver by Lois Lowry

Counting by 7s by Holly Goldberg Sloan

Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt

The Maze Runner by James Dashner

The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien

Homecoming by Cynthia Voigt

Ground Zero by Alan Gratz (author of Refugee)

ENTERING 8th Grade

Cinder by Marissa Meyer

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams

The Lord of the Rings Trilogy by J.R.R. Tolkien

Salt to the Sea by Ruth Sepetys

Code Talker by Joseph Bruchac

Up for Air by Laurie Morrison

PROJECT CHOICE BOARD

Choose one project from below. Turn the completed project in to your ELA teacher by Friday, August 14, 2026.
Each project includes a written component. Each completed project will earn 3 casual days!

ARTISTIC WORK

Quilt Square, Needlework, Painting, Sculpture, Mixed Media Art, etc. As you read the book, think about the important concepts, images, or themes of the book. Design a piece that incorporates these ideas, images, or themes and reflects the book. The piece should measure at least 9 x 9 inches. In a paragraph explain why you chose the images, colors, media, etc. for your work; include at least 5 quotations that influenced your artistic choices.

BOOK MAP

Create a map or collection of maps that reference important locations in the book. You can create a poster or digital map. You may use your illustrations, art, photos, collages from actual maps, etc. Include a written explanation with at least 5 quotations from the book and how they impacted your maps.

MUSEUM EXHIBIT

Create a museum exhibit, or a digital version of a museum exhibit, to explain, demonstrate, or illustrate key ideas or concepts from your book. Your exhibit must include at least 5 elements. Elements can include objects, pictures of objects, demonstrations, videos, photos, primary documents, etc. You must include a paragraph for each element explaining what it is and how it relates to the topic.

ALTERNATIVE ENDING

How many times have you wished you could rewrite the ending of a book? Here's your chance to tie up all of the loose ends and resolve the story in a way you like. Write at least five paragraphs to retell the ending and include at least 5 specific references to quotations that influenced your new ending.

VIDEO BOOK TALK

Design and produce a commercial to "sell" your book and hook readers. The video should be at least 5 minutes long. Review the book, explaining its strengths as well as your own recommendations or similar/related books. Be sure to explain what type of reader will enjoy this book and why. Include a written explanation with at least 5 quotations from the book, explaining their significance and how these passages affected the review.

ORIGINAL PLAY

Continue the story line or show interactions between characters outside the story. Write a script including dialogue, stage directions, scenery, and any necessary commentary in proper format for a drama. Include a written explanation with why you have chosen to write the scene; include at least 5 quotations from the book, and show how these influenced your play/scene.

CHARACTER LETTERS

Examine two characters from the book, and write four letters total (at least 1 letter per character) from the viewpoint of the characters. Letters should be at least one page and should be in a letter format including greeting, body, and salutation. You are encouraged to include photos, drawings or other accompanying materials. Include a written explanation as to why you chose the characters. Include at least 4 quotations from the book, and show how these influenced your letters.