

# SJS Middle School

## Summer Activities 2023-2024



### REQUIRED Summer Activities:

- Reading
- Math

### Optional Summer Activities:

- Science
- Social Studies
- Spanish

**ALL assignments must be completed and turned into your respective teacher by the first week of school!**

### **Required- Middle School Summer Reading:**

Your Summer Reading assignments below are **REQUIRED** to be completed before school starts in the fall. It's fine to check out books from the library, but if you do purchase them, please bring them to school the first week back for some extension and reflection activities.

### **Rising 8<sup>th</sup> graders:**

- Read ONE book from the list below.
- Read ONE book of your own choosing.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>
<i>Anne of Green Gables</i>	Lucy Maud Montgomery
<i>Artemis Fowl</i>	Eoin Colfer
<i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i>	Jacqueline Woodson
<i>Countdown</i>	Deborah Wiles
<i>The Hobbit</i>	J.R.R. Tolkien
<i>The Hound of the Baskervilles</i>	Sir Arthur Conon Doyle
<i>Hunger: A Tale of Courage</i>	Donna Jo Napoli
<i>Little Women</i>	Louisa May Alcott
<i>The Princess Bride: S. Morgenstern's Classic Tale of True Love and High Adventure</i>	William Goldman
<i>Rangers Apprentice: The Ruins of Gorlan</i>	John Flanagan

<i>Temple Grandin: How the Girl who Loved Cows Embraced Autism and Changed the World</i>	Sy Montgomery
<i>Treasure Island</i>	Robert Louis Stevenson

**Rising 7<sup>th</sup> graders:**

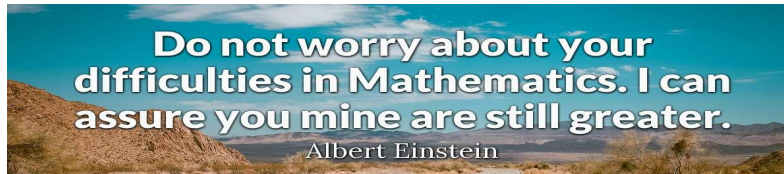
- Please choose at least ONE book to read from the list below.
- Read at least ONE book of your own choosing.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>
<i>Airborn</i>	Kenneth Oppel
<i>Blood on the River: Jamestown 1607</i>	Elisa Carbone
<i>The Boy Who Dared</i>	Susan Campbell Bartoletti
<i>The Boys Who Challenged Hitler: Knud Pedersen and the Churchill Club</i>	Phillip Hoose
<i>Chains</i>	Laurie Halse Anderson
<i>The Crossover</i>	Kwame Alexander
<i>Echo</i>	Pam Munoz Ryan
<i>The Graveyard Book</i>	Neil Gaiman
<i>I am David</i>	Anne Holm
<i>Okay for Now</i>	Gary D. Schmidt
<i>Refugee</i>	Alan Gratz
<i>In the Shadow of the Sun</i>	Anne Sibley O'Brien
<i>The Shadow Thieves</i>	Anne Ursu
<i>A Wrinkle in Time</i>	Madeleine L'Engle
<i>Woods Runner</i>	Gary Paulsen

**Rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders:**

Please choose at least TWO books to read from the list below.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>
<i>Crispin: The Cross of Lead</i>	Avi
<i>Crossing the Wire</i>	Will Hobbs
<i>Fever, 1793</i>	Laurie Halse Anderson
<i>Found</i>	Margaret Peterson Haddix
<i>The Girl Who Drank the Moon</i>	Kelly Barnhill
<i>Hold Fast</i>	Blue Balliett
<i>Last Shot: A Final Four Mystery</i>	John Feinstein
<i>Legend</i>	Marie Lu
<i>Loser</i>	Jerry Spinelli
<i>Pax</i>	Sara Pennypacker
<i>Peak</i>	Roland Smith
<i>Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry</i>	Mildred D. Taylor
<i>The Running Dream</i>	Wendelin Van Draanen
<i>The Safest Lie</i>	Angela Cerrito
<i>Stargirl</i>	Jerry Spinelli
<i>Stella by Starlight</i>	Sharon M. Draper
<i>Stormbreaker</i>	Anthony Horowitz
<i>Travel Team</i>	Mike Lupica
<i>The Wednesday Wars</i>	Gary D. Schmidt
<i>The Worst Class Trip Ever</i>	Dave Barry



## **Required- Middle School Summer MATH:**

Below you will find the requirements for maintaining those math skills you worked so hard to build over the course of this school year. You will be **REQUIRED** to provide evidence of having been reviewing. You will need to submit a printed report of your time spent as well as the skills reviewed. This will be calculated as a quiz grade, and will be due the first week of school. ***Rising 7th graders will need to check the math placement rubric that came in the report card to see what math class they will be taking next year.*** If internet connectivity is an issue, please contact Mrs. Rodriguez ([sarah.rodriquez@sjsathens.org](mailto:sarah.rodriquez@sjsathens.org)) as soon as possible.

**IXL** - [www.ixl.com](http://www.ixl.com) - Demonstration of 30 min/weekday (or a total of 25 hours over the whole summer) required

- ❖ Student math membership is \$9.95/mo (other subjects also available)
  - [IXL Membership Options](#) (for families with multiple children - each additional child adds only \$4 to overall monthly cost)
- ❖ See below for what grade level to work on

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

- ❖ Work on IXL 5th grade Math skills - See above for requirements.
  - Focus on topics you actually covered this past year.

### **Rising Math 7 Students:**

- ❖ Work on IXL 6th grade Math skills - See above for requirements
  - Focus on topics you actually covered this past year.

### **Rising Pre-Algebra Students:**

- ❖ Work on IXL 7th grade Math skills - See above for requirements
  - Focus on topics you actually covered this past year.

### **Rising Algebra I Students**

- ❖ Work on IXL 8th grade Math skills - See above for requirements
  - Focus on topics you actually covered this past year.



**4H Contests:** Earn Science Extra Credit and Enter in the 4H Contest! Follow the directions for the contests listed below. To

receive Science Summer Extra Credit create a Google Slide presentation on your school account documenting the growth along the way. You will need to take pictures and insert them into your presentation. In August you will be able to turn it into Google Classroom.

- **GEORGIA 4-H PUMPKIN GROWING CONTEST-** To receive Summer Extra Credit, you will need to document your pumpkin growth by taking pictures and measurements of it each week or everyother week and put pictures and information into a google slide show (using your school account). Final picture before submitting for credit must show weight of pumpkin.

To enter the 4-H contest- An extension staff member must certify the weight of your pumpkin and photograph you and the giant fruit by October 19th to be eligible for a PRIZE! More information and contest rules visit [www.georgia4h.org/pumpkin](http://www.georgia4h.org/pumpkin)

- **WATERMELON GROWING CONTEST-** To receive Summer Extra Credit, you will need to document the growth of your watermelon by taking pictures and measurements of it each week or everyother week and put pictures and information into a google slide show (using your school account). Final picture before submitting for credit must show weight of watermelon.

To enter the 4-H contest- Pictures and weight must be submitted by August 1st. Please see [www.georgia4h.org/watermelon](http://www.georgia4h.org/watermelon) for more information and contest rules.

**Science Summer Extra Credit:** *Whether you are traveling near or far this summer put your scientific eyes on and examine the WORLD!*

*Here is what you will need to do...*

- *Find a science specimen.*
  - *Make sure that you are **ALLOWED** to take it. (If not you can document it with pictures or a video. )*
  - ***Make sure it is not something that is dead and will SMELL, MOLD or make a MESS!** (If it is you can document it with pictures or a video. )*
  - *Make sure it is not **ALIVE!** (If it is you can document it with pictures or a video. )*
- *Place your specimen in a **plastic container. NO GLASS ALLOWED!***
- *THEN... Put your name on your container!*

- In a *Google Slide Presentation* tell the following about your specimen:
  - Name
  - *Identify your specimen. Bonus if you can identify it with its scientific name.*
  - *Location: Tell us where you found this. City, State, etc.*
  - *Why: Tell us why you chose this specimen.*
  - *Facts: Include 5 interesting facts about your specimen. You may need to do a little research!*
  - *Include a picture of your specimen in your presentation.*

*Remember to bring this in during the first week of school! Cannot wait to see your Scientific Minds at work!*

**Areas of Study in Middle School:**

- 6th- Earth Science
- 7th- Life Science
- 8th- Physical Science (Chemistry & Physics)

**Good Luck**



**Summer Postcards:**

*Social Studies FUN Summer Assignment: As your travels take you near or far, take some time to tell about the history around you by dropping a postcard in the mail!*

*Your postcard needs to be related to HISTORY and focus on two of the five themes of geography -- location and place. Here's what is needed from you:*

- Must be in STUDENTS' own handwriting!
- Proper letter writing technique on your postcard. Greeting, body, closing with **YOUR NAME!** You should remember that from the writing class! Don't forget proper punctuation! **THIS IS A POSTCARD, NOT A LETTER!**
- You must include the two themes, **location, and place**, in your writing. How will you do that? Well, on your postcard you will include the latitude and longitude (**LOCATION**) of your destination and some specifics about the **PLACE** such as climate, culture, or the landforms, for example.

Even if you don't leave Athens, there is LOTS of history is here, too! **Postcards can be mailed to the address below or brought in during the first week of school**, but the above information needs to be included to receive credit.

**Mailing Address:**

St. Joseph Catholic School  
 Attn: Middle School Social Studies  
 958 Epps Bridge Pkwy  
 Athens, GA 30606

# ESPAÑOL



Rising 6th, 7th, and 8th Graders:

- <https://studyspanish.com>
  - It is a great way to learn Spanish grammar through free helpful lessons and fun exercises.
  - **Spanish Pronunciation**
  - **Spanish Grammar**
  - **Spanish Vocabulary**
- <https://www.duolingo.com>
  - Duolingo is an online platform that includes a language-learning website and mobile app, as well as a digital language-proficiency assessment exam.
  - Duolingo also includes Duolingo Stories.
  - The company's mission is to make education free, fun, and accessible to all.
- <https://www.rockalingua.com>
  - Rockalingua is an online resource to help students learn Spanish.
  - Its methodology presents vocabulary and grammar structures in a way that students can enjoy.
  - Rockalingua uses videos, games, songs, worksheets, picture dictionaries, and short stories as a way to promote the learning process.
  - Please look for the word FREE when choosing an activity.