

**Rising 5th Grade Summer Reading
Oakbrook Preparatory School 2019
English/Language Arts
Mrs. Rivers**

Study after study has shown the best way to acquire vocabulary, improve reading comprehension, and enhance writing skills is through wide-reading. Not only does reading provide students a chance to engage in interesting narratives, but it also provides the opportunity to develop language skills. Consider the following:

One way to build academic vocabulary students need is through reading, reading, and more reading. As students read extensively over time, they develop academic vocabulary. This vocabulary helps them to read more complex texts, and that prepares them to read even more complex texts.

To read complex texts, students need a knowledge base that is both broad and deep. Much of this knowledge base is built through reading itself. Students must read both widely and deeply, to find topics that interest them and to learn about those topics at a complex, academic level.

Journeys, 5th grade Ed., p.vi, 2014 Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Required Summer Reading:

Assignments are due on the first full day of class and will be graded on completion and effort.

- Read ***My Side of the Mountain*** by Jean Craighead George.
- Create a 3D model of Sam's tree home and its surroundings, based on the descriptions in the book. Feel free to be creative and use different art mediums to create contrasting textures.
- Pretend that you are Sam. Write a letter to your parents on notebook paper, in your best handwriting, explaining your reasons for leaving home and why they shouldn't worry about you. The letter must include all 5 parts of a letter (*heading, salutation, body, closing signature*) and details from the book.(150 word minimum)

Required 2019-20 Reading:

Fifth grade students are required to read seven books for English. The books you read this summer may count toward this requirement so be sure to log in all the books you read. Please choose books from the following lists:

- Nominees for the 2018-2019 South Carolina Junior Book Award or any previous South Carolina Junior Book Award Winner
<http://www.scasl.net/junior-book-award>
- Any Newbery Book Award Winner (middle school)
<http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/newberymedal/newberyhonors/newberymedal>

***Although the majority of these novels are recommended by the American Library Association, we encourage parents and students to investigate and discuss book options together in order to make appropriate choices.**

