



**2010 - Summer Reading - Grade 7
Stoneham Middle School, Stoneham, MA**

Welcome to seventh grade! We hope you have a wonderful vacation, and we look forward to meeting you in the fall. **Students are required to read one of the books listed below and complete a journal. See directions below.** Students may use the journal when they are tested the first week of school.

Flipped by Wendelin Van Draanen . Bryce has disliked Julie ever since the day she invaded the moving van when he and his father were unpacking. But Julie fell in love with Bryce the first moment she saw him. This comedy is told by both of these funny eighth grade characters in alternating chapters as they begin to figure out who they are, who they want to be, and who they want to be with.

Fever, 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson. This historical fiction novel revolves around Mattie, a 16-year-old who lives in Philadelphia just after the Revolutionary War. Her parents own a coffee house when the yellow fever hits. The plague-like conditions leave 5,000 dead in three months. It is a story of growing up, facing hardship, and learning responsibility.

Al Capone Does My Shirts by Gennifer Choldenko. It's 1935 and twelve-year-old Moose Flanagan and his family have just moved to Alcatraz, the infamous island that's home to criminals like Al Capone. Fitting in at his new school and keeping an eye on his sister, Natalie, are just two of Moose's many problems. All Moose wants to do is to keep out of trouble, but on Alcatraz, trouble is never very far away. (Newbery Honor Book)

Something Upstairs by Avi. Up a flight of spiral stairs, in a house built in 1789, is a dark stain on a wooden floor. In the dark of night, very late or extremely early, something rises - something white and glowing. In this unusual ghost story, Avi moves from the past to the present in Providence, RI.

Travel Team by Mike Lupica. Twelve-year-old Danny Walker may be the smallest kid on the basketball court - but don't tell him that, because no one plays with more heart or court sense. None of that matters when he is cut from his local travel team, the very same team his father led to national prominence as a boy. Danny's father knows Danny isn't the only kid who was cut for the wrong reason, and together this washed-up former player and a bunch of never-say-die kids prove that the heart simply cannot be measured.

Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech. With the help of her grandparents, thirteen-year-old Salamanca Tree is searching for her mother who had left the year before. To pass the time while crossing from Ohio to Idaho, Sal tells the outrageous story of her friend, Phoebe, whose mother also left without explanation. Through her stories, Sal tries to come to terms with life since her mother's departure. (Newbery Medal)

Journal Directions

For *each* chapter in your novel, write a summary retelling the main idea, naming major and minor characters as well as noting significant events in the plot. Paragraphs should be 5-8 sentences long. (Do NOT exceed 12 sentences.) This is a summation exercise, not a line-by-line translation.

- Write your name, book title (underlined) and author at the top of the first page.
- Write the title (in quotation marks) and/or number of each chapter at the top of the page.
- Start a new page for each chapter.
- Type (double-space) or write neatly (skip lines and no ragged-edged spiral sheets) with as many specific details as possible
- Use only one side of the paper

The journal should **not** be in a binder, folder or plastic cover. Simply staple the pages together and bring your finished writing to school the day after Labor Day. You may use this journal during the 25-question multiple-choice test. Students who do not produce a journal will not be penalized, but they will not have this resource to use during the test.

