

## 8th grade SUMMER READING for 2025 -- DUE by Friday, August 15

In the 8<sup>th</sup> grade you may choose one of three books on the **CA SUMMER READING LIST**. I have enjoyed reading these books, so I hope you will like them too. All three are available on Amazon as new or used. Each book requires a slightly different report style, so please read the following information carefully and follow the instructions as given.

**DUE DATE:** The Summer Reading book reports will be part of your reading grade in Language Arts. School begins on Wednesday, August 6. Your Summer Reading report will be **DUE by Friday, August 15**. (That gives you exactly 10 days from the day school starts.) **IMPORTANT!!! No late papers will be accepted.**

### FORMAT REQUIREMENTS:

1. Hand written reports must be fully legible. If I can't read it, I can't grade it.
2. Typed reports must be double-spaced with 1" margins on all four sides and a 12 point Times New Roman type style. Make sure your name and the name of the book you read is on your cover page. You may print this and turn it in as a hard copy, or you may type it as a Google Document and share it with me at [jdarmody@collegedaleacademy.com](mailto:jdarmody@collegedaleacademy.com). (This is preferred.)
3. If you like to be creative, you may write your report using a slideshow format – PowerPoint or Google Slides are your best options. Feel free to embellish with images for a little extra credit. (If you create a slideshow it still has to contain the same information that is required for the report format.) To turn it in, "Share" to [jdarmody@collegedaleacademy.com](mailto:jdarmody@collegedaleacademy.com)

### #1 — *Fields of Fury* by James M. McPherson

This book takes the reader through the major events of the American Civil War (1861-1865) from its cause to its end. It highlights major battles, explains strategies, examines key leaders, and discusses hardships that people faced. There are abundant photos and illustrations as well as Quick Facts that give little known interesting morsels of information.

Write a one-paragraph summary for each page of text in the book (including the introduction). Nearly every page has a new title. Write that title above your paragraph. Paragraphs should be at least three or four sentences long. Reports will be graded on content, sentence structure, spelling, etc. Title your report with the book name and author centered at the top. Make sure your name and the date are written at the top right.

### #2 — *Behind Rebel Lines* by Seymour Reit

This is the exciting true story of Emma Edmonds who joined the Northern army pretending to be a man. She became a Civil War spy who even fooled her own troops with her various disguises.

Write two or three summary paragraphs for each chapter of the book. Label each new chapter with its title and number. Paragraphs should be at least three or four sentences long. Reports will be graded on content, sentence structure, spelling, etc. Title your report with the book name and author centered at the top. Make sure your name and the date are written at the top right.

### #3 — *Top Secret Files: The Civil War* by Stephanie Bearce

This book covers topics such as espionage, secret weapons, technological innovations, and daring missions during the Civil War. It gives information on how to spy, make secret codes, etc.

Write two or three summary paragraphs for each chapter in the book (**not** including the "Spy Training" pages). Label each new chapter with its title. Paragraphs should be at least three to four sentences long. Reports will be graded on content, sentence structure, spelling, etc. Title your report with the book name and author centered at the top. Make sure your name and the date are written at the top right.