

## Sterling Eighth Grade Summer Reading Opportunity

*I declare that after all there is no enjoyment like reading! How much sooner one tires of anything other than a book.*  
Jane Austen

*All I have learned I learned from books.* Abraham Lincoln

*The reading of all good books is like conversation with the finest men of the past centuries.* Rene Descartes

*In the case of good books, the point is not how many you can get through, but rather how many can get through to you.* Mortimer Adler

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### **Required reading: *The Hiding Place* by Corrie Ten Boom**

**Reading Journal:** During the reading of your assigned book, use a reading journal to record your thoughts, ideas, questions, and “a-ha” moments. Each time you read, chronicle each session with a **brief journal entry, date, and pages read**. There is no maximum or minimum of amount of writing expected per entry nor are there a required number of entries. As needed, use the following questions to help engage with the book and the author’s ideas and perspective.

- *What is significant or meaningful about this passage?*
- *Who is the most interesting character in this passage? Why?*
- *What is a great quote or sentence that you want to remember? Why?*
- *What is one big, central idea that is being developed in this passage? How does it relate to the rest of the book thus far?*

**Summative Essay:** During your reading, keep these three questions in mind:

- *What is the point of this book? (What is the author’s purpose in writing it?)*
- *How did I change—my thoughts, perspective, ideas, etc.—as a result of its reading?*
- *How does it connect to, inform, or help explain something else that I will be learning in school this year?*

Either during or after your reading, write an essay summarizing your reflection on these 3 questions and applications of the book. Use your reading journal as a resource. You may also want to take notes in your book so that you don’t forget thoughts and ideas that you have while reading.

There is no minimum or maximum page number required for this essay. It is expected that you will demonstrate an engagement with the text through the sharing of your responses to these questions. At least three paragraphs are expected (one for each question), but you may write more. The essay may be handwritten or typed. Quotes are not required but welcomed.

**The reading journal and summative essay are both due the first day of school.**