



MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

1. Read one novel assigned for your upcoming grade level **AND** one novel from the “Choice List”
2. Design a “SHOE” for the main character in your **Assigned** novel (see attached templates for directions)
3. Create a “Symbol Banner” for your **Choice** novel.
4. Both are DUE on the first day of school 2025

ASSIGNED GRADE LEVEL NOVELS: You will complete the shoe design activity for this novel.

Entering 6th Grade: *Fish in a Tree* Lynda Mullaly Hunt

Entering 7th Grade: *Ghost* by Jason Reynolds

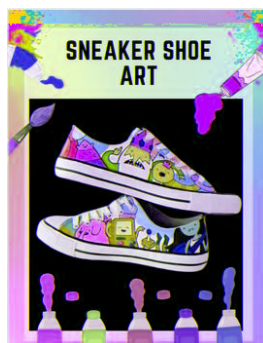
Entering 8th Grade: *Farewell to Manzanar* by Jeanne Wakatsuki-Huston OR *Code Talker* by Joseph Bruchac

“Shoe Design” :

“ You never really know a person until you walk around in his shoes...” Atticus Finch in *To Kill a Mockingbird* . Design a “shoe” to represent your main character. Be sure to include color to symbolize personality and mood changes, **at least 3** specific symbols to include struggles/conflicts and main setting, and a word or few words to ‘NAME’ your shoe (it should relate to the theme/message from the author). See some examples below. Be creative and have fun!

Information to include:

- What “type” of shoe “looks” like your character? (sneaker, boot, flip flop, Croc, Hey Dude, high heel)?
- What color / colors represent your character’s personality or changing personality?
- How do my 3 (or more) symbols represent the setting and conflicts of the character?
- What is the name of my shoe and how does it represent the ‘theme / main message’ of the novel ?



FREE SHOE TEMPLATES: <https://images.app.goo.gl/ksuM2kBeB7wRMP2q9>
<https://images.app.goo.gl/eh1LR7RevqWQvDR7>

CHOICE NOVEL LIST:



“Banner Design” :

This banner represents a motivational lesson or idea to live by. Many authors write novels to teach a lesson or share a social commentary. Design a “banner” to represent your “choice novel”. Be sure to include a quote from the novel that represents the overall message the author intends the reader to understand. **Include at least 3** specific symbols (decorating the banner) to represent the main character, the setting, and the climax of your story. Be intentional with your “font size and style”. Use color to enhance the purpose of your banner. Be creative and have fun!

Information to include:

- What quote represents the THEME of the novel?
- What color / colors represents the overall vibe of the novel?
- How does my 1(or more) symbol(s) represent the setting, characters **and** climax of the novel?
- How does the font size and style enhance the meaning of your quote ?
- Did I include the title and author of the novel where I got my quote? The character that said it?

Ditzy Dingo Digital Designs

"There is some good in this world, and it's worth fighting for."

— J.R.R. TOLKIEN, THE TWO TOWERS





CHOICE LIST SUMMER READING

(** Please review your choices with your parents before reading ...all novels are Common Sense/ academic approved novels for middle school age)...You will complete the banner design activity for this novel.

A Night Divided by Jennifer A. Nielsen

A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle

Allies by Alan Gratz (or any Alan Gratz)

All Thirteen by Christina Soontornvat

Becoming Muhammad Ali by James Patterson and Kwame Alexander

Before the Ever After by Jacqueline Woodson

The Breadwinner by Deborah Ellis

The Canyon's Edge by Dusti Bowling

The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett

Clean Getaway by Nic Stone

The Crossover by Kwame Alexander

El Deafo by Cece Bell

Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan

Eyes on the Ice by Anna Rosner

Fowl Play by Kristin O'Donnell Tubb

Flipped by Wendelin Van Draanen

From the Desk of Zoe Washington by Janae Marks

Ground Zero by Alan Gratz

History of the Cup by Andrew Luke

Home of the Brave by Katherine Applegate

The Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus by Dusti Bowling

Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell

Island of Thieves by Josh Lacey

King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table by Roger Lancelyn Green

Kwame Crashes the UnderWorld by Craig Kofi Farmer

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

Lizzy Legend by Matthew Ross Smith

Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park

Messi Mania by Luis Miguel Echegaray

Miscalculations of Lightning Girl by Stacy McAnulty

Natural Wonders of Assateague Island by Mark Hendricks

No One Leaves the Castle by Christopher Healy

Ocean City Oddities by Kristin Helf

The Black Stallion by Walter Farley

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak



The Boy Who Saved Baseball by John H. Ritter
The Call of the Wild by Jack London
The Cricket in Times Square by George Selden
The First State of Being by Erin Entrada Kelly
The Hundred Dresses by Eleanor Estes
The One Thing You'd Save by Linda Sue Park
The Whipping Boy by Sid Fleischman
The Trials of Apollo Series by Rick Riordan (NOT Olympians series)
The Kane Chronicles by Rick Riordan (NOT Olympians series)
The Year I Flew Away by Marie Arnold
Two Roads by Joseph Bruchac
Peak by Roland Smith
Peter Pan by JM Barrie
Red Kayak by Priscilla Cummings (8th grade suggestion only)
Restart by Gordon Korman
Ryan Pitts: Afghanistan: A Firefight in the Mountains of Wanat by Michael P. Spradlin
Shark Summer by Ira Marcks
Slugfest by Gordon Korman
Small As An Elephant by Jennifer Jacobson
Survivors of the Holocaust: True Stories of Six Extraordinary Children (graphic novel)
Unteachables by Gordon Korman
Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech
War Stories by Gordon Korman
Wish Tree by Katherine Applegate
When I Hit the Road by Nancy J. Cavanaugh
Who Owns the Moon? by Cynthia Levinson
Words on Fire by Jennifer A. Nielsen
The Worst Class Trip Ever by Dave Barry