



7TH GRADE SUMMER READING

FOUNDATIONS OF WRITING & LITERATURE & ENGLISH SKILLS 7

We want our students to develop a love for reading—to see it as a relaxing pastime, a means to grow in understanding and empathy, an opportunity to see Truth in new places, and a time to let their imaginations soar.

With that hope, we are asking students read and enjoy ***The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*** by C.S. Lewis and **one other book** from the list below. After reading these books, students will write a two-paragraph response answering a prompt of their choosing from the options below. Essays are due by **Monday, August 8th**.

THE ASSIGNMENT

STEP #1 **Read** *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* and one book from the list below. Please choose a book you haven't read before and are excited to read.

STEP #2 **Write** (type) a two-paragraph response (one paragraph related to *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* and one paragraph related to your choice book).

We can learn a lot about our faith from literature. Though you may have read *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* before, we are asking you to read it again and consider the deeper messages and Gospel Truths displayed in the story. After reading the books, choose one for the categories below (character, quotes, and faith). We encourage you to challenge yourself and take the time to think and reflect before you begin writing.

- **CHARACTERS**

Paragraph 1: Pick a character from *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* that you most resemble. Describe the character, explain the traits you have in common, and show what they look like in your own life. Be sure to give specific examples.

Paragraph 2: Pick a character from your choice book that you most resemble. Describe the character, explain the traits you have in common, and show what they look like in your own life. Be sure to give specific examples.

- **QUOTES**

Paragraph 1: In *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, Mr. Beaver says that Aslan “isn't safe, but He's good.” Discuss this quote, what it means, and how it applies to your life.

Paragraph 2: Choose a quote from the choice book — discuss that quote, what it means, and how it applies to your life.

- **FAITH**

Paragraph 1: *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* is filled with lessons of faith. For example, Aslan hints at the cost of forgiveness. Can you write about a time when you began to understand what it means to be forgiven by God because of what Jesus has done for you? What did that do for you? How has that changed how you live.

Paragraph 2: Find a lesson of faith in your choice book. Share that lesson, what it means for you, and how it impacts how you live today.

STEP #3 Submit your two-paragraph response to summerreading7@wcastl.org by **Mon, August 8th**.

- Please **title the email** with the **student's first and last name**.
- If possible, please send the response **as a PDF**; if you aren't able to do so, please type your response in the body of the email.
- You will get an automatic email response when you submit your essay. If you do not receive this, please double-check the email address and resend your response.

THE RESOURCES

A. Choose 1 book from this list:

AUTHOR	TITLE
Woodson, Jacquelin	Brown Girl Dreaming
Engle, Margarita	Enchanted Air
Matsuda, Mary	Looking Like the Enemy
Swanson, James L.	Chasing Lincoln's Killer
Barry & Pearson	Peter and the Star Catchers (any in the series)
Jaques, Brian	Redwall (any in the series)
Riordan, Rick	Percy Jackson & the Olympians (any in the series)
Rowling, J.K.	Harry Potter (any in the series)
Stewart, Trenton Lee	The Mysterious Benedict Society (any in the series)
Avi	True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle
DiCamillo, Kate	Because of Winn Dixie
Sachar, Louis	Holes
Schmidt, Gary	The Wednesday Wars

B. Rubric for grading (20 points)

- **Format: 4 points possible** — two-paragraphs, typed
- **Topic Sentence: 4 points possible** — The topic sentences includes the book title and author and clearly presents the selected prompt.
- **Supporting Details: 4 points possible** — The writer references specific, vivid events from the book and/or their own life that display their position on the prompt they have chosen (make sure to include at least 2-3 supporting details).
- **Analysis & Reasoning: 4 points possible** — The writing and thinking clearly displays that the writer read and understood the novels. Also, the examples given support their opinion on the prompt chosen.
- **Grammar & Writing Style: 4 points possible** — The writer pays careful attention to grade-level appropriate grammatical standards: spelling, capitalization, use of complete sentences, and correct word usage.

Remember, your written response must be received via email by **MONDAY, AUGUST 8th** in order to avoid a late grade penalty. Students will receive a one-point grade deduction per day that the written assignment is late (up to a 50% total reduction). This will be reflected and noted in the first quarter grade.