



The IB Middle Years Program at Deal Middle School



7th Grade Summer Assignment 2011

Summer is a great time to kick back with a book, whether it's at the beach or in your bed! This summer you will be required to read two books for school and complete one activity for each book (a total of two activities). Both activities are due on **August 22, 2011**.

Reading and writing are the best way to be prepared for the 7th grade. Therefore, we encourage you to read as much as possible and would love for you to record some of the books you read on the attached form. A list of suggested readings is posted on the school website (www.alicedeal.org).

The books you can choose from to complete the reading assignments and activities are:

The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros (Arte Publico Press) ISBN 0934770204

Before We Were Free by Julia Alvarez (Random House) ISBN 9780440237846

Habibi by Naomi Shihab Nye (Simon and Schuster) ISBN 0689825234

The Glory Field by Walter Dean Myers (Scholastic) ISBN 9780545055758

Activity #1: Essay

For one of the books you read, write a five-paragraph essay guided by these questions:

Resilience is the ability to adapt effectively and recover from disappointment, difficulty, or crisis. In what ways does the main character show resilience in the book? Use specific examples. What specific lessons should seventh graders learn from the main character's resilience?

Activity #2: Character Analysis and Comparison

For the other book you choose to read, complete a character analysis and comparison. Use the main character and a secondary character from the book to complete *one* of the following two activities:

- Make a poster advertising and illustrating the book. On one half of a poster board, create a collage of images, words and quotations from the book that illustrate the main character. On the second half, create a similar collage that illustrates the secondary character. Use your images, words, and quotations from the text to show how these characters are the same and or different.
- Write a free-verse poem from the perspective of the main character. Have the main character describe the secondary character in the poem from his or her own perspective. Then write a second-free verse poem from the perspective of the secondary character where the secondary character describes the main character.

