

## Let's TALK Summer Reading

This summer, RLS middle students are required to read three items: a novel, a nonfiction book, and a poem. Your child can choose these books and poems, but each must be middle school level or higher and must be about the same topic/theme. For example,

- *Sea of Monsters* by Rick Riordan (novel)
- *Percy Jackson's Greek Gods* by Rick Riordan (nonfiction)
- "Poseidon" by Lions Soul (poem)

For each book/poem, the student will need to complete an assignment called a "TALK." There will be three TALKS--TALK to the Tale (novel), TALK to the Text (nonfiction), and TALK to the Verse (poem). Guidelines for each TALK are as follows:

- Title and author.
- Complete sentences.
- One page handwritten (or double spaced if typed). Students can be creative, using colors, etc., if they choose.

Refer to page two of this document for the TALK questions.

Step 1: Review the suggested novel-nonfiction book list for ideas.

Step 2: Take a trip to the public library to find 1.) a novel 2.) a nonfiction book and 3.) a poem.

Step 3: Preview the TALK requirements for each book/poem.

Step 4: Read each book/poem.

Step 5: Complete the TALK for each book/poem.

Step 6: EXTRA CREDIT bring your finished TALKs back to your public library and have your librarian sign and date each one.

Step 7: Submit your finished TALKS to your literature teacher by Friday, September 8, 2017.

**ASSIGNMENT DUE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2017.**

## TALK to the Tale

**Tell** characters what you think about them or their actions:

What do you think about the characters?

**Ask** a question to the author or a character:

What questions do you have?

**Link** the plot, characters, or situation to your life or another story:

How do you relate to this story?

**Key in** on something the characters could have done differently:

What could they have done differently?

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## TALK to the Text

**Tell** the author(s) what you think about their purpose or stance:

Do you agree or disagree with the author's purpose or stance?

**Ask** a question to the author:

What questions do you have?

**Link** the content to something in your life or another text:

How do you relate to this text?

**Key in** on the author's purpose or stance:

What is the author's purpose or stance on the topic?

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## TALK to the Verse

**Tell** me what a line or stanza means in your own words:

What do you think it means?

**Ask** a question to the author:

What questions do you have?

**Link** the content to something in your life or another story:

How do you relate to this verse?

**Key in** on poetic elements:

How did the poet use poetic elements, such as tone, speaker, situation and setting, language (metaphor/simile, symbol, etc.), sound devices (alliteration, assonance, consonance, repetition, etc.), internal structure, and external form?

## IDEAS FOR BOOK PAIRINGS

To get you started, I have included a list of novel-nonfiction pairings. Please read the reviews for both the fiction and nonfiction as some have more mature content than others. Work with your child to choose any novel/nonfiction/poem combination that interests him/her. Once you have gone through this list and have some ideas, I suggest you bring your child to the public library for assistance in finding a poem and/or to explore other topics that might be of interest.

Happy Reading!

Novels	Nonfiction
<u>The Egypt Game</u> by Zilpha Keatley Snyder	<u>Pyramids</u> by Anne Millard
<u>Chains</u> by Laurie Halse Anderson	<u>George Washington Spymaster</u>
<u>Football Genius</u> by Tim Green	<u>100 Years of Glory</u> by Joe Garner
<u>The Graveyard Book</u> by Neil Gaiman	<u>Stories Told In Stone: Cemetery Iconology</u>
<u>The Lions of Little Rock</u> by Kristin Levine	<u>Little Rock Girl 1957: How a Photo...</u>
<u>The Storm in the Barn</u> by Matt Phelan	<u>Years of Dust: The Story of ...</u>
<u>The Watsons Go to Birmingham--1963</u>	<u>Birmingham 1963: How a Photograph...</u>
<u>The Mostly True Adventures of HPG</u>	<u>Fields of Fury: The American Civil War</u>
<u>Ungifted</u> by Gordon Korman	<u>Robots</u> by Mark Shulman
<u>Science Fair</u> by Ridley Pearson	<u>Eruption</u> by Elizabeth Rusch
<u>The Book Thief</u> by Markus Zusak	<u>Escape: Teens Who Escaped from...</u>
<u>Boy in the Striped Pajamas</u> by John Boyne	A book about Auschwitz
<u>Flush</u> by Carl Hiaasen	<u>Generation Green</u>
<u>Hoot</u> by Carl Hiaasen	A book about the Environment
<u>Revolution is not a Dinner Party</u>	<u>Red Scarf Girl</u> by Ji-Li Jiang
<u>Voyage on the Great Titanic</u> by E. White	<u>Ghost Liners</u> by Robert D. Ballard
ANY NOVEL OF YOUR CHOICE	ANY RELATED NONFICTION BOOK