

**MAGNOLIA SCHOOL**  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading Assignment

**Journal Requirements:** Purchase an authentic and bound journal with lines marked for writing. If you have last year's summer reading journal, you may continue using it. Remember to do your best work and write clearly and neatly for each entry. Label and date each entry in your journal.

**Required:**

- *D'Aulaire's Book of Greek Myths* by Ingri D'Aulaire

**Book List (choose one):**

Choose one novel from the list below for your second book. All summer reading works must be unabridged versions.

- *Caddie Woodlawn* by Carol Ryrie Brink
- *Mara, Daughter of the Nile* by Eloise Jarvis McGraw
- *Archimedes and the Door of Science* by Jeanne Bendick

**Poem**

Poem Option #1: "The Tide Rises, the Tide Falls" by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Poem Option #2: "The Builders" by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Poem Option #3: "'Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears'" Speech by William Shakespeare

All fifth-grade students are required to choose one summer poem provided in this document, copy it word for word into their journals and memorize it for recital on the first day of school.

**Journal Assignment Parts I & II:**

Read a novel of your choosing from the book list above as well as *D'Aulaire's Book of Greek Myths* by Ingri D'Aulaire. Write a thoughtful and well-written journal entry for each assigned book. Each journal entry should be labeled, dated, and at a minimum, two or more paragraphs in length for each book. Here are some questions to consider:

- Did you enjoy the reading? Why or why not?
- What did you think of the main characters in the reading? Who did you like and who did you dislike?
- What did you learn from the story? What does it teach you about how others should be treated?
- Is there anything about that reading that you disagreed with? Did any characters make poor choices?
- What are some of the themes and main ideas of the reading? What was the main message? Was it about courage? Generosity? Growth? Forgiveness? Survival?
- How do the characters in the story change or grow throughout the story? Did any characters learn a new way of looking at the world than how they saw things at the beginning?
- Would you recommend this book to a friend? Why or why not?

\*Because the *D'Aulaire's* reading is not a classic novel but a collection of myths, feel free to reference individual myths in your responses or multiple stories if you notice patterns amongst the stories.

\*Your reflections should be at least two full paragraphs each, but you are welcome to write more! I will thoroughly enjoy reading your writing and seeing your thoughts and ideas on paper.

**Journal Assignment Part III:**

- Choose one of the summer poems provided in this document. Copy the poem into your journal word for word. Try to keep the line-breaks the same if you have enough space. You may add decorations, doodles, or drawings to your copied poem if you'd like. Memorize it for the first day of school!

**Journal Assignment Part IV:**

- Journals can be wonderful tools for capturing moments in time in our lives. Write about a family story or memory from your summer or your extended time at home. You can share a favorite memory, write about how you've grown as a person, a new hobby you've picked up, or a trip you took with your family.

Your summer reading assignment will be due on the first day of school and will be for a grade. Have fun reading!

Summer Reading Assignment Grading Rubric:

| Assignment  | Label | Date | Complete                      | Thoughtfulness | Neatness | Total |
|---|-------|------|-------------------------------|----------------|----------|-------|
| Book #1   | /1    | /1   | /12<br>(2 paragraphs minimum) | /12            | /4       | /30   |
| <i>D'Aulaire's Book of Greek Myths</i>              | /1    | /1   | /12<br>(2 paragraphs minimum) | /12            | /4       | /30   |
| Copy of Poem  | /1    | /1   | /5                            |                | /3       | /10   |
| Personal Journal Entry (memory, family story, etc.) | /1    | /1   | /5                            | /5             | /3       | /15   |
| Poem Recitation                                     |       |      | /15                           |                |          | /15   |
| <b>TOTAL SCORE</b>                                  |       |      |                               |                |          | /100  |

**Poem Choice #1**

**The Tide Rises, the Tide Falls**

BY HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW

The tide rises, the tide falls,  
 The twilight darkens, the curlew calls;  
 Along the sea-sands damp and brown  
 The traveller hastens toward the town,  
 And the tide rises, the tide falls.

Darkness settles on roofs and walls,  
 But the sea, the sea in the darkness calls;  
 The little waves, with their soft, white hands,  
 Efface the footprints in the sands,

And the tide rises, the tide falls.

The morning breaks; the steeds in their stalls  
Stamp and neigh, as the hostler calls;  
The day returns, but nevermore  
Returns the traveller to the shore,  
And the tide rises, the tide falls.

## Poem Choice #2

### The Builders

BY HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW

All are architects of Fate,  
Working in these walls of Time;  
Some with massive deeds and great,  
Some with ornaments of rhyme.

Nothing useless is, or low;  
Each thing in its place is best;  
And what seems but idle show  
Strengthens and supports the rest.

For the structure that we raise,  
Time is with materials filled;  
Our to-days and yesterdays  
Are the blocks with which we build.

Truly shape and fashion these;  
Leave no yawning gaps between;  
Think not, because no man sees,  
Such things will remain unseen.

In the elder days of Art,  
Builders wrought with greatest care  
Each minute and unseen part;  
For the Gods see everywhere.

Let us do our work as well,  
Both the unseen and the seen;  
Make the house, where Gods may dwell,  
Beautiful, entire, and clean.

Else our lives are incomplete,  
Standing in these walls of Time,  
Broken stairways, where the feet  
Stumble as they seek to climb.

Build to-day, then, strong and sure,  
With a firm and ample base;  
And ascending and secure

Shall to-morrow find its place.

Thus alone can we attain  
To those turrets, where the eye  
Sees the world as one vast plain,  
And one boundless reach of sky.

### Poem Choice #3

#### Speech: “Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears”

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (from Julius Caesar, spoken by Marc Antony)

Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears;  
I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him.  
The evil that men do lives after them;  
The good is oft interred with their bones;  
So let it be with Caesar. The noble Brutus  
Hath told you Caesar was ambitious:  
If it were so, it was a grievous fault,  
And grievously hath Caesar answer'd it.  
Here, under leave of Brutus and the rest—  
For Brutus is an honourable man;  
So are they all, all honourable men—  
Come I to speak in Caesar's funeral.  
He was my friend, faithful and just to me:  
But Brutus says he was ambitious;  
And Brutus is an honourable man.  
He hath brought many captives home to Rome  
Whose ransoms did the general coffers fill:  
Did this in Caesar seem ambitious?  
When that the poor have cried, Caesar hath wept:  
Ambition should be made of sterner stuff:  
Yet Brutus says he was ambitious;  
And Brutus is an honourable man.  
You all did see that on the Lupercal  
I thrice presented him a kingly crown,  
Which he did thrice refuse: was this ambition?  
Yet Brutus says he was ambitious;  
And, sure, he is an honourable man.  
I speak not to disprove what Brutus spoke,  
But here I am to speak what I do know.  
You all did love him once, not without cause:  
What cause withholds you then, to mourn for him?  
O judgment! thou art fled to brutish beasts,  
And men have lost their reason. Bear with me;  
My heart is in the coffin there with Caesar,  
And I must pause till it come back to me.