

Western Academy 2024 Summer Reading Assignment

Entering Fifth

The Summer Reading Assignment is designed to cultivate a love of reading among our students and prepare them for the fall academic culture at Western Academy. The books, stories and poems have been carefully selected to foster an enjoyable and thoughtful reading experience. The memorized poetry and completed readings are due the first day of school. The first weeks of school will include discussion and work on the summer reading and poetry.

Here are the steps to complete this assignment successfully.

~ **Read** all assigned books, stories, and poems.

~ **Memorize** the poem to recite for the first week of school. Practice reciting it to your family.

Suggestions for enjoyable completion of summer work:

~ Read (or have a parent read) some of the stories aloud (unabridged audio books can also be used) while the student reads along with his book. Read the poem aloud at dinner and discuss!

~ Set up a schedule early in the summer (for example: 30 minutes of reading every day before lunch).

Books:

- *The Magician's Nephew* by CS Lewis; ISBN 9780064405058
- *The Golden Goblet* by Eloise Jarvis McGraw; ISBN 9780140303353
- *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls; ISBN 9780440412670

Poem:

The Road Not Taken

by Robert Frost

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim
Because it was grassy and wanted wear,
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I marked the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I,
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

Other suggested reading:

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl
Farmer Giles of Ham by J.R.R. Tolkien
James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl
Little Lord Fauntleroy by Frances Hodgson Burnett
Pedro's Journal by Pam Conrad
Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe
Sign of the Beaver by Elizabeth George Speare
Stowaway by Karen Hesse
Swallows and Amazons by Arthur Ransome
Tarka the Otter by Henry Williamson
The Good Master by Kate Seredy
The Happy Prince and Other Tales by Oscar Wilde
The Princess and The Goblin by George MacDonald
The Story of a Bad Boy by Thomas Bailey Aldrich
The Wheel on the School by Meindert DeJong
True to the Old Flag by G.A. Henty
Warrior Scarlet by Rosemary Sutcliff

Other suggested poems:

“The Charge of the Light Brigade” by Alfred, Lord Tennyson