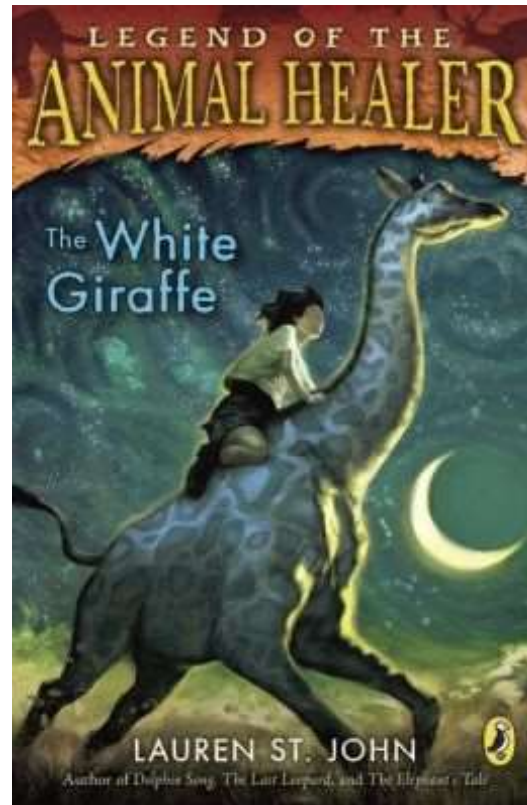




Middle School Summer Reading
Pre-Advanced Placement
6th Grade English
2017



The White Giraffe
By Lauren St. John

Advanced Academics & Guidance Services
EDINBURG CISD



Middle School Summer Reading Pre-Advanced Placement 6th Grade English 2017



Dear Parents of ECISD English Pre-AP students,

As this school year comes to a close, the middle school English teachers here in the Edinburg C.I.S.D. would like to let you know that we have your child's education in mind when we make decisions about summer reading assignments. We understand how important it is for students to develop a love of reading as part of their intellectual growth and future success.

We have high expectations for all our students, but especially for our pre-AP students. Pre-AP classes help prepare students for the rigorous, yet rewarding academic challenges they will face when they enter high school and, later, college. Students need to develop a sense of responsibility and dedication to work to ensure their success—now and for the future.

In order to help develop your child's independent reading skills and critical thinking skills, we require all 6th grade pre-AP, 7th grade pre-AP, and 8th grade English I pre-AP students to read an assigned novel during the summer months. Students will also be required to complete an assignment over their reading and will be assessed over the novel through tests, essays, and class activities at the beginning of the school year.

All students registered for 6th grade English pre-AP, 7th grade English pre-AP, and (8th grade) English I pre-AP for the 2017-2018 school year MUST read the assigned novel and complete the corresponding assignment during the summer.

The Summer Reading Assignment is due by the end of the second week of school on September 4, 2017, followed by an exam on September 5, 2017.

Thank you,

ECISD Middle School Pre-AP English teachers



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Creating a Diorama
For
“The White Giraffe”
By: Lauren St. John

Choose an event from *The White Giraffe* that portrays a conflict found in the story. Then build your diorama. Before you create your project this is a list of the supplies that you might need so you are organized and ready to go.

Possible Supplies: Shoe box or slightly larger box, construction paper on which to design background scene, scissors, markers and or crayons, figures to recreate the scene, tape, thread, glue.

Diorama: “A life-size, 3-dimensional scene of a conflict found in *The White Giraffe* “

HOW TO MAKE A DIORAMA

1. **Find a box** at least as big as a shoe box-a slightly larger box works even better. Cover the outside of the box with construction paper.
2. **Decide on a scale.** This is key, because a diorama becomes believable to the extent that it looks “real.” If you’ve got a focus (a Barbie doll, a particular plastic animal), use that scale.
3. **Collect your materials-** human and/or animal figures, palm trees or miniature furniture, or anything for an interior scene.
4. **Decide on a background-** you can paint or draw your own or use wallpaper or wrapping paper (or anything else you can find). Remember, though that the background images should be consistent with the scale you have chosen. **Decorate the Walls:** Most every diorama has three walls or views, a ceiling or sky and a floor, ground or base. You need to decorate these inside walls first. There are lots of ways to do this. You can paint them or color them with markers, crayons or paint. You can measure them, cut construction or other paper to fit on them, and glue that on. Or you can go to your computer and design something to look more realistic.
5. **Build your diorama working from the back to the front-** start with the background (don’t forget the sky/ceiling and ground/floor). Then place large objects such as trees. The smallest objects should go farthest forward. Use glue to secure the objects. Objects such as birds, clouds, balloons, and airplanes can be hung from the top using black thread. Tape or tie the thread to the object and to the box.
6. **Attach a title** to the box where it can easily be seen.

***Examples can be viewed on Google Images: Diorama examples**

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The White Giraffe

Fiction Book Response Trifold

Use the explanations below to help you complete each section of the trifold found on the next pages of this packet.

1. Before Reading - Fill in the blanks with the title of the book and the author's name. Then, take a look at the pictures on the cover of the novel and write down what you think (Prediction) the book will be about.

2. During Reading - Write down connections you make while you are reading the book.

TS - Text to Self: How do the ideas in this text relate to your own life, ideas and experiences? Complete one of the following statements:

-What I just read reminds me of the time when I....

-I agree with/understand what I just read because in my own life...

-I don't agree with what I just read because in my own life...

TW - Text to World: How do the ideas in this text reading relate to the larger world – past, present and future. Complete one of the following statements:

-What I just read makes me think about _____ (event from the past) because.....

-What I just read makes me think about _____(event from today related to my own community, nation or world) because....

-What I just read makes me wonder about the future because....

TT - Text to Text: How do the ideas in this text remind you of another text (story, book, movie, song, etc)? Complete one of the following statements:

-What I just read reminds me of _____ (story/book/movie/song) because...

-The ideas in this text are similar to the ideas in _____ Because....

-The ideas in this text are different than the ideas in _____ because....

3. During Reading - Write down anything that you picture in your mind as you read or any questions you have about what you are reading. Be sure to include page numbers.

4. After Reading - What do you think is the theme (the message or lesson learned) of the novel? Write it down and explain how it fits the story.

5. After Reading - Explain what your favorite part of the book was and give plenty of details to support your explanation.



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During Reading

3

As you read, record any visualizations (V) or questions (Q) you have.

15 vertical lines for notes.

During Reading

2

As you read, record any connections (TS, TW, TT) you make to the story.

15 vertical lines for notes.

Before Reading

1

Title:

Author:

5 horizontal lines for title and author information.

Take a picture walk. Make a prediction (P) about your story.

15 vertical lines for prediction notes.



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Summer Reading Student/Parent Agreement

Student

By signing below, I am indicating that I fully understand my responsibilities for summer reading and related assignments. I also guarantee to be ready to meet these expectations by the end of the second week of school on September 4, 2017, followed by an exam on September 5, 2017.

School attended in 2016-2017: _____

Name of English teacher (2016-2017): _____

Printed Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent

By signing below, I indicate an awareness and understanding of my child's responsibilities for summer reading. I also support my child's efforts to complete his/her summer reading assignment by the end of the second week of school on September 4, 2017, followed by an exam on September 5, 2017.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please Note:

Summer reading is REQUIRED for all students who will be taking
Pre-AP/GT English classes during the 2017-2018 school year.