



Dear Parents,

It has been a joy to teach your children this past year! The students have worked hard all year and I look forward to teaching them in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Literature this fall.

While summer is an amazing time for camps, vacations, and relaxation, it is also great time to curl up with a good book! As you know, good readers and writers read and write DAILY. Recent brain research shows us that practice is necessary in order to master strategies that are critical to the success of the reading and writing process. Reading during the summer also helps students maintain their independent reading levels. The more students read, the more proficient they become at reading and writing!

In order to make sure your child has a successful start to 8<sup>th</sup> grade, I have assigned a novel for your child to read so they can practice their critical thinking and writing skills. Students have checked out their summer reading novel and have been given their packet with detailed instructions on what they need to accomplish. I encourage you to go over this packet with them and help them establish a plan to complete their assignment in a timely manner.

**All work is due the first day of school (August 6<sup>th</sup>) and will be taken for a grade. Students will also have a test over the novel.**

While I am only requiring students to read one novel, I encourage them to choose books, magazines, and/or newspaper articles to read consistently throughout the summer. A strong background in reading helps in all subject areas!

If you have any questions and/or concerns regarding summer reading, please don't hesitate to contact me via e-mail at [ctempleton@stmarysoakridge.org](mailto:ctempleton@stmarysoakridge.org) . I am happy to assist in any way possible!

I hope you and your family have a beautiful summer and I cannot wait to see you in August!

God bless!

Sincerely,  
Carrie Templeton





**8<sup>th</sup> grade Summer Reading Assignment**  
**Mrs. Templeton**  
**ctempleton@stmarysoakridge.org**

Dear Students,

Welcome to 8<sup>th</sup> grade Literature! Before we begin our new adventures in the classroom this fall, it is important that you spend part of your summer practicing your reading and critical thinking skills by completing your summer reading assignment.

This summer you will be expected to read ***Peter and the Starcatchers*** by **Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson**. ~~As you read, you will be asked to complete one assignment via Edmodo.~~ You will also be asked to complete a set of guided questions, which will be due THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. You may also use the questions on your test, which will be taken the first week of school.

### Guided Questions

As you read, please answer the attached guided questions in full and complete sentences. You may write your responses on a separate sheet of paper or type/print your answers. These are due THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. Be sure to read the questions carefully and answer thoroughly.

**BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR GRAMMAR AND SPELLING! No incomplete sentences!**

*Peter and the Starcatchers*  
Guided Questions

Directions: Answer any **30 out of 45** questions in full and **complete sentences** by restating the question. You may answer all of them for extra credit.

1. Where did Peter and the boys live before they set sail on the boat?
2. Why was Peter the leader of the boys? Where were they from?
3. Describe Peter using and explaining at least three different adjectives.
4. What ship was Peter and the orphans being forced to board?
5. Why didn't Peter jump off the ship when he thought no one was looking?
6. What kind of gross things were in the soup? What does this say about the boys' living conditions on the ship?
7. Why were Peter and the boys sailing to Rundoon?

10. How did Captain Stache make his ship lighter and why did he do this?
11. Describe Black Stache using textual evidence from the novel.
12. How does Alf describe feeling when he was around the mysterious trunk?
13. Did any of the pirates believe Alf's story about what happened to John? Why or why not?
14. Who is Molly Aster's father and what does he do for a living?
15. What are *The Ladies* on The Sea Devil ship?
16. Who were the messengers and what message did Molly give them to send to her father?
17. What traits do Black Stache, Captain Scott, and Mr. Aster all share?
18. Why did Black Stache want to get to the *Never Land* before the storm did?
19. What are the tasks/purposes of Starcatchers (list them all)?
20. Who were the Others? Were they good or bad?
21. How were centaurs and sea serpents created?
22. Who else in history and mythology knew about the starstuff?
23. Why didn't Molly want to throw the trunk overboard?
24. How did Molly know that Black Stache had overtaken *The Was*?
25. Why did Molly jump into the sea?
26. Who did Black Stache take with him when he left *The Neverland*?
27. How much money was Stache offering the men if they spot the trunk and Peter? Do you think that was a lot of money?
28. Where did the trunk of starstuff land after *The Neverland* sank?
29. How did Stache know that the other people made it to the island safely?
30. Why did Molly want to hide the keg of water?
31. How did Slank escape the Jolly Roger after Black Stache kidnapped him?
32. Describe the savages on the island.
33. Who is Mister Grin? Describe him.
34. What effect did the starstuff have on the island?

37. Why did the blonde mermaid keep the other mermaids from attacking Peter?
38. What deal did Slank make with Peter to get the trunk?
39. Who stabbed Fighting Prawn?
40. How did Black Stache lose his hand?
41. Why did Fighting Prawn want the trunk of starstuff?
42. How did the starstuff affect Peter?
43. What gift did Lord Aster give to Peter? Why?
44. Why did Alf decide not to stay on the island with Peter?
45. What genre is this novel?

