

# ENGLISH - REQUIRED SUMMER READING

## ENTERING 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS AT AUCILLA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY!

Research shows that students who read, score better on verbal tests and write more effectively. Since this is one of our academic goals at ACA, we are requiring all Secondary Students to read two books over the summer. One book has already been selected by your teacher and you are to select an additional book from the list below.

### Assignment Instructions

All 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to read *The Hiding Place* and to complete the attached Major Works Data Sheet. Students will be tested on the book during the first week of school. An analysis of this book will be the primary project of the first six weeks. In order to be successful, students must have read this book and completed the Data Sheet prior to the start of school. Be sure to take study notes as you read! However, notes will not be used on tests!

**You must have a copy of the required book for the first 3 weeks of class.**

For the second book, students are required to choose a book from the list below and complete the reading assignment on the back of this sheet.

Both Reading Assignments are due on the first day of school.

### Required Book

***The Hiding Place by Corrie Ten Boom*** - This is the true story of the Ten Boom family who, during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands, upon seeing what was happening to their Jewish neighbors and friends, asked themselves this age old question "If not us,...who; if not now,...when?" They answered it, ultimately at great cost.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Book Selections - Choose one of the following:

***Heat by Mike Lupica*** - Twelve-year-old Michael Arroyo shares the dream of his playing baseball with his Papi, who tragically dies of a heart attack, leaving Michael and his brother to struggle on their own. Michael's skill as a pitcher leads to vicious rumors that he is older than he appears, leading to the league demanding that he be benched. Tensions continue as Michael works to obtain his birth certificate from Cuba, stay with his older brother, and build his first girl-boy relationship.

***Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor*** - The story of one African American family fighting to stay together and strong in the face of brutal racist attacks, illness, poverty, and betrayal in the Deep South of the 1930s.

***The Pearl by John Steinbeck*** - Kino is a Mexican pearl-fisher in the Gulf of California. When he and his wife, Juana, have a baby, their joy is complete . . . until the infant is bitten by a scorpion. Kino finds a great pearl worth a fortune, far more than enough to pay the doctor needed to save the baby's life, but it brings only tragedy and evil to his family.

***Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse*** - When Billie Jo is just fourteen she must endure heart-wrenching ordeals that no child should have to face. The quiet strength she displays while dealing with unspeakable loss is as surprising as it is inspiring. Written in free verse, this award-winning story is set in the heart of the Great Depression.

***Life on the Mississippi by Mark Twain*** - The first part of this book is about Twain's early life along the river and was a reworking of a series of *Atlantic Monthly* articles previously published on the topic. The second part is mostly a description of experiences Twain had in the years 1857 — 1860, first as a cub riverboat pilot and later as a licensed captain.

Visit [www.aucilla.org](http://www.aucilla.org) for a complete listing of the summer Reading lists and assignments.

### Acquiring the books:

- Books may be borrowed from a public or private library.
- Books may be purchased at bookstores such as Borders and Books-a-Million.
- Books may be purchased online (shipping will take several weeks, so please plan accordingly). Try amazon.com; barnesandnoble.com; ecampus.com.
- Some books may be out of copyright and available FOR FREE in electronic format (e-readers, .pdf, .txt)