

## 8th Grade Summer Work List - 2019

**This document includes all of your summer work as a rising 8th grader at GSFS. Please have all of your assignments completed and shared with your teachers by the first day of school.**

### **SOCIAL STUDIES: Reading Assignment**

All rising 8<sup>th</sup> graders are to read ***March***, the graphic novel by and about John Lewis. There are three volumes - you may choose whichever one you like to read. You do not have to read them in order.

In a paragraph (4-6 sentences) each, please tell which volume you read and address two of the following prompts:

1. Describe the central conflict that John Lewis and his colleagues want to address. Why is this problem a priority for them?
2. How does John grow personally and professionally throughout the novel?
3. What would you consider to be the biggest challenges John and his colleagues face? Why?
4. Comment on the effect that the accomplishments that John and his colleagues achieved have had on your life or on society today. Give examples.

These paragraphs should be typed or written neatly with skipped lines. They may be emailed at any time during the summer to [mfoley@greenestreetfriends.org](mailto:mfoley@greenestreetfriends.org). Otherwise they are due the first day back in September. Let Marty know if you read more than one volume.

### **LANGUAGE ARTS: Reading Assignment**

- You will choose **one novel or work of non-fiction** to read this summer. This book should be appropriate to your age, interest and reading ability. You should also choose a book that you have not read yet.
- To provide evidence of your completion of the book, you will make a **brief verbal presentation** to the class that demonstrates your understanding of it.
- Presentation Specifics:
  - Select **one of the elements of the book** (plot, character, setting, or theme).
  - Explain **how** the story element is represented in the book.
  - Your presentation should be **1-3 minutes** in length.
  - You should practice your presentation **over the summer**.
  - Presentations will occur **during the first week of school**.
  - *You do not need to have any physical presentation or slideshow, but you should send this to me before the start of school if you would like to project it.*
- You will be graded on your presentation skills, knowledge of the book, ability to explain specific details about a story element, and the length of your presentation.

## LANGUAGE ARTS: Writing Assignment

- You will write a **This I Believe** essay about a topic about which you feel passionate *and* to which you have a personal connection.
- Your essay should *balance telling a personal story while making a statement that is applicable to your audience*.
- Steps:
  - Before you write your own, you will read/watch at least 10 This I Believe essays to serve as a model. You should choose essays from [www.thisibelieve.org](http://www.thisibelieve.org) with a range of topics that interest you. **Listen to the audio version** so that you can hear pacing, emphasis, and passion.
  - Then, you will **write** an edited draft of your own This I Believe speech.
  - You should **share** a Google document with your speech with me at [ekirchner@greenestreetfriends.org](mailto:ekirchner@greenestreetfriends.org) by **September 3, 2019**.
  - At the start of the school year, I will leave comments, you will make edits, and we will practice your presentation skills. After you have made all necessary edits/changes, you will **present** your speech at a middle school assembly.
  - You will be graded on the **completion of each of these tasks**.
- Guidelines to Help You Write Your Speech:
  - **Possible topics:**
    - When were you disappointed because someone made you a promise that they failed to keep? Or when did you break a promise that you made to someone else?
    - What skill or area are you working on to make progress?
    - How do you define *hero*, and who is a hero in your life?
    - Have you ever prejudged someone incorrectly, based on their appearance, or has someone ever prejudged you unfairly based on how you look?
    - What obstacles are you proud to have faced and conquered?
  - **Ways to Start:**
    - Avoid beginning an essay with the statement “This I Believe.”
    - You will need a **powerful hook** to get any reader’s attention, such as a **question**, **quotation** (from someone famous or from someone significant in your life), **strong statement** (that your essay will either support or dispute), **metaphor**, or **description**.
  - **Ways to Add Audience Appeal to Personal Essays:**
    - Your essay should be about something *you care strongly* enough about to elaborate.
    - Your essay should be *personal*, but make the frame big enough to be *universal*.
    - Give your reader a *small moment and the wider perspective*.
    - Use *sensory details* to draw the reader in and avoid using abstract or broad phrases.
    - You can provide a *brief restatement* of your opening at the end to come full circle.

### **SPANISH: Duolingo**

All students are on Duolingo. Enter the site and the assigned class (GSFS La clase de 2020.) Please practice the designated assignment for your class (200 XP goal, which was assigned May 28, 2019.) This work IS OPTIONAL and is encouraged for those who love to learn language and/or believe it will help them get on solid footing for the academic year.

*Please note that I do not have your log-in information on file. You should have this documented. If you cannot find your former log-in information, please sign-up again, and USE YOUR FIRST NAME as a part of your username (so I know who you are.) The classroom link is: <https://www.duolingo.com/o/fgwbcy> It would be fun to see your progress, but again this is OPTIONAL.*

## **MATH: IXL**

We are going to continue to use the IXL format for our summer assignments. Students will be using an interactive website, IXL, to reinforce the skills that they learned in 7th grade. It is our hope that this will help our students enter their next math course well prepared and ready to go! Once on the site, students should go the section Labeled 7th grade. Students should do the following sections:

A (Number Theory)

C (Operations with Integers) C.3, C.7, C.9

E (Operations with Decimals) E.8 & E.11

G (Operations with Fractions) G.1, G.3, G.5, G.7, G.9, G.12, G.13, G.15, G.18

H (Rational Numbers) H.1, H.4, H.5, H.6, H.8

I (Exponents and Square Roots) I.1, I.2

J (Ratios, Rates, and Proportions) J.8, J.10, J.13, J.14

L (Percents) L.2, L.3, L.7, L.9

P (Coordinate Plane) P.1-P.4

Q (Number Sequence) Q.2, Q.7

R (Expressions and Properties) R.1-R.16

S (One-Variable Equations ) S.1, S.2, S.5, S.6, S.8, S.9

T (One-Variable Inequalities) T.2-T.7

U (Two-Variable Equations) U.1, U.5- U.10

V (Linear Equations) V.1, V.2, V.4. V.5, V.6

I want to challenge each student to join the 300/300 Club. To join, each student should have at least 300 problems completed correctly over the entire summer and at least 300 minutes spent working on IXL. Students should use the above as guidelines in their study of math this summer. Some students may feel the need to review previous material, and others may want to try problems from categories that are not listed. Both types of practice are encouraged. However, be sure some practice is done from each of the categories above. I hope you will encourage your student to use IXL daily. Here is to an excellent year in math!

Happy learning,

Your future math teacher, Jessica