

Dear Parents and Students,

Summer is the perfect time to read a few good books! Our summer reading assignments are meant to encourage our students' love of reading over the summer break and lay the groundwork for next fall's continent study. South America is the focus of our global studies next year and will be featured in our continent study. The required reading selection will be an important part of our integrated curriculum this coming year, particularly in language arts and social studies. **All summer reading assignments must be completed by the first day of school on August 21. Students will need to have copies of their required reading books in class beginning the first day.**

**Middle school students are required to read a total of two books over the summer.**

**All MS students must read:**

1. *The Disappeared* by Gloria Whelan

[https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/2133800.The\\_Disappeared?from\\_search=true](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/2133800.The_Disappeared?from_search=true)

As they read, students should pay close attention to the setting of the story and how it affects the plot. They should also think about any connections they can make between themselves and the main characters. This will be the first book we discuss together at the beginning of the school year and will help prepare us for our continent study of South America. **There is no independent project to be completed for this book. Work will be done in class once school starts. All students are required to have a copy of this book at school.** It is readily available for purchase through Amazon.

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**The second book required for summer reading is the student's choice and should not be a book he or she has previously read.** There are many excellent young adult books available, including the titles recommended at the link below. The website provides a list of recommended titles appropriate for different age ranges. It is just one resource for discovering great books.

<http://www.readbrightly.com/topics/summer-reading/>

**\*Each student will need to create a project for the book he or she chooses independently (not for the required title).\*** The project should tell the class all the important details about the book your student read (title, author, genre, characters, setting, plot). All projects must be labeled with the book's title and author. Students may choose a project idea from the list included or create their own idea! Have fun and be creative! **Students will present their projects the first week of school. Students *should not* bring their projects to school on the first day.**

Happy reading this summer!