

Virginia Beach Friends School
Middle School Summer Reading
2025-2026

Dear Students,

Happy Summer! Congratulations on a successful year. To keep everyone's reading skills sharp during the coming weeks, Friends Middle School students have been assigned summer reading. Reading activities are due by Friday, August 22.

Please feel free to contact me, kasey@vbfschool.org, if you have any questions.

Best wishes,
Kasey Curtis, Humanities Teacher, Virginia Beach Friends School

Summer Reading Passport Challenge

Mission:

Choose **one book** that is **at least 150 pages, new to you**, and written at a **middle school reading level or higher**. Think of your book as a brand-new country you're visiting—get ready to explore!

Your Summer Reading "Passport" Includes These Stamps to Complete:

1. Boarding Pass (Pre-Read):

Before you begin reading, write a short paragraph (5–7 sentences) answering:

- Why did you choose this book?

- What do you hope to experience or learn during this “journey”?

2. Local Landmarks (While Reading):

Pick **5 important “landmarks”** in your book. These are moments that changed the course of the story or revealed something big about a character. For each:

- Quote a line from that moment
- In 3–5 sentences, explain why it’s significant and how it helped shape the journey.

3. Street Interview (Creative Character Connection):

Imagine you had the chance to interview one of the characters while traveling through their world. Write a **Q&A interview** with at least **5 questions and answers**. Be creative! Let their personality shine through their responses.

4. Postcard Home (Theme Reflection):

Pretend you’re sending a postcard to your class. On the front: draw or digitally design a cover image representing your book. On the back:

- In a short paragraph (5–7 sentences), describe the **big idea or theme** of the book, and how it connected to your own life or thoughts.

5. Souvenir Collection:

Create a small “souvenir” (drawing, poem, collage, map, playlist, diorama, etc.) that captures the **mood or tone** of the book. Be as imaginative as you like!

Due Date:

Bring your completed **Reading Passport** and any bonus souvenirs on the first week of school.

You are welcome to present this in any format, i.e., Google Docs, handwritten, Google Slides or you may present this information using the template below.

BONUS (Extra Points):

You will have the option to present your Summer Reading Passport journey to your class during the first week(s) of school!

Middle School Summer Reading Passport

Name: _____

Grade (2025–2026): _____

Book Title: _____

Author: _____

Page Count: _____

Page 1: Boarding Pass – Before You Read

Before starting your book, answer the following in a paragraph (5–7 sentences):

- Why did you choose this book?
- What do you hope to experience, learn, or feel while reading?
- Have you read anything similar before?

Page 2: Local Landmarks – While You Read

Identify **5 important “landmarks”** in your book. These are key events, plot twists, or big character moments.

For each one, complete the following:

-  **Landmark #** ____

Quote or moment:

“_____ (Author and page number).”

Why it matters (3–5 sentences):

(Repeat for a total of 5 “Landmarks”)

Page 3: Street Interview – Creative Character Q&A

Imagine you had the chance to sit down and interview one of the characters from your book. Choose someone important or interesting.

Character Name: _____

Your Interview (At least 5 Q&A):

1. **Q:**

A:

2. **Q:**

A:

3. **Q:**

A:

4. **Q:**

A:

5. **Q:**

A:

Page 4: Postcard Home – Theme Reflection

Draw (or digitally design) the front of a postcard that reflects your book: a setting, symbol, or emotional moment.

Back of the postcard:

Write a paragraph (5–7 sentences) to your classmates. Include:

- What's the **theme** or big idea of your book?

- How did it show up in the story?
- Did this idea connect to your life or teach you something?

Page 5: Souvenir Collection

Bring in a creative project that represents your book! Ideas include:

- A collage or drawing
- A poem from a character's perspective
- A "playlist" of 5 songs that match the story
- A model or diorama of a scene
- A map of the character's journey