



## Seton Summer Reading 2024-2025

For our summer reading assignment, we ask that you read **at least one** book from our Battle of the Books reading list and engage thoughtfully in **one** of the activity options below to consider how your experience of reading this book connects to you, your family, your communities, and your experience as a reader. This assignment will be due on Monday, August 19. No extensions will be offered for this project. There will be a dropbox on Google Classroom as well as the option to turn in your project physically.

To guide this experience, please consider the words of [Dr. Rudine Sims Bishop](#), a professor emerita at The Ohio State University, who wrote:

“Books are sometimes **windows**, offering views of worlds that may be real or imagined, familiar or strange. Readers have only to **[look] through in imagination to become part of whatever world has been created and recreated by the author.**

[A book] can also be a **mirror**. Literature transforms human experience and reflects it back to us, and **in that reflection we can see our own lives and experiences as part of the larger human experience.**

**Reading, then, becomes a means of self-affirmation,** and readers often seek their mirrors in books...

[We] need books that will help them understand the multicultural nature of the world they live in, and their place as a member of just one group, as well as their connections to all other humans.”

- [“Mirrors, Windows, and Sliding Glass Doors”](#) (1990)

### **ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:**

- *Why does it matter what we read?*
- *How do our identities influence our experiences as readers?*
- *How can reading books inspire us to celebrate ourselves and our communities?*



**Directions:**

1. Pick a character or theme/central idea in the book.
2. Consider how this character or theme is either a "mirror" or a "window" into your own life/experience, whether that be yourself, your family, your communities.
3. Look closely at the **rubric** below to understand expectations of the project.

**Expectations for the Artist's Statement** (*some options require an "Artist's Statement"*)

Write *at least 200 words* in which you explain in detail:

- What is occurring in the artwork you have crafted (ex: plot events, emotional climaxes, character realizations/ interactions/ relationships)
- Explain your creative process (inspirations, motivations, intentions, and methods). It can also include what tools and techniques you incorporated.
- Explain how this artwork connects to people, events, themes in the book.
- Explain how this artwork is a window or a mirror for you as a person.

4. Pick **one** of the options below for your summer project:

A. **Comic strip, with artist's statement** (*see above*)

- 10-15 panels that include both images and text and/or text bubbles
- depict a moment/story from your own life that relates to an event that occurred in the original text
- check this resource: <https://www.storyboardthat.com/>



- B. **Live or animated video, with artist's statement** (*see above*)
- 5-8 minute video
  - depict a moment/story from your own life that relates to an event that occurred in the original text
  - include voice over, dialogue, and/or text (i.e. subtitles)
- C. **One act drama/play/screenplay, with artist's statement** (*see above*)
- write setting, dialogue and stage directions.
  - 10-15 pages, double spaced
  - maximum four characters
- D. **Photojournalism, with artist's statement** (*see above*)
- 10 photos minimum
  - Photos should be focused on a theme, idea, character, or connection from the text.
- E. **Visual art, with artist's statement** (*see above*)
- Identify a moment in the book that represents a window/mirror for you.
  - Draw, paint, sketch, collage, etc. that moment in abstract or realistic detail. This visual art can be any size or medium, but it must be your original artwork.
- F. **Series of journal entries**
- **(no artist's statement)**
  - four (4) entries, 200 words per entry minimum
  - text to self, text to text, text to world connections
  - suggested activities:
    - describe moments/events in book and discuss how you would react
    - compare and contrast yourself to characters/people in the book



- discuss how this book represents “windows and mirrors” for you.

**G. Series of letters back and forth between you and the character/person**

- ***(no artist's statement)***
- four (4) letters, 200 words per entry minimum
- write two letters from a character and two response letters from you
  - describe moments/events in book and discuss
  - compare and contrast yourself to characters/people in the book
  - discuss how this book represents “windows and mirrors” for you.



**SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT RUBRIC:**

	<b>AWESOME (3)</b>	<b>GOOD (2)</b>	<b>DEVELOPING (1)</b>
<b>Demonstrate Understanding of the Text</b>	<p>Project incorporates multiple, specific, relevant details (characters/people, events) <b>from the book.</b></p> <p>Analysis or commentary of details makes relevant inferences and makes thoughtful connections to <b>themes in the book.</b></p>	<p>Project incorporates specific, relevant details (characters/people, events) <b>from the book.</b></p> <p>Analysis or commentary of details makes thoughtful connections to <b>themes in the book.</b></p>	<p>Project incorporates some relevant details (characters/people, events) <b>from the book.</b></p> <p>Analysis or commentary of details makes loose or underdeveloped connections to <b>themes in the book.</b></p>
<b>Demonstrate how this text is a mirror or window into your own life.</b>	<p>Project incorporates multiple specific, relevant details (people, events) <b>in your own life.</b></p> <p>Analysis/commentary of details makes relevant inferences and makes thoughtful connections in the book to show <b>how this book is a "window" or "mirror"</b> into your own life.</p>	<p>Project incorporates specific, relevant details (people, events) <b>in your own life.</b></p> <p>Analysis/commentary of details makes thoughtful connections in the book to show <b>how this book is a "window" or "mirror"</b> into your own life.</p>	<p>Project incorporates some relevant details (people, events) <b>in your own life.</b></p> <p>Analysis/commentary of details makes loose or underdeveloped connections in the book to show <b>how this book is a "window" or "mirror"</b> into your own life.</p>
<b>Attention to Detail, Presentation, and, Conventions</b>	<p>Project is organized clearly and purposefully; <b>it fits together in a way that builds</b> over the course of the project.</p> <p>All written products, including the artist's statement, consistently demonstrate <b>mastery of grammar and conventions.</b></p> <p>Presentation of the project is clear and <b>demonstrates attention to detail</b>, including headings, fonts, etc.</p>	<p>Project is organized clearly; <b>it fits together in a way that makes sense</b> over the course of the project.</p> <p>All written products, including artist's statement, <b>demonstrate grade level grammar and conventions</b> with few errors.</p> <p>Presentation of the project is clear and <b>demonstrates attention to detail</b>, including headings, fonts, etc. with few errors.</p>	<p>Project is organized so that <b>it is clear to understand/follow.</b></p> <p>All written products, including artist's statement, <b>attempt grade level grammar and conventions</b> but with many errors.</p> <p>Presentation of the project is clear although <b>some attention to detail is overlooked.</b></p>
<b>Meets the Requirements of the Assignment</b>	<b>Meets all requirements</b> of the chosen assignment.	<b>Meets most requirements</b> of the chosen assignment.	<b>Meets some requirements</b> of the chosen assignment.



**BATTLE OF THE BOOKS LIST**

	<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Posted</b>	<b>John David Anderson</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Home of the Brave</b>	<b>Katherine Applegate</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>The Mona Lisa Vanishes</b>	<b>Nicholas Day</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>When Stars are Scattered</b>	<b>Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>False Prince</b>	<b>Jennifer Nielsen</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Woods Runner</b>	<b>Gary Paulsen</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>As Brave as You</b>	<b>Jason Reynolds</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Maniac Magee</b>	<b>Jerry Spinelli</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Flipped</b>	<b>Wendelin Van Draanan</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Coundown</b>	<b>Deborah Wiles</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Remember Us</b>	<b>Jacquiline Woodson</b>