

# Eagles Landing Middle School 2019 Summer Reading Program

For Incoming 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students

Welcome to the Eagles Landing Middle School Summer Reading Program! All students are required to participate and will be assessed at the beginning of the upcoming school year. Eagles Landing Middle School believes in promoting a high degree of academic excellence in our students, which begins with a strong foundation in reading.

## Directions for participation in our reading program:

1. Over the summer, read **one** of the assigned novel options listed below.
2. Use your knowledge of the novel to respond to the attached writing prompts.
3. Turn your written response into your Language Arts teacher any time during the first two weeks of school to receive your points / grade.
4. About two weeks into the new school year, a Reading Counts quiz on the selected novel may be made available in the classroom or on computer.

### ***OPTIONS (Choose one)***

#### **Regular**

#### ***Dirty Little Secrets***

By Cynthia Jaynes Omololu  
(890 Lexile)

#### ***Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie***

By Jordan Sonnenblick  
(940 Lexile)

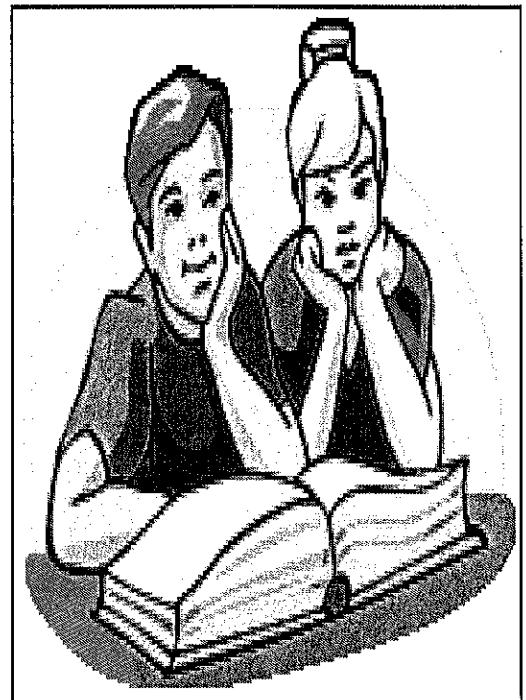
#### **Advanced/Gifted**

#### ***Lockdown: Escape from Furnace***

By Alexander Gordon Smith  
(1010 Lexile)

#### ***City of the Beasts***

By Isabelle Allende  
(1030 Lexile)



## **Summer Reading Program: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)**

### **1. Where can I obtain a copy of the recommended books?**

Books may be purchased almost anywhere that books are sold. ELMS does not recommend or endorse any particular purchasing location, but has notified some local book stores and public library locations of our summer reading program. They are:

Barnes and Noble: 1400 Glades Rd., Boca Raton, FL 561-750-2134

SW County Regional Library: 20701 95th Ave., Boca Raton, FL 561-482-4554

West Boca Branch Library: 18685 State Road 7, Boca Raton, FL 561-470-1600

### **2. Where can I obtain additional copies of the book list and/or the book report?**

Copies are available at the local bookstore, in the public libraries listed above, on the Eagles Landing website ([www.edline.net/pages/ELMS](http://www.edline.net/pages/ELMS)), and in the school Student Services office during summer hours.

### **3. Is the program mandatory?**

Yes. All incoming or returning students in grades 6, 7 and 8 are required to read the listed book during the summer or within the first two weeks of the school year. The book report is required. Teachers will be planning instruction for the first several weeks around the summer reading book.

### **4. I have just enrolled at Eagles Landing Middle School. Do I still have to participate?**

Students enrolled on or after **August 1, 2019** are exempt from the program but may participate if they choose to do so. Eagles Landing strongly encourages all newly enrolled students to participate.

#### **Tips for success:**

An application for a Palm Beach County Library card is available through Edline at [www.edline.net/pages/ELMS](http://www.edline.net/pages/ELMS).

The public library has computers you can use for free!

If you don't understand something on this handout, use the internet to look it up.

Start reading the book early in the summer in order to finish the book and the report.

# Summer Reading Written Response

Please follow these guidelines:

- Write a heading with your name, the novel title, and author.
- Each response should be **five to seven sentences**.
- Typed responses should be 12 point, Times New Roman font, and double-spaced.
- If you are unable to type your response, it should be legibly written in pencil or black or blue pen on binder paper.
- Proofread for spelling, grammar, capitalization, and punctuation.

Remember to support your answers with textual evidence. Textual evidence is:

- a quotation copied directly from the book with quotation marks and a page number.
- OR
- paraphrased information in your own words that provides specific descriptions of characters, events, and settings.

**DIRECTIONS:** Respond to **FOUR** of the five prompts below. All work must be your own. Plagiarism is **NOT** tolerated at Eagles Landing Middle School.

1. **Title:** Explain the significance of the title of the book. What does it mean and how does it relate to the character(s) and events of the novel? Provide at least two pieces of textual evidence to support your answer.
2. **Conflict:** Describe the primary problem or conflict of the novel. Explain how the conflict begins, what the protagonist does to solve the problem, and the end result. Provide at least two pieces of textual evidence to support your answer.
3. **Character Development:** Write an explanation of how the protagonist changes from the beginning of the novel to the end. Begin by describing the protagonist's character traits at the beginning of the novel and provide at least one piece of textual evidence. Then explain the significant event(s) that caused the character to change. Finally, describe the protagonist's character traits at the end of the novel and provide at least one piece of textual evidence.
4. **Theme:** What is the main theme of the novel? Provide at least three specific events from the novel that develop this theme.
5. **Reader's Reaction:** Write a review of the novel. Explain whether you enjoyed reading the novel and why or why not. Explain who would enjoy reading this book and provide one piece of specific textual evidence to support your answer.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading

### Regular:

***Dirty Little Secrets*** By Cynthia Jaynes Omololu

Everyone has a secret. But Lucy's is bigger and dirtier than most. It's one she's been hiding for years - that her mom's out-of-control hoarding has turned their lives into a world of garbage and shame. Tackling an increasingly discussed topic that is both fascinating and disturbing, C. J. Omololu weaves an hour-by-hour account of Lucy's desperate attempt to save her family.

***Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie*** By Jordan Sonnenblick

Thirteen-year-old Steven has a totally normal life: he plays drums in the All-Star Jazz band, has a crush on the hottest girl in the school, and is constantly annoyed by his five-year-old brother, Jeffrey. But when Jeffrey is diagnosed with leukemia, Steven's world is turned upside down. He is forced to deal with his brother's illness and his parents' attempts to keep the family in one piece.

### Advanced/Gifted:

***Lockdown: Escape from Furnace*** By Alexander Gordon Smith

Furnace Penitentiary: the world's most secure prison for young offenders, buried a mile beneath the earth's surface. Convicted of a murder he didn't commit, sentenced to life without parole, "new fish" Alex Sawyer knows he has two choices: find a way out, or resign himself to a death behind bars, in the darkness at the bottom of the world.

***City of the Beasts*** By Isabelle Allende

Fifteen-year-old Alexander Cold is about to join his fearless grandmother on the trip of a lifetime. An International Geographic expedition is headed to the dangerous, remote wilds of South America, on a mission to document the legendary Yeti of the Amazon known as the Beast. But there are many secrets hidden in the unexplored wilderness, as Alex and his new friend Nadia soon discover. Drawing on the strength of their spirit guides, both young people are led on a thrilling and unforgettable journey to the ultimate discovery.