

# Washington School for Girls 2015 Summer Reading Lists

"THE LIBRARY IS LIKE A CANDY STORE,  
WHERE EVERYTHING IS FREE!"  
JAMIE FORD, AUTHOR

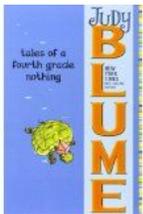
## Summer Reading Assignments:

Both of the following assignments are due the first day of school:

1. Read and select a fiction book from the reading list and create a story pyramid using the attached sheet.
2. Read and select one of the non-fiction books from the attached list and create a diorama demonstrating one of the scenes from your book. Use the attached rubric to guide you.

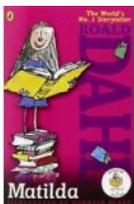
## Rising 4th grade

### FICTION



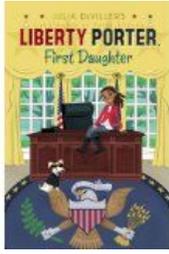
#### ***Tales of a 4th Grade Nothing*** (Blume)

Pomises laughter and satisfaction for readers who will hear their brothers, sisters and classmates voices from every page.



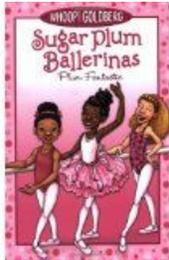
#### ***Matilda*** (Dahl)

From Broadway to Holly wood, people love Matilda, child genius! Now's your chance to meet her for the first time or again!!



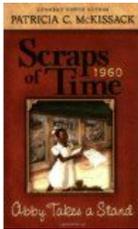
***Liberty Porter, First Daughter*** (DeViller, series)

Young lady, Liberty Porter moves into the White House. What?? Her father's the president!



***Sugar Plum Ballerinas; Plum Fantastic*** (Goldberg, series)

Moving is never easy, especially when ballet class awaits at the end of the journey from Atlanta to New York city. Poor Alexandra :( .



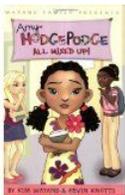
***Abby Takes a Stand*** (McKissack, series)

Freedom is about choices, sometimes difficult, scary ones. Ten year old Abby learns how to be brave from her grandmother's stories.



***The Baby Sitters' Club; Kristy's Great Idea*** (Martin, graphic novel)

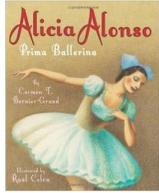
Babysitting isn't always so easy, but the BSC has what it needs to pull it off: FRIENDSHIP.



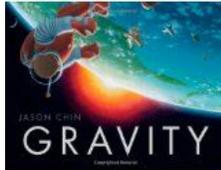
***Amy HodgePodge All Mixed Up*** (Waymans)

Homeschooled Amy is excited about 4th grade in "real school". But are the old 4th graders excited about Amy's "different looks?"

## NONFICTION



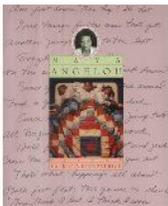
***Alicia Alonso: Prima Ballerina*** (Bernier-Grand, biography)  
Challenged by poverty and blindness, dancer Alicia Alonso finds world wide success dancing in New York and teaching in Cuba.



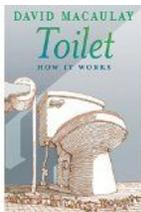
***Gravity*** (Chin) Why don't we float away into space? What makes things fall? Read a story to understand these natural mysteries better.



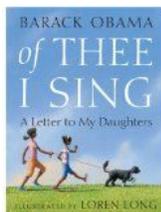
***A Pocketful of Poetry*** (Grimes)  
Paired poems, word play and amazing collages celebrate the seasons and holidays. How much fun!!



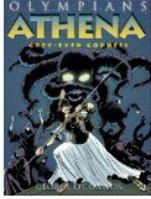
***Maya Angelou: Voices in Poetry*** (Kirkpatrick, series) Maya Angelou's life story, photographs and selections of her poetry make a fine introduction to this magnificent poet.



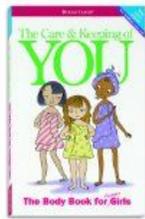
***Toilet: How it Works*** (Macaulay)  
“Everyone know what a toilet is for, right? But what happens after you flush?”



***Of Thee I sing: A Letter to My Daughters*** (Obama)  
Celebrate America with Malia and Sasha.



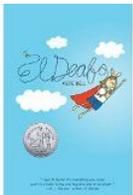
***Athena, Grey-Eyed Goddess*** (O'Connor, graphic retelling)  
Superheroes? No, Greek Gods. Where mythology meets comic book.  
Epic battles, daring quests and terrible monsters are all larger than life!



***The Care and Keeping of You*** (Schaefer, American Girl Library)  
All about YOU!!, and what's going on with YOU!!

## Rising 5th grade:

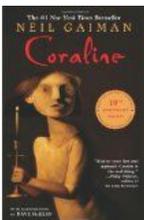
### FICTION



***El Deafo*** (Bell, graphic novel)  
Can a superhero be deaf? Learn surprising things from this prize winning graphic novel.



***Finding Family*** (Bolden, historical fiction)  
Stories from original photographs. Family secrets play an important part in this African American family tale.



***Coraline*** (Gaiman)  
Careful what you wish for. See the movie too, and then compare!



***Coraline*** (Gaiman & Russell, graphic novel)

Once again: Careful what you wish for! Great “other version”.



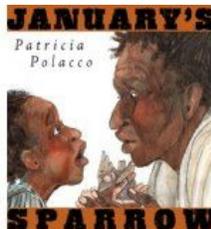
***Medusa the Rich*** (Holub & Williams)

When Medusa is suddenly able to turn everything, EVERYTHING!, into gold, it's not such a great situation. Can she reverse her new talent?



***Rain Reign*** (Martin)

Rose is different from most of us, and not just because she loves homonyms. Will she be able to find her beloved dog, gone missing in the floods of a wild spring storm?



***January's Sparrow*** (Polacco, historical fiction)

Exciting, scary Underground Railroad story with amazing illustrations makes history come to life.



***Randi Rhodes, Ninja Detective: Case of the Time Capsule Bandit*** (Spencer)

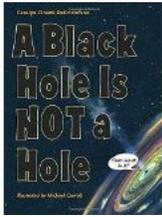
3 days left for kid ninja detectives, Randi, Pudge and DC, to investigate the haunted house, find the treasure and save their country village



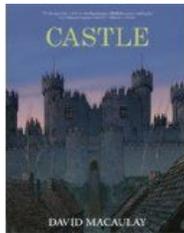
***Gone Crazy in Alabama*** (Williams-Garcia)

Sisters Delphine, Vonetta and Fern live and learn A LOT when they travel by themselves from Brooklyn into the deep south.

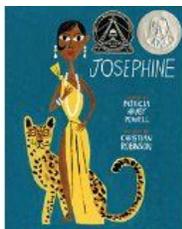
## NONFICTION



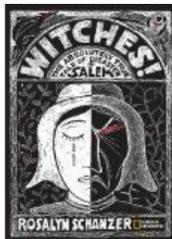
***A Black Hole is Not a Hole*** (DeCristofano, science of space)  
“What is a black hole? Where do they come from? How were they discovered? Can you fall in one if you’re not paying attention? Take a ride through the galaxies ... our own and others!



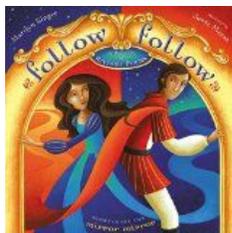
**Castle; Revised and in Full Color** (Macaulay, history and design)  
Experience planning and life in Lord Kevin’s castle. IMAGINATIVE, INGENIOUS, and IN COLOR !!



***Josephine; The Dazzling Life of Josephine Baker*** (Powell, free verse, biography)  
Learn “the story of one of the world's most well known female performers who danced and sang her way from the poor and segregated streets of St. Louis to the dazzling stages of Paris and then all the way to Carnegie Hall.”



***Witches: Absolutely True Tale of Disaster in Salem*** (Schanzer, history, 17th c.)  
History is real life! ... even witchcraft. Scary and crazy!



***Follow, Follow*** (Singer, poetry)  
Fairy tale themed poetry, backwards and forwards. Includes summaries of the classic fairy tales.

# Story Pyramid

Use a story pyramid to describe important information from a story, such as the main character, the setting, and the major events in the plot. Carefully choose your words in order to provide a precise description. You may wish to use a dictionary and a thesaurus.

Here are the directions for writing a story pyramid:

Capitalize the first word in each line.

**Line 1** — *one word, stating the name of main character*

**Line 2** — *two words, describing the main character*

**Line 3** — *three words, describing the setting*

**Line 4** — *four words, stating the problem*

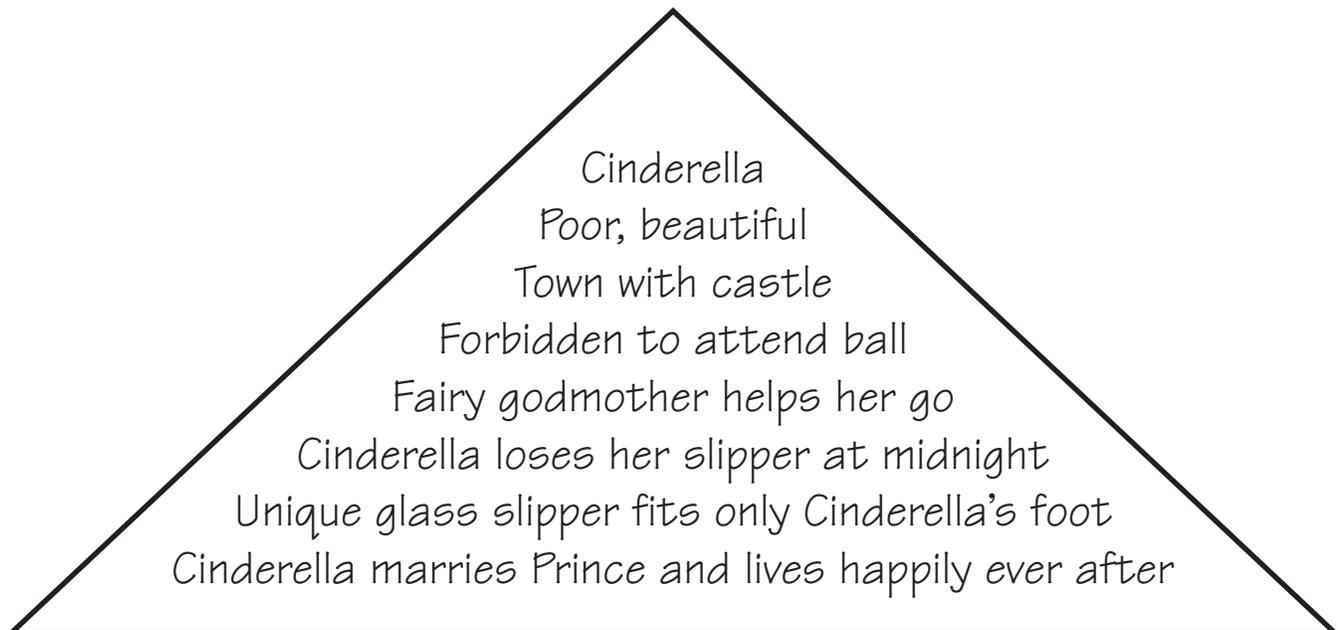
**Line 5** — *five words, describing one event*

**Line 6** — *six words, describing a second event*

**Line 7** — *seven words, describing third event*

**Line 8** — *eight words, stating the solution to the problem*

Here is an example of a story pyramid:



Create your own story pyramid using the example above as a guide. On a separate piece of paper, make a large pyramid shape. In the shape, write a story pyramid for a book you have read. If you wish, fill the area around the outside of the pyramid with an illustration representing the subject of the story pyramid.

# Rubric for Book Diorama

Category	25 points	20 points	15 points	10 points
<b>Required Elements</b> 	The diorama includes the following elements: 1. Title of the book 2. Scene shows the setting 3. Three or more characters are depicted and labeled 4. A paragraph about the PLOT is written on an index card	The diorama includes all but 1 of the required elements.	The diorama includes all but 2 of the required elements.	Several required elements are missing from the diorama.
<b>Creativity and Appearance</b> 	All materials were used to creatively reflect the setting of the story. The scene was carefully and neatly constructed. It shows evidence of hard work and time spent on it.	The materials were used to reflect the setting of the story. The scene was mostly neat and carefully constructed. It shows some evidence of time spent on it.	The scene represents the setting of the story; however, the details are not neat nor was it carefully constructed. It appears to be hastily done and is messy.	Little effort was made to represent the setting of the story. The scene lacks details, is messy, and appears to be poorly constructed.
<b>Materials</b> 	Appropriate materials were used to clearly depict the setting of the story as well as the characters. The materials cover all parts of the shoebox, which is visible to the observer.	Most of the materials were appropriately used to depict the setting of the story and/or the characters. The materials cover most of the shoebox, which is visible to the observer.	Some of the materials used were appropriate, in depicting the setting or the characters. The materials only cover part of the shoebox, which is visible to the observer.	Few of the materials are appropriate. The setting and/or the characters are not depicted appropriately or clearly. The shoebox is barely covered.
<b>Plot Card</b> 	Includes information about the following: 1. <u>SOMEBODY</u> (The main characters) 2. <u>WHERE</u> (The setting when and where) 3. A character <u>WANTED</u> 4. <u>BUT</u> (complication) 5. <u>SO</u> (resolution)	The plot card includes all but 1 of the required elements.	The plot card includes all but 2 of the required elements.	Several required elements are missing from the plot card.