

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

You will read a total of **50** books for children and young adults for this class. The specific requirements for the books are listed below. In order to report on your reading, I am requiring that each student develop a blog or a wiki. Free sites for blogs and wikis are widely available (www.pbwiki.com, www.livejournal.com, www.blogger.com, etc). You do not need to purchase a site license. Explore the possibilities of both the blog and the wiki. I use my wiki for information I want to be able to save readily as wiki pages can be saved as PDF easily. My blog, on the other hand, is within a community where there are others who are posting about books and reading and issues important to me. I leave the decision of which to use up to each student.

Once you have developed the site, you will need to post to Blackboard's Discussion Board and let us all know the URL of the site where you will be placing your work. It is my hope that we will have the chance to visit one another's wiki/blog during the semester and perhaps even make some comments. This is a new approach for this class. I have two reasons to moving away from using Blackboard's own wiki and blog:

1. Right now the blog and wiki at Bb do not permit us to use files from WORD or other Office programs to post work;
2. Blackboard and the SHSU server have experienced difficulties in the Spring semester and there are plans to upgrade before summer sessions begin. I do not want to have you frustrated if things do not work the way they should.

So, here are the requirements for the reading. After the list of books I expect you to read are some more guidelines for your postings. I know some of you want to get started with the class work, so this is your chance to begin the work without having to wait for Blackboard to open. Come along with me as we attempt something new and, I hope, very rewarding.

REQUIREMENTS FOR READING:

Winner of the 2008 Printz Award

Two 2008 Printz Honor books

Winner of the 2008 Newbery

Two 2008 Newbery Honor books

Winner of the 2008 Caldecott

Winner of the 2008 Sibert

Winner of the 2008 Geisel

Winner of the 2008 Schneider Family Award

Winner of the 2008 Belpre Award for TEXT

Winner of the 2008 Belpre Award for ILLUSTRATION

Winner of the 2008 Coretta Scott King Award for TEXT

Winner of the 2008 Coretta Scott King Award for ILLUSTRATION

2008 Batchelder Award or Honor Book

FIVE books from the 2008 Best Books for Young Adults list (3 must be from the BBYA Top Ten)

FIVE books from the 2008 Quick Picks for Reluctant Readers list (3 must be from the QP Top Ten)

Winner of the Odyssey Award for audiobooks

ONE audiobook from the 2008 Notable Children's Recordings list

ONE audiobook from the 2008 YALSA Amazing Audiobooks for Young Adults

FIVE books from either the 2008-2009 LONE STAR, TAYSHAS, BLUEBONNET or 2 X 2 lists

TEN books published between 2006-2008 on a THEME for a grade range applicable to your current position (if you are in elementary, middle, high school, do a list for that range)

ONE of the finalists for the 2008 National Book Award in Young People's Literature category

FIVE books from the 2008 Notable Books for Children List

EXPECTATIONS FOR THE POSTINGS TO BLOG/WIKI:

1. The books you read for a theme should be presented as an annotated bibliography. Annotations are short summaries of the books along with a brief observation about how the book might be used, who might be the intended audience, etc. Limit the annotations to 100 words or fewer, please. Remember, this is something you will give to other teachers in your building.
2. The three audiobooks will be evaluated using a checklist I will provide. You will write a formal report on the three.
3. For the remainder of the reading, you will include the following information:
 - a. The cover of the book (you can download these from Titlewave or Amazon or other online sites and save them as jpeg files and then post them to blog/wiki easily.
 - b. A brief summary of the contents of the book. For fiction, a summary should provide information on the main characters, the conflict, the important events AND the ending of the story. Nonfiction summaries are, of course, structured differently.
 - c. Your response to the book. That response can be personal (like, dislike, emotional reactions, etc) or analytical (symbolism and figurative language) or evaluative (audience, strengths and weaknesses, etc).
4. As you complete the reading and post your assignments, be certain that you group your postings so that all the books in a particular category are together (Newbery books together, etc).

SUGGESTIONS FOR GETTING UNDERWAY:

- Visit some of the sites I have mentioned and decide which you will use.
- Send me via email the URL.
- Gather the books you will need. Remember you can use ILL to help you locate the new books. The greatest challenge of this course is finding all the books.
- Begin the reading. You can keep a running WORD file of notes or annotations or postings.
- Above all, keep in touch with me <and with your fellow classmates (once Bb is available)>. I am always available to answer questions. However, I cannot provide copies of the books.