



Professional Performing Arts School

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Middle School Summer Assignment

This year, all PPAS middle schoolers (students entering grades 6, 7, and 8) are asked to complete the same assignment.

READ: At least two books. One should be fiction and one should be non-fiction. Choose books that are appropriate for you - "Green Eggs and Ham" wouldn't work, and neither would *War and Peace*. You can find some age appropriate book suggestions here: [NYC Reads 365](#) and [Barnes & Noble Summer Reading](#). You are not limited to these resources!

As you read, you should keep a dialectical journal for each book. You can find an example on the next page of this assignment. In the left column, you copy down quotes from the book you're reading - these are any quotes that catch your attention or raise questions for you. Be sure to mark down the page number (or percentage, if you're using an eReader) you found each quote on! Then, in the right column, write your response to each quote: you could reflect on what happened, make personal connections to the text, ask questions, or interpret literary devices like similes and metaphors. Aim for 1-2 quotes for each chapter of your book. These can be typed or handwritten.

CREATE: A visual image that represents your feelings about starting school this year. Your image can be as literal or as abstract as you'd like. Feel free to approach this assignment however you want: draw, paint, create something digitally, make a collage, or do something else! The only firm requirements:

- Your image should be on 8.5 x 11 size paper.
- Your image should be colorful (unless you have a specific reason for not using color that relates to your feelings).

After creating your image, write a short (maximum 1 page) paper explaining what you were trying to convey in your image. It's okay if you're not the strongest artist - this paper will help get your point across!

Because of the uncertainty this school year brings, I would wait to complete this assignment until we know what school will look like in the fall. If you complete it in June, your feelings might change as we get more information from the DOE.

All assignments should be completed and ready to hand in by the first day of school.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me at akurasz@ppasshare.org

I can't wait to work with you in the fall!

Dialectical Journal for

Quote & Page Number	My Response

