



CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
1001 Fort Crook Road North, Suite 200
Bellevue, NE 68005



June 2, 2025

Dear Middle School Parents (7th Grade),

An important part of our middle school is the summer reading program. Reading is an essential life skill. Therefore, CCS wants to help your student maintain their current reading abilities rather than lose them over the summer months. Continuing to read during the summer will further develop fluency, broaden students reading comprehension, and keep their minds engaged.

In preparing for the upcoming school year in our middle school program, Cornerstone requires all students entering grades 6-8 to read and complete a project over a book selected from the summer reading list. These books have been chosen to prepare your student for literary studies in the upcoming school year. All the books are historical fiction and cover topics or countries that will be studied in history class. Below are the requirements for 7th grade.

Students must read a book from the appropriate grade's summer reading list and prepare the grade-appropriate assignment. This assignment is **due on Wednesday, August 27, 2025. The assignment will be graded.** Attached you will find the requirements and format for your student's assignment. In addition to reading a book for the *assignment*, students need to read a book from the discussion reading list as well. Students will be put into literature circles in the early part of the school year, and readers need to be able to discuss elements or answer questions about the characters of story they read from the list. **Your student will read two books total but will not complete an assignment on the discussion book.**

If your student has already read stories on either of the lists, it is all right for them to re-read one. Research tells us that when we re-read a story, we can catch foreshadowing that we missed the first time, catch hidden meaning, and even missed plot themes. Re-reading is a very worthy exercise.

You can find these books at your local library, on amazon or other online websites. Thank you for encouraging your student to read over the summer and continue to build their reading skills. I encourage you to read these books alongside your student. Doing this can provide gratifying discussion opportunities for you and your student. Enjoy your summer!

Blessings,

Miss Dick and Mrs. Wegner

7th Grade

Discussion Books: *Be prepared for a class discussion in August.*

- Fish in a Tree* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt
- The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* by William Kamkwamba
- The Seventh Most Important Thing* by Shelley Pearsall
- Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* by Dusti Bowling

Please select a discussion book that is different from what you chose last year.

Reading List for Book Assignment List: (choose one)

- A Single Shard* by Linda Sue Park
- Refugee* by Alan Gratz
- The Island at the End of Everything* by Kiran Millwood Hargrave
- Amber and Clay* by Laura Amy Schlitz

Book Assignment Instructions on the above book selection

Grading Rubric:

What's Going on in the Mind of ... RUBRIC

Point Value	Expectations
____ /10	Profile is <u>completely filled</u> in with a variety of words, symbols, illustrations, etc...
____ /10	Profile includes at least two quotes from the text (quotation marks and page number are cited)
____ /10	Profile is colored in
____ /10	Accurate spelling, grammar, and punctuation
____ /10	Time and effort have obviously been put into crafting a creative profile and thoughtful analysis/justification

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Examples:

What's Going on Inside the Mind of

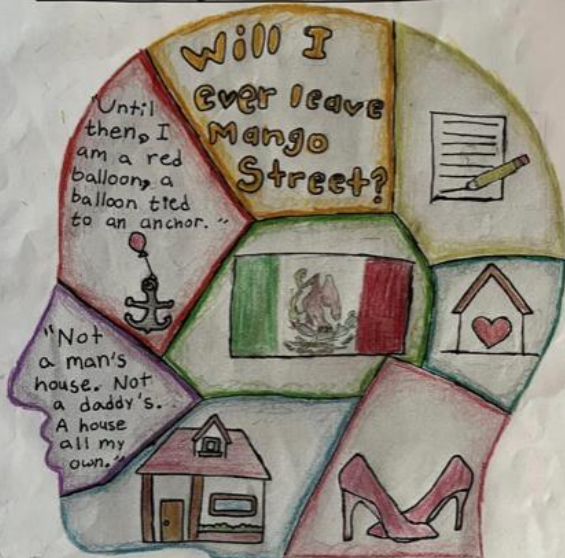
Esperanza



One of the boxes shows red high heels that are in the spotlight and brown saddle shoes that aren't in the spotlight. The shoes symbolize womanhood, childhood, and Esperanza's desire to grow up. This was an important conflict in the novel. Another box shows the three sisters that gave Esperanza meaningful advice and changed her perspective on Mango Street. They also influenced her final thoughts at the end of the novel, which is why I included it. I included a piece of paper and a pencil because it shows how Esperanza frees her emotions through writing.

What's Going on Inside the Mind of

Esperanza

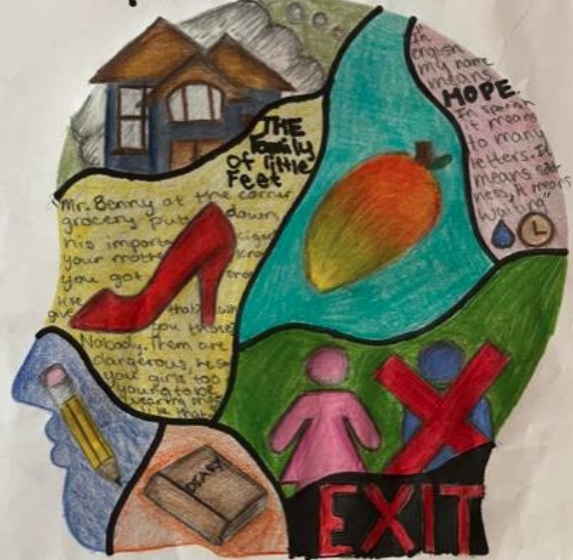


I drew high heels because Esperanza had an interest in shoes. I drew the paper and pencil to represent that Esperanza will write to feel free. I drew the house because Esperanza speaks about wanting to have a house to herself when she is older.

Assignment:

What's Going on Inside the Mind of

Esperanza Condero



One thing that would be on Esperanza's mind would be a house of her own. This is because her dream is to leave Mango Street and have her own place to live. Another thing that may be on her mind is exiting her current situation. Finally, Esperanza may think about writing since it is her escape from reality.

Name: _____

Date: _____

What's Going on in the Mind of ...