



Junior School Social Studies Summer Assignments 2013

SEVENTH GRADE

Social Studies

You will be reading *Fever 1793*, by Laurie Halse Anderson. It is a fictionalized account of a teenage girl's life during the yellow fever epidemic which swept Philadelphia in 1793. This assignment is to be handed in on the first full day of classes. The essay should be a minimum of 1 typed page, double spaced with 1" margins using Times New Roman font, size 12.

Please answer the following questions:

- Describe in detail, what was Philadelphia like in 1793? Give at least three specific examples.
- What were two advantages and two disadvantages of living in the countryside outside of Philadelphia?
- Select one main character in *Fever 1793* and explain how his/her role in this story impacted Mattie. Give at least three concrete examples from the story to prove your point.
- How was the life of a 14-year old in 1793 different from the life of a 14-year-old today? Please give at least three specific examples.

EIGHTH GRADE

Social Studies

The first semester of eighth grade Social Studies will examine the issue of civil rights in the United States during the 20th century. The selection of *The Voice that Challenged a Nation: Marian Anderson and the Struggle for Equal Rights* will introduce the students to a great American artist who made a significant contribution to the artistic and social fabric of American history. After reading the book students should compose (1). a bio-poem about Marian Anderson and (2). on a separate piece of paper explain each of your lines. Bring your poem and explanation to class the first day of school. Enjoy!

Format of a Bio-Poem.

Line 1: First Name

Line 2: Title

Line 3: Four Words that describe the Person

Line 4: Lover of (three things or ideas)

Line 5: Who believed in (one or more ideas)

Line 6: Who wanted (three things)

Line 7: Who used (three methods or things)

Line 8: Who gave (three things)

Line 9: Who said (a direct quote)

Line 10: Last Name

For lines 2 to 9: Write an explanation of why you selected what you wrote!