

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List

### Required:

*Kon Tiki* by Thor Heyerdahl

*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll

In addition, any of the following books will help prepare you for the material you'll encounter in 8<sup>th</sup> grade literature and writing. You **must** read at least one.

*Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott

*Tarzan of the Apes* by Edgar Rice Burroughs

*Murder on the Orient Express* by Agatha Christie

*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

*The Hound of the Baskervilles* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

*The Last of the Mohicans* by James Fenimore Cooper

*Robinson Crusoe* by Daniel Defoe

*Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens

*The Little Prince* by Antoine De Saint-Exupery

*Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway

*The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton

*Into Thin Air* by Jon Krakauer

*A Separate Peace* by John Knowles

*Animal Farm* by George Orwell

*Around the World in 80 Days* by Jules Verne

*The Bridge of San Luis Rey* by Thornton Wilder

For: *Kon-Tiki*

1. **ESSAY OPTION** In a page or two, describe what effect the publication of *Kon Tiki* had on the 20<sup>th</sup> Century's view of the settlement of Polynesia. Feel free to write your ideas in the form of a short story that is a continuation of Heyerdahl's narrative.

Or

2. **ACTIVITY OPTION B.** On Heyerdahl's re-telling of the journey, he gives reasonably clear descriptions of what happens, when, and where.

Turn these descriptions into a map, looking down at the Pacific from a bird's eye view. Indicate on the map the most significant events of the adventure.

AND

For: *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*

**COMPARISON OF CHARACTERS**

Many small, weak, young, or innocent characters like Alice encounter characters who frighten or overpower them. Write a further adventure for Alice, in which she encounters a character from another literary work. Your episode should incorporate Carroll's stylistic devices and philosophic beliefs: distortion, humor, and the triumph of the weak over the strong.