

St. James Catholic School 601 NW 131st St North Miami, FL 33168 (305) 681-3822

St. James Catholic School believes in the importance of reading to strengthen fluency, vocabulary, phonics, and comprehension throughout the summer. Therefore, Summer Reading Assignments are upon us.

For the 2025-2026 school year, it is *mandatory* that all students:

- * Read the Required Summer Reading book for his/her entering grade level.
- * Read a second book of his/her choice at grade level.
- Complete the book report for the **required** book with parent/guardian assistance.
- ❖ Complete the reading *Bingo Card* for the second book.
- ❖ All assignments will be collected the first week of school.

Happy reading and enjoy your summer! >> **



Required Summer Reading 2025 Entering Grade 7

Refugee

By Alan Gratz

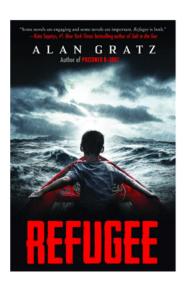
Three different kids. One mission in common: ESCAPE.

Josef is a Jewish boy in 1930s Nazi Germany. With the threat of concentration camps looming, he and his family board a ship bound for the other side of the world...

Isabel is a Cuban girl in 1994. With riots and unrest plaguing her country, she and her family set out on a raft, hoping to find safety and freedom in America...

Mahmoud is a Syrian boy in 2015. With his homeland torn apart by violence and destruction, he and his family begin a long trek toward Europe...

All three young people will go on harrowing journeys in search of refuge. All will face unimaginable dangers—from drownings to bombings to betrayals. But for each of them, there is always the hope of tomorrow. And although Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud are separated by continents and decades, surprising connections will tie their stories together in the end.



Book can be purchased from: Amazon \$10.49 Barnes and Noble \$17.99

Mandatory Summer Reading Book Report 2025-2026

Name:			
Book	Title:		
Auth	or:		
Direc	tions: Answer the following questions using complete sentences		
Pa	ages 1–75 (Introduction to Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud)		
1.	How does each character's country and time period shape their experiences?		
2.	What dangers does each family face at the start of their journey? How are they similar and different?		
3.	Why does Mahmoud say, "Being invisible is how we survive"? What does this say about his world?		

Pages 76–130 (The Journey Begins)

1.	How do the three characters show bravery in their decisions to leave home?
2.	Why does Isabel trade her trumpet for gasoline? What does that decision reveal about her?
3.	What role does hope play for the families so far? What keeps them moving forward?
	ages 131–200 (The Journey Continues)
Ι.	How do the characters begin to lose or gain trust in others during their journeys?
2.	What hardships do Isabel and her family face on the boat, and how do they cope?

3.	Why is Mahmoud's decision to give up Hana both heartbreaking and courageous?
4.	How does Josef begin to take on more adult responsibilities? How does this affect his character?
Pa	ges 201–265 (Danger & Turning Points)
1.	How do all three families show resilience in the face of tragedy?
2.	What does Mahmoud's story teach us about the modern refugee crisis?
3.	Why is Isabel's story especially powerful when her grandfather reflects on leaving Spain during a civil war?

Pages 266–End (Final Decisions)

1.	What is the emotional impact of the ending? How did each character's story resolve?
2.	How is Josef's story a tragic lesson about choices and sacrifice?
3.	What message does the author send by intertwining these three refugee stories from different eras?
4.	What lessons did you learn from <i>Refugee</i> about empathy, justice, and the cost of silence?

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Book Report #2

B

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Your Name (first and last name) Name of Book Author

Directions: Complete the Bingo Reading Card. The goal is to complete **five squares in a row**across, down, or diagonally.

N

G

List 5 Create a If you could save Create a Write and one character in PowerPoint or characters travel label five your book from a from your Storyboard brochure for examples of disaster who would book and retelling the the place your figurative it be and whu? story of your describe book is set. language in (paragraph at least book in ONLY 6 them. your book. ½page). slides. Write a poem about the Writea Create a word Make a plot Using a site diagram for your newspaper search with 10 such as book. Include article about an piktochart.com words from main exposition, 3 rising event in your create an your book. character. action events, the book. Remember infographic The poem climax, 2 falling to answer the 5 about your book. should be at action events and w(s) and the how. least 15 lines. resolution. Make an Draw a Free Choice Write diary Design a movie character map poster for your illustrated entries for with a picture of book. Tell who timeline with two the main will play the consecutive at least 5 character in the characters, major events days as a when the movie middle and at in the story. character least 5 traits. premiers and a from your slogan for the movie. book. Write an Find one of Make a soundtrack Compare and List 5 for your book with contrast the unfamiliar alternate each of the at least five songs. main character ending to your four types of words in your Explain why you in your book to book. Write book. Must be sentences in another chose each song. their at least 1 your book and fictional pronunciation label them. page. character. Must and meaning. be at least 1 page. In paragraph Create an online Write a letter to a Create a radio On plain white form describe quiz about your character in your announcement paper draw the the setting (time book with at book. Telling them to advertise setting of your & place) in your least 10 how you relate to your book. Write book. Leave no q.uestions. what they are going book. it in paragraph white space form. through.

Standard Book List for 7th - 8th Grades

Author Title
Corbett, Sue 12 Again

Blos, Joan W. A Gathering of Days.

Donnelly, Jennifer Deep Blue (Grade 8)

Korman, Gordon Swindle

DuPrau, Jeanne The City of Ember

Korman, Gordon Restart
Paulsen, Gary Hatchet

Paul, Donita K. DragonQuest

L'Engle, Medeleine A Wrinkle in Time

Frank, Anne The Diary of a Young Girl: (Grade 8)

Paterson, Katherine Jacob Have I Loved
Ryan, Pam Munoz Esperanza Rising
Forbes, Esther Johnny Tremain

Yousafzai, Malala I am Malala (Grade 8)

Spinelli, Jerry Maniac Magee

Gelason, Colleen The Chess Queen Enigma (Grade 8)

Levine, Ellen If Your Name was changed at Ellis Island

Fox, Paula One-Eyed Cat
Creech, Sharon Walk Two Moons

Curtis, Christopher The Watsons Go to Birmingham

Clements, Andrew School Story, The Babbit, Natalie Tuck Everlasting

Flake, Sharon The Skin I'm In (Grade 8)

Soto, Gary Taking Sides

Taylor, Mildred Road to Memphis, The

Lowry, Lois The Giver

Rita Williams-Garcia One Crazy Summer

Taylor, Mildred D Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry (Grade 8)