

Mrs. Miller
Mythology and Folklore

Hero's Journey Book Project

While we are reading *The Hobbit* in class and discussing the hero's journey of Bilbo Baggins, you will be reading an additional book and charting the hero's journey of the main character. Then you will complete a project using both your main character and Bilbo to illustrate the hero's journey.

The book needs to be read and project completed by _____

The following is a list to choose from:

FANTASY, FOLKLORE, SCIENCE FICTION and MYTHOLOGY

***Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card**

226 pages

Young Ender Wiggin may prove to be the military genius Earth needs to fight a desperate battle against a deadly alien race that will determine the future of the human race.

***Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll**

196 pages

Young Alice discovers a world of nonsensical and amusing characters when she falls down a rabbit hole.

***The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins**

374 pages

Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen accidentally becomes a contender in the annual Hunger Games, a grave competition hosted by the Capitol where young boys and girls are pitted against one another in a televised fight to the death.

***Victory* by Susan Cooper**

196 pages

Molly, upset by her family's move from London to the U.S., is strangely drawn to an old book about the life of Admiral Lord Nelson, and soon finds her life intertwined with that of Sam, a boy her age who served with Nelson aboard the HMS "Victory" a century earlier.

***The Princess Bride* by William Goldman**

414 pages

Westley, a farm boy, goes off to seek his fortune shortly after declaring his love for Buttercup, the most beautiful woman in the world, but their relationship is put to the test when his ship is captured by pirates and she is summoned to become the bride of the prince.

***A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle**

203 pages

Meg Murry, her brother Charles, and their friend Calvin, embark on a journey through space and time, assisted by three otherworldly women, when they set out to find Meg's father, a physicist who disappeared while experimenting with time travel.

***The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis**

172 pages

Four English schoolchildren find their way through the back of a wardrobe into the magic land of Narnia and assist Aslan, the golden lion, to triumph over the White Witch, who has cursed the land with eternal winter.

***The Golden Compass* by Philip Pullman** **399 pages**

Accompanied by her daemon, Lyra Belacqua sets out to prevent her best friend and other kidnapped children from becoming the subject of gruesome experiments in the Far North.

***Beauty* by Robin McKinley** **247 pages**

Kind Beauty grows to love the Beast at whose castle she is compelled to stay and through her love releases him from the spell, which turned him from a handsome prince into an ugly beast.

***Chalice* by Robin McKinley** **263 pages**

A beekeeper by trade, Mirasol's life changes completely when she is named the new Chalice, the most important advisor to the new Master, a former priest of fire.

***The Blue Sword* by Robin McKinley** **248 pages**

Harry, bored with her sheltered life in the remote orange-growing colony of Daria, discovers magic in herself when she is kidnapped by a native king with mysterious powers.

***Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by J.K. Rowling** **309 pages**

Rescued from the outrageous neglect of his aunt and uncle, a young boy with a great destiny proves his worth while attending Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

***The Dark is Rising* by Susan Cooper** **272 pages**

Eleven-year-old Will Stanton discovers a special gift -- that he is the last of the Old Ones, immortals dedicated to keeping the world from domination by the forces of evil, the Dark. At once, he is plunged into a quest for the six magical Signs that will one day aid the Old Ones in the final battle between the Dark and the Light. For the twelve days of Christmas, while the Dark is rising, life for Will is full of wonder, terror, and delight.

***The Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum** **154 pages**

Dorothy, her little dog Toto, the Tin Woodman, Scarecrow, and the Cowardly Lion set out on an exciting quest for the elusive Wizard of Oz. Along the way, they encounter the Wicked Witch of the West, the fantastic Winged Monkeys, the Queen of the Field Mice, the kind-hearted Munchkins, and other fanciful creatures.

***The Maze Runner* by James Dashner** **384 pages**

When Thomas wakes up in the lift, the only thing he can remember is his name. He's surrounded by strangers—boys whose memories are also gone. Outside the towering stone walls is a limitless, ever-changing maze. It's the only way out, no one's ever made it through alive.

***The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring* by J.R.R. Tolkien** **398 pages**

This is the story of the great quest undertaken by Frodo and the Fellowship of the Ring: Gandalf the Wizard; the hobbits Merry, Pippin, and Sam; Gimli the Dwarf; Legolas the Elf; Boromir of Gondor; and a tall, mysterious stranger called Strider.

***The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan**

377 pages

After learning that he is the son of a mortal woman and Poseidon, god of the sea, twelve-year-old Percy is sent to a summer camp for demigods like himself, and joins his new friends on a quest to prevent a war between the gods.

***The Hidden Oracle: The Trials of Apollo #1* by Rick Riordan**

376 pages

How do you punish an immortal? By making him human. After angering his father Zeus, the god Apollo is cast down from Olympus. Weak and disorientated, he lands in New York City as a regular teenage boy. Now, without his godly powers, the four-thousand-year-old deity must learn to survive in the modern world until he can somehow find a way to regain Zeus's favour.

***The Red Pyramid: Kane Chronicles #1* by Rick Riordan**

516 pages

Since their mother's death, Carter and Sadie have become near strangers. While Sadie has lived with her grandparents in London, her brother has traveled the world with their father, the brilliant Egyptologist, Dr. Julius Kane. One night, Dr. Kane brings the siblings together for a "research experiment" at the British Museum, where he hopes to set things right for his family. Instead, he unleashes the Egyptian god Set, who banishes him to oblivion and forces the children to flee for their lives.

***The Lost Hero: The Heroes of Olympus #1* by Rick Riordan**

557 pages

Jason has a problem: He doesn't remember anything before waking up in a bus full of kids on a field trip. Apparently he has a girlfriend named Piper, and a best friend named Leo.

Piper has a secret: Her father has been missing for three days, ever since she had that terrifying nightmare about his being in trouble. Piper doesn't understand her dream, or why her boyfriend suddenly doesn't recognize her.

Leo has a way with tools: When he sees his cabin at Camp Half-Blood, filled with power tools and machine parts, he feels right at home.

***The Sword of Summer: Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard #1* by Rick Riordan**

499 pages

Magnus Chase has always been a troubled kid. Since his mother's mysterious death, he's lived alone on the streets of Boston, surviving by his wits, keeping one step ahead of the police and the truant officers. One day, he's tracked down by a man he's never met—a man his mother claimed was dangerous. The man tells him an impossible secret: Magnus is the son of a Norse god.

***The Girl Who Circumnavigated Fairyland in a Ship of Her Own Making*
by Catherynne M. Valente**

247 pages

Twelve-year-old September lives in Omaha, and used to have an ordinary life, until her father went to war and her mother went to work. One day, September is met at her kitchen window by a Green Wind (taking the form of a gentleman in a green jacket), who invites her on an adventure, implying that her help is needed in Fairyland.

***The Prisoner of Cell 25: Michael Vey #1* by Richard Paul Evans**

326 pages

To everyone at Meridian High School, Michael Vey is an ordinary fourteen-year-old. In fact, the only thing that seems to set him apart is the fact that he has Tourette's syndrome. But Michael is anything but ordinary. Michael has special powers. Electric powers.

***Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* by Grace Lin**

282 pages

In the valley of Fruitless Mountain, a young girl named Minli spends her days working hard in the fields and her nights listening to her father spin fantastic tales about the Jade Dragon and the Old Man of the Moon. Minli's mother, tired of their poor life, chides him for filling her head with nonsense. But Minli believes these enchanting stories and embarks on an extraordinary journey.

***Gathering Blue* by Lois Lowry**

240 pages

Left orphaned and physically flawed, young Kira faces a frightening, uncertain future. Blessed with an almost magical talent that keeps her alive, she struggles with ever broadening responsibilities in her quest for truth, discovering things that will change her life forever.

***The Giver* by Lois Lowry**

180 pages

This haunting story centers on Jonas, who lives in a seemingly ideal, if colorless, world of conformity and contentment. Not until he's given his life assignment as the Receiver of Memory does he begin to understand the dark, complex secrets behind his fragile community.

***Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline**

374 pages

In the year 2045, reality is an ugly place. The only time teenage Wade Watts really feels alive is when he's jacked into the virtual utopia known as the OASIS. Wade's devoted his life to studying the puzzles hidden within this world's digital confines, puzzles that are based on their creator's obsession with the pop culture of decades past and that promise massive power and fortune to whoever can unlock them. When Wade stumbles upon the first clue, the race is on.

***Crispin: The Cross of Lead* by Avi**

262 pages

"Asta's Son" is all he's ever been called. The lack of a name is appropriate, because he and his mother are but poor peasants in 14th century medieval England. But this thirteen-year-old boy who thought he had little to lose soon finds himself with even less - no home, no family, or possessions. Accused of a crime he did not commit, he may be killed on sight, by anyone.

***The Goose Girl* by Shannon Hale**

383 pages

Anidora-Kiladra Talianna Isilee, Crown Princess of Kildenree spent the first years of her life listening to her aunt's incredible stories, and learning the language of the birds, not knowing how valuable her aunt's strange knowledge would prove to be when she grew older. Taken from the Grimm's fairy tale of the princess who became a goose girl before she could become a queen.

***Eon: Dragoneye Reborn* by Alison Goodman**

531 pages

Twelve-year-old Eon has been in training for years. His intensive study of Dragon Magic, based on East Asian astrology, involves two kinds of skills: sword-work and magical aptitude. He and his master hope that he will be chosen as a Dragoneye--an apprentice to one of the twelve energy dragons of good fortune. But Eon has a dangerous secret. He is actually Eona, a sixteen-year-old girl who has been masquerading as a boy for the chance to become a Dragoneye.

***The Sea of Trolls #1* by Nancy Farmer**

459 pages

The year is A.D. 793; Jack and his sister have been kidnapped by Vikings and taken to the court of Ivar the Boneless and his terrifying half-troll wife; but things get even worse when Jack finds himself on a dangerous quest to find the magical Mimir's Well in a far-off land, with his sister's life forfeit if he fails.

***Gregor the Overlander: Underland Chronicles #1* by Suzanne Collins** **326 pages**

This irresistible first novel tells the story of a quiet boy who embarks on a dangerous quest in order to fulfill his destiny -- and find his father -- in a strange world beneath New York City. When Gregor falls through a grate in the laundry room of his apartment building, he hurtles into the dark Underland, where spiders, rats, cockroaches coexist uneasily with humans. This world is on the brink of war, and Gregor's arrival is no accident.

***Divergent* by Veronica Roth** **487 pages**

In Beatrice Prior's dystopian Chicago world, society is divided into five factions, each dedicated to the cultivation of a particular virtue. On an appointed day of every year, all sixteen-year-olds must select the faction to which they will devote the rest of their lives. For Beatrice, the decision is between staying with her family and being who she really is—she can't have both.

***Airborn: Matt Cruse #1* by Kenneth Oppel** **544 pages**

Matt Cruse is a cabin boy on the Aurora, a huge airship that sails hundreds of feet above the ocean, ferrying wealthy passengers from city to city. It is the life Matt's always wanted. One night he meets a dying balloonist who speaks of beautiful creatures drifting through the skies. It is only after Matt meets the balloonist's granddaughter that he realizes that the man's ravings may, in fact, have been true, and that the creatures are completely real and utterly mysterious.

***The Road* by Cormac McCarthy** **241 pages**

A father and his son walk alone through burned America. Nothing moves in the ravaged landscape save the ash on the wind. It is cold enough to crack stones, and when the snow falls it is gray. The sky is dark. Their destination is the coast, although they don't know what, if anything, awaits them there.

REALISM

***A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman** **337 pages**

A grumpy yet loveable man finds his solitary world turned on its head when a boisterous young family moves in next door. Meet Ove. He's a curmudgeon, the kind of man who points at people he dislikes as if they were burglars caught outside his bedroom window. People call him *the bitter neighbor from hell*, but behind the cranky exterior there is a story and a sadness.

***The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald** **180 pages**

The story is of the fabulously wealthy Jay Gatsby, his new love for the beautiful Daisy Buchanan, and of lavish parties on Long Island, New York. It is an exquisitely crafted tale of America in the 1920s.

***The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd** **336 pages**

The story of Lily Owens, whose life has been shaped around the blurred memory of the afternoon her mother was killed. When Lily's fierce-hearted black "stand-in mother," Rosaleen, insults three of the deepest racists in town, Lily decides to spring them both free. They escape to Tiburon, South Carolina--a town that holds the secret to her mother's past.