

Summer Reading Assignment for ESL 2

Norwood High School

Students will read Seedfolks by Paul Fleischman. It is widely available in libraries and for purchase at Barnes and Noble or Amazon.

Summary: In Seedfolks, thirteen different characters tell about their involvement in a community garden in their neighborhood. The characters are of different ages, ethnicities (i.e. African American, Latino, Polish, etc.) and they each choose different things to grow in the garden. Each character was also affected in different ways by planting and growing flowers and vegetables with their neighbors. Notes: Students who were in ESL 2 this year at NHS read one chapter of this book, "Amir."

a) Pick four different characters and fill in the chart below. Bring it on the first day of school.

Character's Name	Age: how many years old	Ethnicity: Where are they from?	What plants did they plant in the garden?	How (What) did they feel about the garden?

b) Finish the following sentences:

My favorite character is _____.

I like this character

because _____

Write about the book in general. Did you like it? Why or why not?

Have you or your family ever had a garden? Where? What did you grow?

Would you like to have a garden now?

You should also read at least one more book. The following books are suggestions.

Behind the Mountain, Edwidge Danticat – a young Haitian girl and her family move to New York City – based on the author’s experiences.

Black Pioneers of Science and Invention by Louis Haber – Profiles of scientists like Dr. Charles Drew , an African American medical doctor, surgeon and researcher who invented the concept of a blood bank.

The Cinnamon Tree – Aubrey Flegg, story of a young African girl who goes to Ireland for treatment after the amputation of her leg from an unexploded bomb.

Children of the River – Linda Crew – Sundara moves to Oregon from Cambodia after fleeing the Khmer Rouge war

Haiti on my Mind – Stories of Haitian American Teens, ed. By Dana K. Vincent – different stories by teenagers of Haitian descent living in the U.S.

Holes, Louis Sachar – Story of boys in a detention center who solve a mystery.

Hoops by Walter Dean Myers – a star basketball player in High School has to make a very tough decision

Kids Like Me- Voices of the Immigrant Experience – edited by Judith Blohm and Terry Lapinsky – real life stories of teenagers from different parts of the world and their experiences living in the U.S. – **You can choose to read just 3 stories from this collection.**

The Pact by Davis, Jenkins and Hunt – real life story of three young men promise to do well in school and fulfill a dream.

Quinceanera means Sweet 15, Veronica Chamber – two Latina best friends in the U.S. experience turning 15.

Remember This Titan: The Bill Yoast Story by Steve Sullivan – the real life hero that inspired the movie

Shabanu, Suzanne Fish Staples – fictionalized account of a Pakistani girl in a traditional rural culture

The Skin I’m in, Sharon G. Flake – story of a girl who struggles with accepting how she looks and the teacher who helps her.

The Way Things Work, by David MacAuley – fun, illustrated guide to many different tools, machines and other things we use.