

# The American Dream

Junior Summer Reading SOHS 2015-2016

## Part one: Required

Read one of the texts below.

### Fiction

The Knife of Never Letting Go by Patrick Ness  
Uglies by Scott Westerfield  
Feed by M. T. Anderson  
The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald  
Death of a Salesman by Arthur Miller  
Mare's War by Tanita Davis  
The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck  
Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck  
The Things They Carried by Tim O'Brien  
The Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger  
On the Road by Jack Kerouac  
How the Garcia Girls Lost their Accent by Julia Alvarez

### Non Fiction

Into Thin Air by John Krakauer  
And Still We Rise by Miles Corwin  
Steve Jobs by Walter Isaacson  
King of the World by David Remnick

### Films

Beasts of the Southern Wild (2012)  
The Great Gatsby (2013)  
The American Experience: Daredevils  
The Pursuit of Happyness (2006)  
The Truman Show (1998)

What does it mean to be an American, and how do you know?

**Part two: Optional**  
**Earn extra credit by completing a written assignment. Limit 3 projects. Due August 19.**

- o Sign up for the Oldham County Public Library's Summer Reading Program.
- o Make an illustrated timeline showing events in the text you selected.
- o Draw a map showing the location(s) and the historical significance of the locations where the selected text takes place.
- o Divide a piece of poster board into 3 equal sections. Illustrate three scenes from the text using two or more of the following media: paint, crayons, chalk, paper, ink, real materials.
- o Show the events as related in the text you selected as a cycle. Your visual should indicate how one event or action in the text leads to another. How does the ending of the text hint that the cycle has either ended or will begin anew at some future date?
- o Write a diary that one of the characters in one of the fiction selections might have kept before, during, or after the book's events. Remember that the character's thoughts and feelings are very important in a diary.
- o Write a different ending for the text. This ending should be true to the way events and characters in the text are developed, but also creative.