

**HIGHLAND SCHOOL  
2009 SUMMER READING  
RISING SEVENTH GRADE**

**Fever 1793 – Required (see attached sheet for assignment)**

**Assignment for Choice Books**

In addition to reading the required summer reading book, you are required to read one book from the following list. After reading this book, complete a book report that includes a summary of the plot and an analysis of the main conflict in the story (What is the conflict? How does the protagonist react and eventually over come this conflict?) Your report should be 1-2 pages, double spaced, and in a legible black font.

Choice Books: (Choose **ONE**)

- *The Kidnapping of Christina Lattimore* – Joan Lowery Nixon
- *The Wave* – Todd Strasser
- *So B. It* – Sarah Weeks
- *The Pearl* – John Steinbeck
- *The Magician's Nephew* – C.S. Lewis

***Fever 1793***  
**Laurie Halse Anderson**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

This is a guided reading packet designed to show how much you can discover about the novel, *Fever 1793*. Throughout the coming year, we will read stories about how different people embrace leadership. We will examine the different styles of leadership and the events that put one into a situation where he/she needs to show the way. This story is a good example of a girl who has to confront many conflicts and take on a leadership role against her will, ultimately finding herself metamorphosed into the greatest leader she knew...her mother. Good luck with the book, and have this packet **completed by the first day of school**.

**Extra Credit Points!**

**Throughout the novel, there will be vocabulary words that you may not understand, whether that be because they are complicated words, or from a different time period and therefore obsolete to our society...for every FIVE words you find and define, you will receive an extra point on this packet.**

**Directions:** Answer the following questions based on the novel, *Fever 1793*. When answering, be as complete as you can, including textual evidence when appropriate (with page number). Remember, this is your first grade of the year, so put forth your best effort.

- List the dates in which this novel takes place:  
\_\_\_\_\_ -- \_\_\_\_\_
  
- Where does the novel take place? \_\_\_\_\_
  
- Describe each of the following people's relationship to the main character (the first one is completed for you):
  - Mattie Cook – she is the main character. She is fourteen years old and has to spend the summer of 1793 escaping the grips of the yellow fever, a disease that swept through the streets of Philadelphia.
  
  - Lucille Cook - \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
  - Nathaniel Benson - \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

○ Mrs. Flagg – \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

○ Eliza – \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

○ King George – \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

○ Captain William Farnsworth Cook – \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Who is the first person that Mattie knows that dies of the yellow fever? Why do people want to dismiss the idea that she died of yellow fever? To what does Grandfather attribute her death?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Why are people fleeing Philadelphia? Where are they going?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- On the way to the Ludington's farm, Mattie is forced to experience her first attempt at leadership. Why did she have to act the part of a leader, and how did she do? Elaborate with textual evidence.

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- How did Mattie get to Bush Hill? Please describe her experience there. Why did she initially panic when she heard where she was? Why did she eventually have to leave? What did she learn about the yellow fever there?

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- Mattie and her grandfather return to Philadelphia; describe the city to which they returned.

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- The night Mattie left the window open, she was given another opportunity to be a leader. What happened, and did she shine as a positive leader? Why or why not?

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- How does Mattie’s interaction with Nell and Eliza affect her leadership abilities? Give examples of her successes and/or failures as a leader in this respect.

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- On page 210, Mattie says, “The entire yard sparkled with diamonds...” What did she mean? Why did she describe the scene using “diamonds” specifically? What did this event mean in her life?

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- How is the coffee house a salvation for the children, Mattie, and Eliza? (Both physically and metaphorically)

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- What did it mean when George Washington entered Philadelphia? What does this say about the people's opinions of their president?

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- Compare Chapter 1 and the Epilogue; how can you tell Mattie has come “full-circle” and accepted her role as a leader? (give at least three complete examples) **On a separate piece of paper...(typed, double spaced)**