

## Summer Reading Project

The Door in the Wall

5th grade

This summer, you will travel back in time with *The Door in the Wall*. As you go through this book, I want you to create an “executive summary” of each chapter; that is, pretend I am the CEO of a company, and you are giving me a summary of a document (that is, the book). What is the most important aspects of this document (the book) that you should tell me so that I do not miss anything. Ask yourself: what is happening in this chapter? What do the different characters do? How does this event help form and move the story or plot along? There are 9 chapters, so you should have, in the end, 9 executive summaries. Also, I want you to write down any words that you do not know, along with their definition below the executive summary for each chapter. Additionally, write down any questions you might have or anything that might be unclear.

### Example for the first chapter for the Executive Summary:

*The Door in the Wall* begins with the deafening sound of church bells ringing in the ears of boy named Robin. He begins to reflect on the words his father told him before riding away to war on how a knight does not cry. Robin recalls that he is suppose to be brave and strong. He also recalls that he was supposed to become a paige. Robin then recounts how, after his father left, his mother was summoned away by the queen. Shortly after she left, Robin became sick and lost the use of his legs. He now longs for the outdoors, to run in the bright sun, but instead is forced to stay in bed. When a lady comes to give him food, he laments it is not his mom. Her crackling voice makes him grimace, and he refuses to eat. When the lady insist, he throws the bowl of porridge on her. The lady then storms out of the house never to be seen by Robin again. After waiting most of the day for someone to visit him, Robin finally receives a visit from a friar who gives him food. The friar then takes Robin with him to begin a new chapter in Robin’s life.

**Embrasure** noun a small opening in a parapet of a fortified building

**Coax** verb gently and persistently persuade (someone) to do something

**Grotesque** adjective a very ugly

**Question:** What is the plague that keeps the doctor from coming?

## **SUMMER POEMS**

Turn in a handwritten copy of each of these poems in your best cursive. Memorize God's Grandeur and one other poem.

### **God's Grandeur**

Gerard Manley Hopkins

The world is charged with the grandeur of God.

It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;

It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil

Crushed. Why do men then now not reckon his rod?

Generations have trod, have trod, have trod;

And all is seared with trade; bleared, smeared with toil;

And wears man's smudge and shares man's smell: the soil

Is bare now, nor can foot feel, being shod.

And for all this, nature is never spent;

There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;

And though the last lights off the black West went

Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs —

Because the Holy Ghost over the bent

World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright wings.

### **No Man Is an Island**

John Donne

No man is an island,

Entire of itself,

Every man is a piece of the continent,

A part of the main.

If a clod be washed away by the sea,

Europe is the less.

As well as if a promontory were.

As well as if a manor of thy friend's

Or of thine own were:

Any man's death diminishes me,

Because I am involved in mankind,

And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls;

It tolls for thee.

## **On the Grasshopper and Cricket**

John Keats

The poetry of earth is never dead:

When all the birds are faint with the hot sun,  
And hide in cooling trees, a voice will run  
From hedge to hedge about the new-mown mead;  
That is the Grasshopper's—he takes the lead  
In summer luxury,—he has never done  
With his delights; for when tired out with fun  
He rests at ease beneath some pleasant weed.

The poetry of earth is ceasing never:

On a lone winter evening, when the frost  
Has wrought a silence, from the stove there shrills  
The Cricket's song, in warmth increasing ever,  
And seems to one in drowsiness half lost,  
The Grasshopper's among some grassy hills.

## **SUMMER VERSES**

Copy each verse in cursive onto a piece of paper. Choose one to memorize and deliver during the first week of school.

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.  
Ephesians 4:32

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7

Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Philippians 4:8

The human mind plans the way,  
but the Lord directs the steps.

Proverbs 16:9

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

John 10:11