

# Summer Enrichment for Pre-IB Biology Honors

*These are optional assignments for students who are interested in learning more about the study of biology (the study of living things.) We will be learning many things about living things this year, and as you are a living thing, it all applies to you! So, to make the year more meaningful, and to help you make connections to what we are learning and how it relates to you, I suggest choosing one or two of these activities this summer.*

*To be clear, these are optional - you are personally benefiting from the experience. These are not required assignments.*

## **Choice 1:**

### [TedED Earth School](#)

Embark on daily adventures – or Quests – that will help you understand and celebrate our natural world, while learning about how dependent we are on our planet. Now more than ever, we need to protect, nurture and care for Earth. Within each lesson, you'll find fascinating resources compiled by Earth experts and ideas for getting involved in ways that count.

Look through all the Earth School activities and choose the ones that are meaningful to you, or want to know more about. You don't have to write anything, or turn anything in, just learn something new!

## **Choice 2:**

Watch [The Biggest Little Farm](#) movie which chronicles the eight-year quest of John and Molly Chester as they trade city-living for 200 acres of barren farmland and a dream to harvest in harmony with nature. Through dogged perseverance and embracing the opportunity provided by nature's conflicts, the Chester's unlock and uncover a biodiverse design for living that exists far beyond their farm, its seasons, and our wildest imagination.

As you watch the movie, notice all the living things and how they interact. I understand you will have to get the DVD, or rent it on Amazon or Netflix. I originally saw this movie last year at the Enzian Theatre. It is amazing, and it chronicles almost everything we will learn this year in Biology.

## **Choice 3:**

Read the book, [The Overstory by Richard Powers](#). It is a winner of the Pulitzer Prize in Fiction, a sweeping, impassioned work of activism and resistance that is also a stunning evocation of—and paean to—the natural world. From the roots to the crown and back to the seeds, Richard Powers's twelfth novel unfolds in concentric rings of interlocking fables that range from antebellum New York to the late twentieth-century Timber Wars of the Pacific Northwest and beyond. There is a world alongside ours—vast, slow, interconnected, resourceful, magnificently inventive, and almost invisible to us. This is the story of a handful of people who learn how to see that world and who are drawn up into its unfolding catastrophe.