

2017 Summer Reading for Middle School English

We encourage our students to take some summer leisure time to read for fun.

Students entering 6th, 7th, or 8th grade should read at least one book that they will discuss in September.

The back of this list includes some questions students can consider while reading. Students may select from the recommended list below or read another book of their choosing. Copies of these books are available in the schools, at public libraries, and at local bookstores.

Fiction

<i>Crossover</i>	Kwame Alexander
<i>Booked</i>	Kwame Alexander
<i>Roller Girl</i>	Victoria Jamieson
<i>Fort</i>	Cynthia DeFelice
<i>All the Answers</i>	Kate Messner
<i>The Thicket: A Path Begins</i>	J.A. White
<i>The Eighth Day</i>	Dianne K. Salerni
<i>Brotherhood</i>	A.B. Westrick
<i>The Paper Cowboy</i>	Kristin Levine
<i>House Arrest</i>	K.A. Holt
<i>Ghost</i>	Jason Reynolds
<i>The Boy in the Black Suit</i>	Jason Reynolds
<i>Orbiting Jupiter</i>	Gary D. Schmidt
<i>Space Case</i>	Stuart Gibbs
<i>A Night Divided</i>	Jennifer A. Nielsen
<i>The Thing about Jellyfish</i>	Ali Benjamin
<i>Echo</i>	Pam Munoz Ryan
<i>The Screaming Staircase</i>	Jonathan Stroud
<i>Counting by 7s</i>	Holly Sloan
<i>Half a Chance</i>	Cynthia Lord
<i>Prisoner B-3087</i>	Alan Gratz
<i>Seeing Red</i>	Kathryn Erskine
<i>Shadow</i>	Michael Morpurgo
<i>Twerp</i>	Mark Goldblatt
<i>Under the Egg</i>	Laura Marx Fitzgerald
<i>Zero Tolerance</i>	Claudia Mills
<i>Endangered</i>	Eliot Schrefer
<i>One for the Murphys</i>	Lynda Mullaly Hunt
<i>Cinder</i>	Marissa Meyer
<i>Inside Out and Back Again</i>	Thanhha Lai
<i>Spy School</i>	Stuart Gibbs
<i>Ungifted</i>	Gordon Korman
<i>On the Day I Died</i>	Candace Fleming
<i>Drama</i>	Raina Telgemeier
<i>The War That Saved My Life</i>	Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
<i>Chains</i>	Laurie Halse Anderson
<i>The Seventh Most Important Thing</i>	Shelley Pearsall

Recommended authors: (N = Nonfiction)

Laurie Halse Anderson	Milton Meltzer (N)	Susan
Campbell Bartoletti (N)	Walter Dean Myers	
Sharon Creech	Christopher Paolini	
Sharon Draper	Richard Peck	
Sharon Flake	Laurence Pringle (N)	
Russell Freedman (N)	J. K. Rowling	
Carl Hiaasen	Dyan Sheldon	
S. E. Hinton	Jerry Spinelli	
Lois Lowry	J. R. R. Tolkien	
Wendy Maas	Jacqueline Woodson	
Kwame Alexander	Jason Reynolds	

Recommended series:

<i>Divergent</i>	Veronica Roth
<i>Percy Jackson and the Olympians</i>	Rick Riordan Diary
<i>of a Wimpy Kid</i>	Jeff Kinney
<i>Dork Diaries</i>	Rachel Russell
<i>Unwind Dystology</i>	Neal Schusterman
<i>Fablehaven</i>	Brandon Mull
<i>The Seeds of America Trilogy</i>	Laurie Halse Anderson
<i>Middle School, The Worst Years of My Life</i>	James Patterson

Nonfiction:

<i>Dreams from My Father</i>	Barack Obama
<i>Chew on This: Everything You Don't Want to Know about Fast Food</i>	Eric Schlosser
<i>Because They Marched: The People's Campaign for Voting Rights that Changed America</i>	Charles Wilson
<i>The Boy Who Carried Bricks</i>	Russell Freedman
<i>Port Chicago 50: Disaster Mutiny, and the Fight for Civil Rights</i>	Alton Carter
<i>I am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World (Young Readers Edition)</i>	Steve Scheinkin
<i>The Family Romanov: Murder, Rebellion and the Fall of Imperial Russia</i>	Malala Youfzai
<i>Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream</i>	Candace Fleming
<i>Relish: My Life in the Kitchen</i>	Tanya Lee Stone
<i>The President Has Been Shot!: The Assassination of John F. Kennedy</i>	Lucy Knisley
<i>Bomb: The Race to Build and Steal the World's Most Dangerous Weapon</i>	James L. Swanson
<i>How They Croaked</i>	Steve Sheinkin
<i>The Boy on the Wooden Box</i>	Georgia Bragg
<i>Red Madness</i>	Leon Leyson
<i>The Boys Who Challenged Hitler</i>	Gail Jarrow
<i>Hidden Figures: The Untold Story of Four African-American Women Who Helped Launch Our Nation into Space</i>	Phillip Hoose
	Margot Lee Shetterly

Questions for reflection/discussion in the fall

What types of reading did you do this summer? Did you read magazines, newspapers, cereal boxes, websites, novels, poetry, nonfiction books? List everything you can remember reading.

Now, consider the following questions about your

reading:

How did your reading this summer help you

- make a connection to your own life?
- make a connection to other books you've read?
- see another world or another time?

In your reading, in what ways did you

- care what happened to a character?
- connect with one of the characters?
- encounter unfamiliar events and experiences?
- meet a new author you had not read?
- enjoy how the author wrote the book?
- have questions that went unanswered?
- picture the people and places?

In your reading

- what struck you as being very important?
- did you learn any lessons?

Use the following prompts to discuss your summer reading

- I learned...
- The confusing thing is...
- I was surprised...
- I began to think of...
- I don't really understand ...
- I think...
- If I were...
- At first I thought and now I think...
- At first I felt, now I feel...
- I have changed by this book in this way...
- From reading this text, I will remember...
- The theme in this text was...
- An "aha" from the reading was...
- A light bulb went on in my head and I realized...
- My opinion on this topic now is...
- I will remember the visual I built in my mind for