



Summer Reading Assignment

Dear Parents and Families:

This summer we are hoping to engage our students to make reading a part of their summer. To those ends we are including the attached lists and ask that you help your child be a summer reader by helping your child get books from the library or bookstore, monitoring their reading, and signing when your child finishes each book. You may even want to read the novel too and share the experience!

Our language arts teachers will be using your child's summer reading as a part of the start of year classwork, so if your child does not do their reading, he or she will have a lot of catching up to do in order to properly complete the work assigned. As well, your signatures and the return of the attached sheet will be **one of the first grades of the 2021-2022 school year**.

Remember, the more your child reads, the easier the adjustment is back to school in the fall and the stronger your child will be able to maintain the gains from the 2020-2021 year. Please help them help themselves. Make reading a part of your household's summer plan.

To help your child, please support your child's reading this summer with online purchases, library trips (once possible), and eBooks from either source. Books already in the home that are *new* to your child are also welcome. If you have any questions, please call, e-mail, or message, and we will do our best to answer your concerns.

If you cannot provide books for your child this summer, we will do our best to help your child have a book in hand before summer starts. We just need to know. During the summer if you have any difficulty in finding these books or purchasing them, please contact the school, and we will do everything we can to meet the need. Our office staff will be here most of the summer and have many of the titles on hand.

If you lose this sheet, please note that copies of our summer reading plan are available on our website and in our school office. Directions are on the back of this sheet...

Thanks again and have a great summer!

The Language Arts and Reading Departments

[OVER]

Directions: The second sheet in this letter, front and back, is a list of *suggested novels* for your child to select from this summer. The more your child reads, the easier it will be to come back to school in the fall and the better their skills will be. If your child wishes to pick his or her own novels from beyond the list, we only ask the following:

First, check if the book is at an appropriately challenging level. When possible, please check the book's **lexile** and **book level**, using the resources listed below.

For **lexile** please visit www.lexile.com and search the novel to be read. Here are the suggested "bands for texts by grade level.

| | |
|---|----------------|
| 6 | 925L to 1070L |
| 7 | 970L to 1120L |
| 8 | 1010L to 1185L |
| 9 | 1050L to 1260L |

As you can see, summer reading is more important than ever, not just because reading is an important part of encouraging a child's imagination and ability to learn but also because of the new state expectations.

If no **lexile** is available, you may also wish to look at a novel's **book level**, or reading level by grade. Sites such as www.arbookfind.com can help with this. Look for the **BL** to determine a novel's grade level suggested. A rule of thumb for most books concerning vocabulary is this:

Five Finger Rule: Each unknown word or concept on a page is a finger. One to two... the book may be too easy, three may just be the sweet spot—a reasonable challenge, four to five may cause the child to want to drop the book and be at a level too challenging just yet. Remember, reading should be a **fun** and **enjoyable** pastime, not a burden for the family.

If your child is choosing his or her own reading this summer, please use the chart below.

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| ____ Grade: | PARENT |
| Title/Author | INITIALS |
| | Lexile |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

The question we know that the students will ask is, "How many books do I have to read?" The answer, however, is not a simple one. Some books are harder than others. Therefore, we ask that Mom and Dad help us by simply keeping their child reading. A suggested amount is about three to four books for general and perhaps a few more for advanced. We know some readers will read well beyond this, and for some even three will be a struggle. Just do your best is all we ask.

So whatever you do...

Make reading an important part of YOUR SUMMER!

Summer Reading List (suggested novels by grade) :

6th Grade:

Title/Author

**PARENT
INITIALS**

Lexile

The War That Saved my Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

580

The Ranger's Apprentice Series by John Flanagan

780-950

Kingdom Keeper's Series by Ridley Pearson

630-770

F *Legend* by Marie Lu

HL710

I *Lost in the River of Grass* by Ginny Rorby

750

C *Wings of Fire Series* by Tui T. Sutherland

710-790

T *A Land Remembered* by Patrick D. Smith

920

I *Echo* by Pam Munoz Ryan

680

N *Percy Jackson Series* by Rick Riordan

590-790

Courage for Beginners by Karen Harrison

HL690

Harry Potter Series by J.K. Rowling

880-940

Restart by Gordon Korman

730

The War I Finally Won by Kimerly Brubaker Bradley

HL520

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain

970

NON

F *I Am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai

1000

I *Never Quit: How I Became a Special Ops Pararescue Jumper* by Jimmy Settle

890

C *Craig and Fred: A Marine, a Stray Dog, and How they Rescued...* by Craig Grossi

840

T *Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World* by Jennifer Armstrong

1090

I *Bound by Ice: A True North Pole Survival Story* by Rich Wallace

1050

O *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown

1000

N *Seabiscuit* by Laura Hillenbrand

990

7th Grade:

Title/Author

**PARENT
INITIALS**

Lexile

20,000 Leagues Under the Sea by Jules Verne

1030

Ghost of Spirit Bear by Ben Mikaelson

700

Kidnapped by Robert Louis Stevenson

990

Petey by Ben Mikaelson

740

F *Rumble Fish* by S.E. Hinton

680

I *Son* by Lois Lowry (Conclusion to *The Giver*)

720

C *Summer Ball* by Mike Lupica

910

T *Taming the Star Runner* by S.E. Hinton

790

I *Tex* by S.E. Hinton

710

O *The Artemis Fowl Series* by Eoin Colfer

600-930

N *Skink, No Surrender* by Carl Hiaasen

770L

The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien

1000

The Girl from Everywhere by Heidi Hellig

750L

The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie by Alan Bradley

960

The War Outside by Monica Hesse

HL 710

Summer Reading List (suggested novels by grade) :

NON

| | | | |
|---|--|-------|--|
| F | <i>Be a Changemaker: How to Start Something that Matters</i> by Laurie Ann Thompson | 1130L | |
| I | <i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i> by Jaqueline Woodson | 990L | |
| C | <i>Freedom Riders: John Lewis and Jim Zwerg on the Front Lines of the</i> | 1090 | |
| T | <i>Civil Rights Movement</i> by Ann Bausum | | |
| I | <i>Red Scarf Girl</i> by Ji-Li Jiang | 780 | |
| O | <i>The Signers: the 56 Stories Behind the Declaration of Independence</i> | 1010 | |
| N | by Dennis Brindell Fradlin and Michael McCurdy | | |
| | <i>Temple Grandin: How the Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced Autism and</i> | 960 | |
| | <i>Changed the World</i> by Sy Montgomery and Temple Grandin | | |
| | <i>We've Got a Job to Do: The 1963 Birmingham Children's March</i> by Cynthia Levinson | 1020 | |

8th Grade: Advanced -AND- General

Title/Author

ADVANCED Required: Scholastic's *Best Poems Ever*, editor Edric S. Mesmer **CHOOSE**

OR - *Edgar Allan Poe: Master of Suspense* by Tristen Boyer Binns **ONE**

Where the Sidewalk Ends, by Shel Silverstein

A Light in the Attic, by Shel Silverstein

Maus by Art Spiegelman

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

The Wish by Gail Carson Levine

PARENT
Lexile INITIALS

N/A

850

N/A

N/A

N/A

730

L450

9th Grade: High Honors (high school credit)

Title/Author

HIGH HONORS Required: *Mythology* by Edith Hamilton

OR *The Iliad* by Homer

AND *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank

PARENT
Lexile INITIALS

1040

1040

1020

SSYRA (Sunshine State Young Readers Association) Novels, grades 6-8:

Title/Author

Cleo Porter and the Body Electric by Jake Burt

Charlie Thorne and The Last Equation by Stuart Gibbs

When Stars Are Scattered by Victoria Jameson and Omar Mohamed

The Unteachables by Gordon Korman

Me and Banksy by Tanya Lloyd Kyi

The Misadventures of Lightning Girl by Stacy McAnulty

Jinxed by Amy McCulloch

Bloom by Kenneth Oppel

Bouncing Back by Scott Ostler

Becoming Muhammad Ali by James Patterson and Kwame Alexander

Wildfire: A Novel by Rodman Philbrick

A Wish in the Dark by Christina Soontornvat

Coop Knows the Scoop by Taryn Souders

Clean Getaway by Nic Stone

The Unsung Hero of Birdsong, USA by Brenda Woods

PARENT
Lexile INITIALS

850L

GN530L

740L

660L

530L

790L

670L

720L

1010L

700L

720L

610L

780L

780L