

INTRODUCTION

What is it? Summer Reading is an opportunity for students to choose what they want to read and how they want to engage with their books.

Avoid the “Summer Slide”: Research has shown that students who do not read over the summer have the tendency to lose some of the learning growth they made during the previous school year.



NOTE TO FAMILIES

Summer Reading is an opportunity to help your child develop a lifelong love of reading, while supporting and strengthening all of his/her hard work from the previous school year, setting him/her up for success in the fall!

Getting Started: Talk with your child about the importance of summer reading!

- Provide opportunities to select high-interest books
- Establish consistent reading time routines
- Log reading time
- Talk to your child about what he/she is reading!
- Support your child as he/she completes the required reading activities

Resources: Additional book suggestions, parent guides, video, student reading logs, and other information can be found at:

- WPS Summer Reading: <http://tinyurl.com/j8om7b2>
- Not Online? **Head to the Worcester Public Library!**

Reading is the most important 20 MINUTES of your day!



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Check out some fantastic authors!

Fiction: Return to Sender by Alvarez; Jack Henry (series) by Gantos; Also Known as Harber by Leal; Bamboo People by Perkins; Slob by Potter; Keeping the Night Watch by Smith; Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie by Sonnenblick; EmmaOlean Lazarus Fell Out of a Tree by Tarshis; Drama by Telgemeier; Feathers by Woodson; Make Lemonade by Wolff; The Boy on the Wooden Box by Leyson; Acting Out by Avi; The Tales of Beedle the Bard by Rowling; Lily’s Crossing by Reilly; Best Friends by Wilson; The Egypt Game by Snyder; Double Identity by Haddix; Hatchet by Paulsen; So B It by Weeks; Hoot by Hiaasen; The Adventures of Ulysses by Evslin; 39 Clues by various authors; Percy Jackson and the Olympians by Riordan; Divergent by Roth; Maze Runner by Dashner; The Lunar Chronicles by Meyer

Historical Fiction: The Mighty Miss Malone by Curtis; The Firefly Letters by Engle; Unstoppable Octobia May by Flake; Bo at Ballard Creek by Hill; Incantation by Hoffman; The Great Trouble by Hopkinson; Number the Stars by Lowry; Song of the Trees by Taylor; The Sixties Trilogy (series) by Wiles; Breaking Stalin’s Nose by Yelchin

Fantasy and Science Fiction: Secrets of Droon (series) by Abbott; Jinx (series) by Blackwood; Dragon Castle by Bruchac; The Sisters Grimm (series) by Buckley; Artemis Fowl (series) by Colfer; Gregor the Overlander (series) by Collins; Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III (series) by Cowell; Half Magic by Eager; Books of a Thousand Days by Hale; Zita the Spacegirl (series) by Hatke; Warrior (series) by Hunter; Dragonsong (trilogy) by McCaffrey; The Blue Sword by McKinley; 47 by Mosley; Mister Monday (series) by Nix; Harry Potter (series) by Rowling; The Night Fairy by Schiltz; The Books of Elsewhere (series) by West

Biography: Freedom Riders: John Lewis and Jim Zwerg on the Front Lines by Bausum; The Journey that Saved Curious George: The True Wartime Escape of Margaret and H.A. Rey by Borden; Barnum’s Bones: How Barnum Brown Discovered the Most Famous Dinosaur in the World by Fern; A Volcano Beneath the Snow: John Brown’s War Against Slavery by Marrin; Nurse, Soldier, Spy: The Story of Sarah Edmonds, Civil War Hero by Moss; The Cat with the Yellow Star: Coming of Age in Terezin by Rubin and Weissberger; The Pilot and the Little Prince: The Life of Antoine de Saint Exupery by Sis; Balloons Over Broadway: The True Story of the Puppeteer of May’s Parade by Sweet; Roberto Clemente: Pride of the Pittsburgh Pirates by Winter; Shining Star: The Anna May Wong Story by Yee

Folktales, Fairy Tales and Legends: The Nightingale by Anderson; Will in Scarlet by Cody; Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: A Worldwide Cinderella by Fleischman; Just So Stories by Kipling; The Blue Fairy Book (series) by Lang; Egg and Spoon by Maguire; Nelson Mandela’s Favorite African Folktales by Mandela; Pegasus by Mayer; Red Butterfly by Noyes; More Bones: Scary Stories from Around the World by Olson

Informational Books: Millions, Billions & Trillions: Understanding Big Numbers by Adler; Bugged: How Insects Changed History by Albee; Trapped: How the World Rescued 33 Miners from 2,000 Feet Below the Chilean Desert by Aronson; Shimmer & Splash: The Sparking World of Sea Life by Arnosky; Buried Beneath Us: Discovering the Ancient Cities of the Americas by Aveni; Bones Never Lie: How Forensics Helps Solve History’s Mysteries by MacLeod; Black Gold: The Story of Oil in Our Lives by Marrin; Bomb: The Race to Build—and Steal—the World’s Most Dangerous Weapon by Sheinkin; Buried Sunlight: How Fossil Fuels Have Changed the Earth by Bang; Separate is Never Equal by Toniaui

Poetry: Hip Hop Speaks to Children: A Celebration of Poetry with a Beat by Giovanni; The Great Migration: Journey to the North by Greenfield; My Chinatown by Mak; The 20th Century Children’s Poetry Treasury by Prelutsky; Dark Emperor and Other Poems of the Night by Sidman; A Visit to William Blake’s Inn by Willard

Search Award Winning Books!

Caldecott medal, Coretta Scott King Award, Massachusetts Children’s Book Award, Newbery Medal, Notable Science Trade Books for Young Readers, Outstanding Science Trade Books for Students K-12, Pura Belpre Award, Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Medal

Find more suggestions on the WPS Summer Reading Website:

<http://tinyurl.com/j8om7b2>



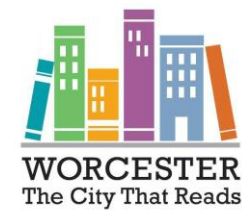
WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Summer Reading Requirement



For Students Entering
Grades 5 and 6

2016



www.worcesterschools.org

STEP 1: Set a GOAL!

Students entering Grades 5 and 6 will read **three** books or 800 pages over the course of the summer. Students will also complete **three** activities to showcase their reading adventure.

This summer I will read...

Step 2: Choose a Book!

Where can I find books?

Worcester Public Library
Libby and Lily Mobile Libraries
Borrow and take suggestions from friends!
Summer Programs
Bookstores such as Barnes & Noble and Amazon
Goodwill and Salvation Army
E-Books
Digital Books (CD, MP3)

See the back cover for some reading suggestions!



The Super 7 Effective Reading Habits

Make Connections: When I read I think "That reminds me of..."

Create Images: When I read "I picture in my mind..."

Infer: Even though it isn't said in the text, when I read "I know..." "I think..." or "I am guessing that..." or "I predict..."

Monitor for Meaning: When I get confused when I read "I can..." and "Let me review what I know..."

Determine Importance: When I read "I know the detail I just read is important because..."

Synthesize: When I read I notice things are connected and "I know this is a big idea because..." or "Aha..."

Questioning: When I read I ask myself questions about the book such as "I wonder why..." or "I am curious about..."

Notice and Note

Stop and ask yourself...

Contrasts & Contradictions: When a character says or does something that is opposite (contradicts) what you expect them to do ask yourself, "Why is the character acting this way?" This could help you make a prediction or an inference about the plot and conflict.

Again & Again: When notice a word, phrase, object, or situation mentioned over and over again, ask yourself, "Why does this keep showing up again and again?" This will tell you about the theme and conflict, or it might foreshadow what will happen later.

Memory Moment: When the author interrupts the action with a flashback to the past and tells you a memory, ask yourself, "Why might this memory be important?" This will tell you about the theme, conflict, or it might foreshadow what will happen later.

Aha Moment: When a character realizes, understands, or finally figures something out, ask yourself, "How might this change things?" If the character solved a problem you discovered the conflict; if the character understood a life lesson, you discovered a theme.

Words of the Wiser: When a character takes the main character aside and gives advice, ask yourself, "What's the life lesson, and how might it affect the character?" Whatever the lesson is, you've probably found a theme for the story.

Tough Questions: When a character asks himself a difficult question, ask yourself, "What does this question make me wonder about?" This will help you predict will happen later in the story.

(Adapted from Notice and Note by Kylene Beers.)

Step 4: Complete an Activity!

Complete **three** of the following activities. The choice is yours, have fun sharing what you read!

- Illustrate your favorite part of the book
- Design a postcard about the book
- Create a character sketch
- Write a letter to a character
- Write a letter to the author
- Write a journal or diary entry using a character
- Design a book jacket

Check out the WPS Summer Reading website for more options!

(<http://tinyurl.com/j8om7b2>)



When reading don't forget to ask yourself...

Who, What, Where, When, Why, and How

Step 3: Read, Read, READ!

Relax, enjoy a good book, and have fun! Achieve your goals: Where can I read? When can I read? What do I like about the story? And remember, if it is a great book, recommend it to a friend!

Read at least 20 minutes every day!



Get Ready to CELEBRATE!

Remember to bring your completed activities to share with your new teacher and classmates on the first day of school!