

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 these book suggestions!

NOVELS

Story of a Girl by Sara Zarr
The Lovely Bones by Alice Sebold
The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd
Love Warps the Mind a Little by John Dufresne
Monster by Walter Dean Myers
Wintergirls by Laurie R. King
Big Mouth & Ugly Girl by Joyce Carol Oates
Thief Summer by Sara Dessler
The Chocolate War by Robert Cormier
The Shimmering Queens by Camille Yarbrough
Children of the River by Linda Crew
Lupita Matiana by Patricia Beatty
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon

SCIENCE/FICTION/FANTASY

The Crystal Cave by Mary Stewart
Dracula by Bram Stoker
The Illustrated Man by Ray Bradbury
Kindred by Octavia Butler
Gathering Blue by Lois Lowry
The Left Hand of Darkness by Ursula LeGuin
Dowry by Neil Shusterman
Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix by J.K. Rowling
The Lord of the Rings series by J.R.R. Tolkien
Feed by M.T. Anderson
ENDER'S GAME by Orson Scott Card
The Time Machine by H.G. Wells

ACTION/HISTORY

3000 Degrees by Sean Flynn
A Night to Remember by Walter Lord
A Perfect Storm by Sebastian Junger
Jing Thin Air by Jon Krakauer
Bilzard! by Jim Murphy
Island by Scott Cookman
Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage by Alfred Lansing
Overboard by Elizabeth Fama
Apy book by Milton Metzger
Hiroshima by John Hersey

Bull Run by Paul Fieschman
Sunrise Over Fallujah by Walter Dean Myers
The Killer Angels by Michael Sautter
With Every Drop of Blood by James Collier
Catch 22 by Joseph Heller
Blackhawk Down by Mark Bowden
Born on the Fourth of July by Ron Kovic
All Quiet on the Western Front by Erich Maria Remarque

COLLECTIONS - POETRY/SHORT STORIES

I Feel a Little Jumpy Around You by Naomi Shihab Nye
Frenchtown Summer by Robert Cormier
Cool Salsa by Lori Carlson
The Collected Poems by Stanley Kunitz
The Complete Poems 1927-1979 by Elizabeth Bishop
Complete Stories and Poems of Edgar Allan Poe
Welcome to the Monkey House by Kurt Vonnegut

BIOGRAPHY AND OTHER TRUE STORIES

No Language But a Cry by Richard D. Johnson
The Greatest Generation by Tom Brkawa
A Child Called It by Dave Pelzer
I, Rigoberta Menchu by Rigoberta Menchu
Barefoot Heart by Elva Trevino Hart
Getting Away With Murder by Chris Crowe
Forgotten Fire by Adam Baggassio
I Have Lived a Thousand Years by Livia Bitton-Jackson
Who Killed my Daughter by Lois Ducato
Guida by Gary Paulsen
King of the Hill Frontier by Chris Cletcher
A Walk in the Woods by Bill Bryson
Chinese Cinderella by Madeline Yen Lo
Across the Great River by Irene Hernandez Beltran
The Worcester Account by S.N. Behrman

SPORTS

Friday Night Lights by H.G. Bissinger
Fall River Dreams by Bill Reynolds
In These Girls, Hope is a Muscle by Madeleine Gray
The Contender by Walter Lippsie
Hawk by Tony Hawk
Seabiscuit by Laura Hillenbrand
Joeman by Chris Lynch
Tangerine by Edward Bloor
Hoops by Walter Dean Myers
The Last Amateurs by John Feinstein
Eleven Seconds by Travis Roy and E.M. Swift

OTHER PLACES, OTHER TIMES

White Hair's Horse by Pedro Ken Sotelo
Forty-Third War by Louise Upton
In the Time of the Butterflies by Julia Alvarez
Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse
Lyddie by Katherine Paterson
Catherine Called Birdy by Karen Cushman
The Good Earth by Pearl S. Buck
Night by Elie Wiesel
Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe
A Northern Light by Jennifer Connelly
Fever, 1793, by Laurie R. King
Esperanza Rising by Pamala Munoz Ryan
The Graveyard Book by James Hoggan
A Long Way from Chicago by Richard Peck

MYSTERY AND SUSPENSE

Looking For Rachel Wallace by Robert B. Parker
In the Middle of the Night by Robert Cormier
Where Are the Children? by Mary Higgins Clark
The Body of Christopher Creed by Carol Plum-Ucci
The Killer's Cousin by Nancy Mitton
And Then There Were None by Agatha Christie
The Disappearance by Rosa Guy
Zero at the Bone by Michael Cadogan
Coyote Waits by Tony Hillerman



Recommended / Honors List - Grade 9

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou
Girl With a Pearl Earring by Tracy Chevalier
Fallen Leaves by Madeline Yen Lo
RoboCop by Capra Gillis
Dune by Frank Herbert
A Gathering of Flowers: Stories about Being Young by Joyce Carol Thomas

Recommended / Honors List - Grade 10

Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens
A Lesson Before Dying by Ernest Gaines
The Once and Future King by T.H. White
Silent Spring by Rachel Carson
Mists of Avalon by Marion Zimmer Bradley
The Children by Colleen Cooney
Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston
The Complete Stories by Flannery O'Connor

Recommended / Honors List - Grade 11

The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck
Walkers by Henry David Thoreau
Native Son by Richard Wright
Beloved by Toni Morrison
The Autobiography of Malcolm X
The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan
John Adams by David McCullough
The Things They Carried by Tim O'Brien
Collected Stories by Frank O'Connor
A Farewell to Arms by Ernest Hemingway

Recommended / Honors List - Grade 12

Invisible by Walter Scott
The Notebook of Nellie Come by Victor Hugo
1984 by George Orwell
Cold Mountain by Charles Frazier
Crime and Punishment by Fyodor Dostoyevsky
Proctor's Country by Alan Paton
Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte
Where I'm Calling From: Selected Stories by Raymond Carver

Find more suggestions on the WPS Summer Reading Website:
<http://tinyurl.com/j8om7b2>

WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Summer Reading Requirement



For Students Entering
Grades 9 - 12

2016



WORCESTER
The City That Reads

www.worcesterschools.org

STEP 1: Set a GOAL!

Students entering Grades 9 through 12 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 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!



Step 4: Complete an Activity!

Complete the following activities. The choice is yours, have fun sharing what you read! **The summer reading requirement counts for 10% of your first quarter grade.**

Note: Students who will be taking AP courses in the next school year should check with their AP teachers for their required summer reading list and writing activities.

Book One: Double Entry Journal

Complete a double entry journal. You can obtain the form on the WPS Summer Reading website.

Book Two: Compare or Contrast

Compare or contrast this text to any other you have read. Supply evidence from your reading to support your claims.

Book Three: Free Choice! (Choose One)

Complete a creative project about your book such as a poem, a script, a drawing with explanation, a photograph with explanation, or video.

Check out the WPS Summer Reading website for more options!



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

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

Get Ready to CELEBRATE!

Remember to bring your completed activities to share with your English Language Arts teacher on the first day of school!