

8th Grade Suggested Titles (cont.)

American History / Civil War

Reeder, C. Captain Kate.
Rinaldi, A. Amelia's War.
Rinaldi, A. An Acquaintance With Darkness.
Rinaldi, A. Girl in Blue.
Severance, J.B. Braving the Fire.
Taylor, M.D. The Land.
Wisler, C.G. Thunder on the Tennessee.
Wisler, C.G. Red Cap.

2007-2008 Black-Eyed Susan Book Nominees

Birney, B. Seven Wonders of Sassafras Springs.
Corbett, S. Free Baseball.
Delaney, J. Revenge of the Witch: The Last Apprentice.
Fleming, C. Lowji Discovers America.
Glaser, L. Bridge To America.
Gutman, D. Satch and Me.
Marsden, C. Moon Runner.
Mills, Claudia. Trading Spaces
Stewart, Jennifer. Close Encounters of the Third World Kind.

***Should they not find any books at the public library, students may borrow books from the Main Office for the summer.

Also, Montgomery County Public Schools and the Montgomery County Public Libraries have created an online resource and suggested book list which may be accessed through the following link:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/readinglists>

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Middle School

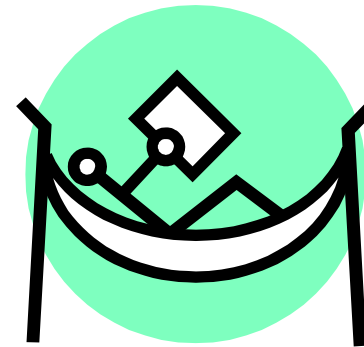
Summer Reading Program

Grade 8

Program Rationale:

In Montgomery County Public Schools, summer reading has been an expected practice in middle and high schools and an encouraged practice in elementary schools since 1998.

Research strongly suggests that reading, like other physical and mental skills, **improves** with practice and **deteriorates** when we do not engage in it for even a short time. At Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School, our summer reading program is designed both to reinforce and maintain reading skills, and to provide background knowledge for the upcoming school year.



It is what you read when you don't have to that determines what you will be when you can't help it.

Oscar Wilde

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians

In order to maintain and increase students' reading levels, all students entering Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School next fall are required to complete some reading over the summer.

The reading program for the summer is as follows:

- ▽ Students are required to read a minimum of **two books**.
- ▽ **Both books** may be chosen by the student
- ▽ **The books in this brochure are simply suggestions.** Students may select any books that they like.

Students will fill out a *Story Elements Graphic Organizer* for each book that they read. Two of these sheets will be given to each student. Should additional copies be needed, the Main Office will have a supply, or the form may be downloaded from our website*.

Explanation of Story Elements

Characterization- may include – 1) what the character looks like, 2) the character's thoughts, feelings and words, 3) how other characters react to him/her, 4) the actions of the character.

Setting – the time and place when the story takes place

Conflict – refers to the problem that the character faces in the story. A conflict may take different forms:

Internal – conflict or problem that the character has within him/herself (person vs. himself). For example, if a character is faced with a decision to tell someone a secret that they have promised not to tell anyone, he/she may be faced with an internal conflict.

External – conflict or problem that the character has with someone or something outside of him/herself (person vs. person, person vs. society, person vs. nature)

Theme – the central idea that the author wants to get across to the reader. It is an idea as to what is important or unimportant in life.

* <http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/mlkms>

8th Grade Suggested Titles

American History / Civil War

Alpin, E.M. Ghost Soldier.
Beatty, P. Turn Homeward, Hannalee.
Beatty, P. Charley Skedaddle.
Beatty, P. Jayhawker.
Beatty, P. Eben Tyne, Powdermonkey.
Brenaman, Miriam. Evvy's Civil War.
Choi, S.N. Echoes of the White Giraffe.
Crane, S. The Red Badge of Courage.
Denenberg, B. When Will This Cruel War Be Over? The Diary of Emma Simpson, Gordonsville, Virginia, 1864.
Denslow, S.P. All Their Names Were Courage.
Fleischman, P. Bull Run.
Forman, J.D. Becca's Story.
Hahn, M.D. Hear the Wind Blow.
Hahn, M.D. Promises to the Dead.
Hansen, J. I Thought My Soul Would Rise and Fly: The Diary of Patsy, A Freed Girl.
Hesse, K. A Light in the Storm: The Civil War Diary of Amelia Martin.
Hite, S. Stick and Whittle.
Hite, S. The Journal of Rufus Rowe: Witness to the Battle of Fredricksburg.
Hunt I. Across Five Aprils.
Ives, D. Scrib: A Novel.
Keehn, S.M. Anna Sunday.
Keith, H. Rifles For Watie.
Matas, C. The War Within: A Novel of the Civil War.
McMullen, M. How I Found the Strong.
Murphy, J. The Journal of James Edmond Pease, A Civil War Union Soldier.
Osborne, M.P. Civil War on Sunday.
Paulsen, G. Sarny, A Life Remembered.
Peck, R. The River Between Us.
Pinkney, A.D. Silent Thunder: A Civil War Story.
Pryor, B. Joseph's Choice, 1861.