

Rationale For Summer Reading

In MCPS, summer reading has been an expected practice in middle and high schools since 1998.



Reading is a life-long skill that a person not only needs to succeed as a student and a worker, but is also an essential skill in civic and personal activities. Perhaps even more importantly, reading opens a student's world through various types of literature. By reading, students have the opportunity to learn about people, times, religions, and ideas that may enhance their knowledge and development. Reading can also bring a lifetime of pleasure and mental acuity.

Research strongly suggests that reading, like most skills, improves with practice and decrease when we don't engage in it for even a short time. Therefore, consistent with our commitment to prepare all students for success during school and after graduation, we continue in MCPS to expect all students to read over the summer.



Summer Reading 2009
7th Grade

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*What are **you** reading
this summer?*



What do I have to do in order to complete this assignment?

1. Read **two** novels that you have not read before and choose one of the attached activities for **both** novels. **ONE** must be from the list of authors. **ONE** must be from the list of titles. The list of titles are in three parts: Black-Eyed Susan books, Student Recommendations, Teacher Recommendations.
2. Bring both activities to your English teacher the first day of school.

Students must read TWO books.



Choose one from the List of Titles

Choose one from the List of Authors

Avi*	Lee, Tanith
Alexander, Lloyd*	L'Engle Madeleine
Armstrong, William H.	Lewis, C.S.
Banks, Lynne Reid	Lisle, Janet
Braun, Lillian Jackson	MacHale, D.J.*
Buntin, Eve*	MacGregor, Roy*
Carson-Hollander, Gail	Mazer, Harry*
Choi, Sook Nyl	McCaffery, Anne
Cisneros, Sandra	McKinley, Robin
Clearly, Beverly	McKissack, Patricia
Colfer Eoin*	Myers, Walter Dean
Cooney, Caroline*	Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds
Creech, Sharon	Oppel, Kenneth
Danzinger, Paula	Osborne, Mary Pope
DeFelice, Cynthia	Philbrick, Rodman*
Dorris, Michael	Pierce, Tamora
Doyle, Brian*	Pinkwater, D.M.*
Duncan, Lois	Roberts, Willo Davis
Dygdard, Thomas,	Rowling, J.K.*
Fenner, Carol	Schwartz, Alvan*
Fleishman, Sid	Scieszka, John*
Funk, Cornelia*	Springer, Richard*
Gantos, Jack*	Snicket, Lemony
Haddis, Margaret*	Soto, Gary*
Hamilton, Virginia	Taylor, Mildred
Hesse, Karen	Temple, Frances
Hobbes, Will*	Uchida, Yoshiko
Hoffius, Shephen	Vande Velde, Vivian*
Hughes, Dean	Voight, Cynthia
Konigsburg, E.L.	Walters, Eric
Korman, Gordon*	Whelan, Gloria
Kropp, Paul*	Woodson, Jacqueline
Lasky, Kathryn	Yolen, Jane
	Zindel, Paul*

Student Recommendations:

The Report Card By Andrew Clements
I like the fact that Nora the main character, is standing up for what she believes in., that tests are pointless. Even though she has a perfect GPA, she is tired of people complaining about tests so she decides to fail every class. *Lejla R.*

Heat By Mike Lupica
It was a good basketball story. *Antonio. S.*

The B.F.G. By Roal Dahl
I liked that at first I thought the giant was going to eat her but he turned out to be really friendly and playful. *Kadija S.*

Sleepaway Girls By Jen Calonita
This book is about teenage drama and it gives you a good laugh at times. *Kwest C.*
I like this book because it is filled with OMG moments, which makes it very interesting. *Karolina A.*

Begging for Change By Sharon B. Flake
14 year old Raspberry is a survivor with a good heart. When you start reading it... you can't stop because it's so interesting. *Ravin M.*

Warriors: Into the Wild By Erin Hunter
It combines the characteristics of all cats and the outdoors to make an outstanding book. *Alexis T.*

The Hobbit By J.R.R. Tolkien
I liked that is has various storylines to it. I also liked that it is part of the Lord of the Rings Trilogy. *Alex Z.*

Under a War Torn Sky By L.M. Eliot
This was lost of action and kind of dramatic but overall it was a very good book. *Cameron P.*

War of the Worlds By S.G. Wells
I liked the plot and ending of the book were Martians and humans are at war. *Alex N.*

The Clique By Lisi Harrison
I liked that this book dealt with real life drama and problems that teenage kids deal with. *Allyson E.*
These books are very much like the middle school years. They are about five girls who are in the 7th grade and their troubles, memories, fun times. *Sarah G.*

Teacher Recommendations:

A Step From Heaven By An Na
This is the touching coming-of-age story of a young Korean girl, Young Ju, who comes to live in the US. Young Ju must deal with many of today's realities: learning a new language, adapting to a new culture, preserving family traditions and coping with an abusive home life. The story will captivate you from beginning to end. *Mrs. Herring*

The Ranger's Apprentice: The Ruins of Gorlan By John Flanagan
This book is a true page turner! The main character, Will, wants to be a knight. Instead, he winds up as a Ranger's apprentice. The Rangers are a secretive group that uses stealth and courage to protect the kingdom. Will gradually earns the respect of his good-hearted master and soon learns that becoming a ranger is more difficult, dangerous, and worthwhile than he had imagined. *Mrs. McNellage*

Black-Eyed Susan Books:

The Black-Eyed Susan Book Award honors outstanding books, chosen annually by Maryland students. Here are the winners for 2009:

Author	Title
Carter, Ally	I'd Tell You I Love You But Then I'd Have to Kill You
Clements, Andrew	No Talking
Hahn, Mary Downing	Witch Catcher
Lord, Cynthia	Rules
O'Connor, Barbara	How to Steal a Dog
Pfeffer, Susan	Life As We Knew It