

NEELSVILLE'S SUMMER READING PROGRAM



Neelsville Middle School
11700 Neelsville Church Road
Germantown, MD 20876

May 28, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians of Neelsville Middle School Students,

The Montgomery County Public School system requires students to complete a summer reading program. The purpose of this program is to provide practice in reading, which will strengthen your child's reading skills and enhance his/her performance at school in the coming school year. **Research shows that if students don't continue to read over the summer then they will lose reading gains they made during the previous school year.**

Students are expected to read three books (one fiction, one non-fiction, and a third of their choice – either fiction or non-fiction), which they have never read before. They should choose books by authors on the enclosed list of recommended authors. The recommended authors cover a wide range of reading levels, topics, and types of text (fiction, non-fiction, auto/biography). It is advised that parents review with their children several books for interest and readability before making selections. Librarians and bookstore consultants can assist in determining levels of difficulty for individual titles.

After the students read the books, they must complete a book report. Samples for the fiction, autobiography/biography, and nonfiction books are attached. A report should be completed as soon as the book is read and stored for safekeeping. During the first week of school, English teachers will collect the reports. Students who register after August 1, 2009, will have until the last week of the first grading period to complete the reports. **In English 7 and 8 and in Reading 6, summer reading will be addressed in a graded brief or extended constructed response or in a project relating the elements of a story in Unit 1 and will count for no less than 10% of the student's first quarter grade.**

If you should need another packet, they are available in Neelsville's Main Office or the Counseling Office. Additionally, the entire packet is available on Neelsville's website at <http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/neelsvillems/index.html>.

If you have any questions, you may contact Mrs. Vickey Brown, English IRT, or Ms. Anne Isleib, Reading Specialist, at 301-353-8064 or Victoria_L_Brown@mcpsmd.org or Anne_L_Isleib@mcpsmd.org.

Thank you for your support of the Summer Reading Program.

Sincerely
The Reading/English Department

RECOMMENDED AUTHORS (Fiction)

	Dickinson, Peter	Konigsburg, E. L.	Pullman, Philip
Avi *	Dorris, Michael	Korman, Gordon *	Rinaldi, Ann
Alexander, Lloyd *	Dowing Hahn, Mary #	Kostick, Conor #	Roberts, Willo Davis
Armstrong, William H.	Doyle, Brian *	Kropp, Paul *	Rodowsky, Colby
Auch, MJ #	Draper, Sharon	Lasky, Kathryn	Rowling, J. K. *
Banks, Lynne Reid	Duncan, Lois	Lawrence, Ian	Sachar, Louis *
Barron, T. A.	Dygaard, Thomas	Lee, Tanith	Salisbury, Graham #
Berlin, Eric #	Farmer, Nancy	LeGuin, Ursula	Schwartz, Alvin *
Beth Pfeffer, Susan #	Fenner, Carol	L'Engle, Madeleine	Scieszka, John *
Blume, Judy	Ferguson, Alane #	Lewis, C. S.	Scrimger, Richard *
Braun, Lillian Jackson	Flake, Sharon	Lisle, Janet	Sleaton, William
Bunting, Eve *	Fleishman, Sid *	London, Jack *	Shafer, Audrey #
Cabot, Meg	Flinn, Alex #	Lord, Cynthia #	Shan, Darren
Card, Orson Scott	Fox, Paula	Lowry, Lois	Smith, Roland #*
Carson-Hollander, Gail	Funke, Cornelia *	MacHale, D. J. *	Snicket, Lemony *
Carter, Ally #	Gantos, Jack *	MacGregor, Roy *	Soto, Gary *
Christopher, Matt *	George, Jean Craighead	Mazer, Harry *	Speare, Elizabeth
Clements, Andrew #	Gleitzman, Morris *	McCaffrey, Anne	Spinelli, Jerry*
Choi, Sook Nyl	Graff, Lisa #	McDaniel, Lurlene	Stroud, Jonathan *
Cisneros, Sandra	Grimes, Nikki	McKernan, Victoria #	Taylor, Mildred
Clark, Mary Higgins	Gutman, Dan *	McKinley, Robin	Temple, Frances
Cleary, Beverly	Haddix, Margaret *	McKissack, Patricia	Tharp, Tim #
Cole, Stephen	Hamilton, Virginia	Myers, Walter Dean *	Tolkien, J. R. R.
Colfer, Eoin *	Harmon, Michael #	Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds	Turner, Megan
Collier, James & Christopher	Hartinger, Brent #	Nixon, Joan L.	Uchida, Yoshiko
Cooney, Caroline *	Hautman, Pete #	O'Connor, Barbara #	VandeVelde, Vivian *
Cooper, Susan *	Hesse, Karen	O'Dell, Scott	Voigt, Cynthia
Coville, Bruce *	Hicks, Betty #	Oppel, Kenneth	Walters, Eric *
Creech, Sharon	Hobbs, Will *	Osbourne, Mary Pope	Wallace, Bill
Crutcher, Chris *	Hoffius, Stephen	Paterson, Katherine	Wells, Rosemary #
Cummings, Priscilla	Horowitz, Anthony *	Paulsen, Gary	Westall, Robert
Dahlber, Maureen #	Hughes, Dean	Peck, Richard	White, Ruth
Danzinger, Paula	Jacques, Brian *	Philbrick, Rodman *	Wilder, Laura
DeFelice, Cynthia	Jones, Dianna Wynne	Pierce, Tamora	Woodson, Jacqueline
Dessen, Sarah	Kehret, Peg	Pike, Christopher	Wright, Betty Ren
DiCamillo, Kate	Key, Watt #	Pinkwater, D. M. *	Yolen, Jane
	Klause, Annette	Pitchford, Dean #	Zindel, Paul

* Authors with an asterisk have been recommended by male students.

The above list shares SUGGESTED authors that students might choose to read over the summer. It is imperative that students read books as close to their reading ability as possible – this ensures the most growth. Students may also select from the following series: The Royal Diaries, Dear America Books, and American Girl.

Student's Reading Level: _____ (this can be found using their STAR, Lexile or MAP R scores).

Students may use the www.lexile.com website to find out the Lexile of books they are interested in reading over the summer or during the school year. You can search by book title or author to find the Lexile rating. Students can learn more about their Lexile scores by asking their teacher – their Lexile score can be found with their MAP R score.

FICTION BOOK REPORT

(Please complete on another sheet of paper.)

Title:

Author:

Main Character:

- A. Write the main character's **full name**.
- B. Name two **character traits** (not a physical description, but a distinguishing feature of an inner quality or of personality, for example, fair - treats people equally and fairly; not prejudiced) and then **find 2 quotations from the book that support these traits**.
- C. Note the **page number(s)** from which the quotation from the book comes.

Setting of the novel:

- A. Name the **location** or **locations** of WHERE most of the novel takes place (for example, Mr. Betts' house in Fairfax, Virginia).
- B. Note the **year(s)** WHEN the story takes place (for example, 1860's during the Civil War).

Use the information below and the CSI strategy to write three paragraphs (BCRs). Your report will not be considered complete without the three paragraphs.

Paragraph Number	Paragraph Focus
1	Describe the major problem or conflict in the novel.
2	Explain how the conflict is resolved or brought to an end.
3	Explain your opinion of the book.

Claim - What do you know?

-Write a topic sentence that answers the prompt.

Support - How do you know?

-Include 2-3 specific examples or quotes.

-Use signal phrases like For example, In the text, On page __, it states, "....."

Interpret - What have you learned or noticed?

-This is not found in the text. It comes from your brain!

-Connect all of your support to write a closing statement about the topic.



NON-FICTION BOOK REPORT

(Please complete on another sheet of paper.)

Title:

Author:

Subject of the book:

Write a paragraph **summarizing** or **explaining** the topic of the book you read. **Begin with a topic sentence**, followed by **two or three supporting sentences** and a **closing sentence**.

Notable vocabulary:

List **five (5) technical or special words** unique to this book that you found new or interesting.

Notable facts:

In **complete sentences**, write **five facts** or **ideas** you learned.

Use the information below and the CSI strategy to write a paragraph (BCR). Your report will not be considered complete without this paragraph.

Paragraph Number	Paragraph Focus
1	Explain your opinion of the book.

Claim - What do you know?

-Write a topic sentence that answers the prompt.

Support – How do you know?

-Include 2-3 specific examples or quotes.

-Use signal phrases like For example, In the text, On page __, it states, “.....”

Interpret - What have you learned or noticed?

-This is not found in the text. It comes from your brain!

-Connect all of your support to write a closing statement about the topic.



NON-FICTION BOOK REPORT: BIOGRAPHY REPORT

(Please complete on another sheet of paper.)

Title:

Author:

Subject of the auto/biography:

- A. Give the **full name** of the person.
- B. Identify **two character traits** of the person (not a physical description, but a distinguishing feature of an inner quality or of personality, for example, fair – treats people equally; not prejudiced) and then find **quotations from the book that support these traits**.
- C. Give the **page number(s)** from which the quotations come.

Accomplishments:

Write a paragraph explaining **TWO MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS** of the person. Write about **what was achieved**, and **how it was achieved**. Begin with a **claim sentence**, followed by **four to six supporting sentences (2 – 4 for each accomplishment)** and a **closing interpretation sentence**.

Non-Fiction

Autobiographies and biographies (by any author) of scientists, artists, actors, writers, athletes, musicians, politicians, inventors, religious leaders, and explorers are all appropriate.

Also, books on the following topics are appropriate for the designated grade level:

6th	7th	8th
World Studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ancient Egypt• Ancient civilizations<ul style="list-style-type: none">SumerMesopotamiaIndus RiverChinaMayan	World Studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Renaissance (European inventors and inventions up to the 18th century)• Islamic Culture• Lands of Latin America• Aztecs• Incas	World Studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Colonization• American Revolution• Slavery• Civil War
Science: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chesapeake Bay• Stars & Planets• Forces & Motion	Science: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stars & Planets• Life Science• Light & Sound	Science: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Earthquakes/Volcanoes• Heredity• Stars & Planets