

Let's Read!

HCPS Middle School Summer Reading: Grades 6-8

If you are taking advanced English 6, 7, or 8 next year, there is a required reading list you must follow.

Why do I have to read on summer break?

Reading during the summer is a great way to keep your mind active and growing while you are away from school. While it is essential to your progress as a student, the English and reading teachers of Henrico County Public Schools also believe Summer Reading should be fun! This year, we've put together a list of books that we hope will expand your love of reading. The list is filled with well-written books about the things middle school students love: family, friends, sports, dreams, and other exciting topics. Whether you read one book or the whole list, we hope you find something that will inspire you to continue to read. Reading is a life-long journey, where you can learn new things, meet new people, and discover yourself along the way.

How was the list created?

It's no secret that English and reading teachers love to read! Though it was difficult for us to pick just a few books from all the great ones out there, we tried to compile a list that includes a variety of genres, cultures, themes, and interesting plots. Each book on our list has been read by someone on the team. If you have specific questions, we will be able to answer them. You are also welcome to choose books that are not on this list. Find something fun, interesting, entertaining, and enlightening that will keep you reading all summer long! It's also important that you include your parents/guardians in the process of selecting a book. Using the steps below, you can work together to find books that are just right for you.

How do I find the right book for me?

1. **Research the Books:** We've provided links to resources that will help you find those books that might be interesting to you. Use these resources to learn about the books on our list.
Virginia State Reading Association - <http://www.vusra.org/links.htm>
Teen Reads - <http://www.teenreads.com>
Young Adult Book Central - <http://www.yabookscentral.com>
2. **Preview the Books:** Once you've reviewed the information, go to the library or the bookstore and preview the book. Read the first few pages before you check it out or buy it. Consider the vocabulary. If there are more than seven words on the page that you don't know, you might want to try a different book. Remember, you're looking for books that are fun, interesting and appropriate for you!
3. **Read! Read! Read!:** While you should read a minimum of two books this summer, we hope our lists will inspire you to read much, much more.

Okay, so I read a book, now what?

Great! We want to hear all about it! We hope you really enjoyed the book you chose, but if you didn't we want to know that too. Complete the survey below, turn it into your English teacher at the beginning of the school year, and he/she will award you extra credit. You should complete a survey for each book you read. Your teacher may also provide you with the opportunity to complete your survey on the computer.

Hey Moms, Dads, Aunts, Uncles, Grandparents, and Other Family Members:

We hope you find the attached list provides your student with great summer reading opportunities. It's important that you are part of the process, so consider reading the titles with, or even to, your students. One is never too old for a read aloud and having someone to talk to about a book just makes it that much better of an experience. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Ann Marie Seely, Educational Specialist for English and Reading, at 652-3740. Who knows, maybe you'll find a new favorite book too!



Henrico County Public Schools
Division of Instruction

Summer Reading Survey

Tell us what you think about the books you read this summer. Complete the survey below then turn it into your English teacher by the end of the second week of school. You will receive EXTRA CREDIT. All of your responses about the book must provide enough detail to show that you really read it. Refer to the samples we've provided if you need help. Use the back of the paper if you need more room to write your responses.

Your Name: _____

Your School: _____

Your Grade: _____

Book Title: _____

Book Author: _____

I read this book because...(provide at least three reasons).

1.

2.

3.

I liked/didn't like this book because...

I do/don't recommend this book for next year's summer reading list because...

I would also like to see the committee add _____ by _____ to the summer reading list because...
(Book Title) (Author)

STUDENT'S SIGNATURE (REQUIRED)

PARENT'S/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE (REQUIRED)



HENRICO COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2011 SUMMER READING LIST RISING GRADE 6

If you are taking advanced English 6, 7, or 8 next year, there is a required reading list you must follow.

Best Friends Books about Friendship	
Title	Author
<i>Chicken Soup for the Preteen Soul</i> <i>Walk Two Moons</i> <i>P.S. Longer Letter Later</i> <i>The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess, Some Soup, and a Spool of Thread</i> <i>How I Survived Middle School series</i> <i>Number the Stars</i> <i>Bridge to Terabithia</i> <i>Stargirl or Love, Stargirl</i> <i>So Be It</i>	Canfield, Jack, et al Creech, Sharon Danziger, Paula and Ann M. Martin DiCamillo, Kate Krulik, Nancy Lowry, Lois Paterson, Katherine Spinelli, Jerry Weeks, Sarah
Cliff Hangers Action-Packed Books	
Title	Author
<i>Fever 1793</i> <i>Blood on the River: James Town 1607</i> <i>The Thief Lord</i> <i>Ghost Canoe</i> <i>Alex Rider spy novel series</i> <i>On the Run or Island series</i> <i>The 39 Clues fantasy adventure series</i> <i>Night of the Twisters</i>	Anderson, Laurie Halse Carbone, Elisa Funke, Cornelia Hobbs, Will Horowitz, Anthony Korman, Gordon Multi-author series Ruckman, Ivy
Who Done It? Mystery Books	
Title	Author
<i>Hardy Boys series</i> <i>The Original Adventures of Hank the Cowdog series</i> <i>Hoot</i> <i>Nancy Drew series</i> <i>Sammy Keyes series</i>	Dixon, Franklin W. Erickson, John R. Hiaasen, Carl Keene, Carolyn Van Draanen, Wendelin
LOL - Laugh Out Loud Funny Books	
Title	Author
<i>S.O.R. Losers</i> <i>The BFG or Matilda</i> <i>Bunnicula: A Rabbit-Tale of Mystery</i> <i>Diary of a Wimpy Kid series</i> <i>Lawn Boy</i>	Avi Dahl, Roald Howe, James and Deborah Kinney, Jeff Paulsen, Gary

Fantastic Fantasy Fantasy Books	
Title	Author
<i>The Spiderwick Chronicles</i> series <i>Artemis Fowl</i> series <i>The City of Ember</i> series <i>Inkheart</i> Inkworld trilogy series <i>George's Secret Key to the Universe</i> <i>Warriors: The Power of Three</i> series <i>Midnight for Charlie Bone</i> <i>Airborn</i> trilogy <i>Surviving Antarctica</i>	Black, Holly and Tony DiTerlizzi Colfer, Eoin DuPrau, Jeanne Funke, Cornelia Hawking, Lucy & Stephen Hunter, Erin Nimmo, Jenny Oppel, Kenneth White, Andrea
Things that Wag and Purr Books about Animals	
Title	Author
<i>Because of Winn Dixie</i> <i>Jim Ugly</i> <i>Old Yeller</i> <i>A Dog's Life</i> <i>Shiloh</i> series <i>Where the Red Fern Grows</i>	DiCamillo, Kate Fleischman, Sid Gipson, Fred Martin, Ann Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds Rawls, Wilson
Dunk and Tackle Books about Sport	
Title	Author
<i>The Kid Who Only Hit Homers</i> <i>Free Baseball</i> <i>Last Shot (A Final Four Mystery)</i> <i>Jackie & Me</i> Baseball Card Adventure series <i>Travel Team, Heat, The Big Field, Comeback Kids</i> series <i>Crash, There's a Girl in My Hammerlock</i>	Christopher, Matt Corbett, Sue Feinstein, John Gutman, Dan Lupica, Mike Spinelli, Jerry
The Real Deal Factual/Nonfiction Books	
Title	Author
<i>Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story About Brain Science</i> <i>Children of the Wild West</i> <i>Lincoln: A Photobiography</i> <i>Marley: A Dog Like No Other</i> <i>An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793</i>	Fleischman, John Freedman, Russell Freedman, Russell Grogan, John Murphy, Jim
Super Series Books in a Series	
Title	Author
<i>Black Stallion</i> series <i>My Side of the Mountain</i> trilogy <i>Among the Hidden: Shadow Children</i> series <i>The Chronicles of Narnia</i> <i>The Orphan Train</i> series <i>Mr. Tucket</i> series <i>Percy Jackson and the Olympians</i> series	Farley, Walter George, Jean Craighead Haddix, Margaret Peterson Lewis, C. S. Nixon, Joan Lowery Paulsen, Gary Riordan, Rick