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## Summer Reading Assignment

Dear Parents and Families:

This summer we are hoping to engage our students to make reading a part of their summer. To those ends we are including the attached lists and ask that you help your child be a summer reader by helping your child get books from the library or bookstore, monitoring their reading, and signing when your child finishes each book. You may even want to read the novel too and share the experience!

Our language arts teachers will be using your child's summer reading as a part of the start of year classwork, so if your child does not do their reading, they will have a lot of catching up to do in order to properly complete the work assigned. As well, your signatures and the return of the attached sheet will be **one of the first grades of the 2019-2020 school year.**

Remember, the more your child reads, the easier the adjustment is back to school in the fall and the stronger your child will be able to maintain the gains from the 2018-2019 year. Please help them help themselves. Make reading a part of your household's summer plan.

To help your child, please sign here that you have received this letter and can support your child's reading this summer. If you have any questions, please call, e-mail, or attach a note, and we will do our best to answer your concerns.

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

If you cannot provide books for your child this summer, we will do our best to help your child have a book in hand before summer starts. During the summer if you have any difficulty in finding these books or purchasing them, please contact the school, and we will do everything we can to meet the need. Our office staff will be here most of the summer and have many of the titles on hand.

If you lose this sheet, please note that copies of our summer reading plan are available on our website and in our school office. Directions are on the back of this sheet...

Thanks again and have a great summer!

The Language Arts and Reading Departments

[OVER]

**Directions:** The second sheet in this letter, front and back, is a list of *suggested novels* for your child to select from this summer. The more your child reads, the easier it will be to come back to school in the fall and the better their skills will be. If your child wishes to pick his or her own novels from beyond the list, we only ask the following:

**First**, check if the book is at an appropriately challenging level. When possible, please check the book's **lexile** and **book level**, using the resources listed below.

For **lexile** please visit [www.lexile.com](http://www.lexile.com) and search the novel to be read. Here are the suggested "bands for texts by grade level.

6	925L to 1070L
7	970L to 1120L
8	1010L to 1185L
9	1050L to 1260L

As you can see, summer reading is more important than ever, not just because reading is an important part of encouraging a child's imagination and ability to learn but also because of the new state expectations.

If no **lexile** is available, you may also wish to look at a novel's **book level**, or reading level by grade. Sites such as [www.arbookfind.com](http://www.arbookfind.com) can help with this. Look for the **BL** to determine a novel's grade level suggested. A rule of thumb for most books concerning vocabulary is this:

**Five Finger Rule:** Each unknown word or concept on a page is a finger. One to two... the book may be too easy, three may just be the sweet spot—a reasonable challenge, four to five may cause the child to want to drop the book and be at a level too challenging just yet. Remember, reading should be a **fun** and **enjoyable** pastime, not a burden for the family.

If your child is choosing his or her own reading this summer, please use the chart below.

___ Grade:	<b>PARENT</b>
<b>Title/Author</b>	<b>INITIALS</b>
<b>Lexile</b>	
_____	
_____	
_____	
_____	
_____	

The question we know that the students will ask is, "How many books do I have to read?" The answer, however, is not a simple one. Some books are harder than others. Therefore, we ask that Mom and Dad help us by simply keeping their child reading. A suggested amount is about three to four books for general and perhaps a few more for advanced. We know some readers will read well beyond this, and for some even three will be a struggle. Just do your best is all we ask.

So whatever you do...

**Make reading an important part of YOUR SUMMER!**



**Summer Reading List (suggested novels by grade) :**

<b>NON</b>	<i>Be a Changemaker: How to Start Something that Matters</i> by Laurie Ann Thompson	1130L	<input type="text"/>
	<i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i> by Jaqueline Woodson	990L	<input type="text"/>
<b>F</b>	<i>Freedom Riders: John Lewis and Jim Zwerg on the Front Lines of the</i>	1090	<input type="text"/>
<b>I</b>	<i>Civil Rights Movement</i> by Ann Bausum		
<b>C</b>	<i>Red Scarf Girl</i> by Ji-Li Jiang	780L	<input type="text"/>
<b>T</b>	<i>The Signers: The 56 Stories Behind the Declaration of Independence</i>	1010	<input type="text"/>
<b>I</b>	by Dennis Brindell Fradlin and Michael McCurdy		
<b>O</b>	<i>Temple Grandin: How the Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced Autism and</i>	960	<input type="text"/>
<b>N</b>	<i>Changed the World</i> by Sy Montgomery and Temple Grandin		
	<i>We've Got a Job to Do: The 1963 Birmingham Children's March</i> by Cynthia Levinson	1020L	<input type="text"/>

**8th Grade: Advanced -AND- General**

**Title/Author**

**ADVANCED Required:** Scholastic's *Best Poems Ever*, editor Edric S. Mesmer

**OR - Edgar Allan Poe: A Biography** by Tristen Boyer Binns **CHOOSE ONE**

*Where the Sidewalk Ends*, by Shel Silverstein

*A Light in the Attic*, by Shel Silverstein

*Maus* by Art Spiegelman

*The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak

*The Wish* by Gail Carson Levine

**PARENT  
Lexile INITIALS**

N/A
850
N/A
N/A
N/A
730
L450

**9th Grade: High Honors (high school credit)**

**Title/Author**

**HIGH HONORS Required:** *Mythology* by Edith Hamilton

**OR** *The Illiad* by Homer

**AND** *The Diary of Anne Frank* by Anne Frank

**PARENT  
Lexile INITIALS**

1040
730
740
1080

**SSYRA (Sunshine State Young Readers Association) Novels:**

**Title/Author**

*A Crack in the Sea* by H.M Bouwman

*Click'd* by Tamara Ireland Stone

*First Rule of Punk* by Celia C. Perez

*Forest Wonders* by Linda Sue Park

*Frogkisser* by Garth Nix

*Ghost* by Jason Reynolds

*How Lunchbox Jones Saved Me from Robots, Traitors, and Missy the Cruel* by Jennifer Brown

*Restart* by Gordon Korman

*Short* by Holly Goldberg Sloan

*Surrender the Key* by D.J. MacHale

*The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora* by Pablo Cartaya

*The Eureka Key* by Sarah Thomson

*The Firefly Code* by Megan Frazer Blakemore

*The Girl Who Could Not Dream* by Sarah Beth Durst

*The Van Gogh Deception* by Deron Hicks

**PARENT  
Lexile INITIALS**

740L
700L
670L
700L
840L
730L
750L
730L
810L
580L
750L
680L
660L
600L
750L