

NLACS INCOMING 8TH GRADE

SUMMER READING

What are my Reading Choices?

READ!!!

Enclosed is your summer reading list! The books selected include a variety of genres and subjects. We believe that reading is a lifelong habit that must continue to be nurtured, even in the summer. You must read "Monster" and one book off the list on the second page. Of course, we hope you will read as many books as you can over the summer!

Your assignment also includes **BOOK REPORT TEMPLATES**, to be completed after you have finished each book. Plan on reading the required book as close to Mid-August as possible. It will be the first book discussed in Humanities when you return to school.



READING REQUIREMENT: Select TWO novels from the list

THE LIST BELOW CONTAINS 16 OPTIONS TO READ THIS SUMMER. YOU MAY CHOOSE TO READ ANOTHER BOOK THAT IS NOT LISTED, BUT ONLY IF YOU HAVE IT APPROVED BY YOUR HUMANITIES TEACHER FIRST. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR EITHER BUYING YOUR NOVEL, OR CHECKING IT OUT FROM THE LIBRARY. THE SCHOOL WILL NOT BE PROVIDING YOU WITH A COPY.

RECOMMENDED READING: BOOKS THAT HAVE ** BEFORE THE TITLE ARE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.

Summer Reading Catalogue

Read one additional book off the list that follows.

Your assignment will also include **BOOK REPORT TEMPLATES**, to be completed after you have finished each book. Plan on starting early so you do not have to hurry to catch up before the beginning of the year.



REALISTIC

Bray, Libba, GOING BOVINE - Cameron Smith, a disaffected sixteen-year-old diagnosed with mad cow disease, sets off on a road trip with a death-obsessed, video-gaming dwarf he meets in the hospital in an attempt to find a cure.

Sones, Sonya – WHAT MY MOTHER DOESN'T KNOW Through poetry, Sophie describes her relationships with a series of boys as she searches for Mr. Right.

****Avi – NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH** Structured as a series of journal entries, memos, letters and dialogues, this highly original novel emerges as a witty satire of high school politics, revealing how truth can easily become distorted.

Hijuelos, Oscar, DARK DUDE - Rico Fuentes, a pale-skinned Cuban-American teenager, abandons New York City for Wisconsin, only to discover that he still feels like an outsider and that violent and judgmental people can be found even in the wholesome Midwest.

SPORTS

Murdock, Catherine Gilbert – DAIRY QUEEN After spending her summer running the family farm and training the quarterback for her school's rival football team, 16-year old D.J. decides to go out for the sport herself, not anticipating the reactions of those around her.

Deuker, Carl – NIGHT HOOPS While trying to prove that he is good enough to be on his high school's varsity basketball team, Nick must also deal with his parents' divorce and the erratic behavior of a troubled classmate who lives across the street.

Lupica, Mike - HEAT. Twelve-year-old Michael Arroyo is a star pitcher who struggles with his father's death as he pursues his dream of leading his South Bronx All-Stars to the Little League World Series.

HISTORIC FICTION

Magoom, Kekla, THE ROCK AND THE RIVER - In 1968 Chicago, fourteen-year-old Sam Childs is caught in a conflict between his father's nonviolent approach to seeking civil rights for African-Americans and his older brother, who has joined the Black Panther Party.

Rees, Celia, WITCH CHILD - In 1659, fourteen-year-old Mary Newbury keeps a journal of her voyage from England to the New World and her experiences living as a witch in a community of Puritans near Salem, Massachusetts.

Curtis, Christopher Paul – BUD, NOT BUDDY Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father - a renowned bandleader.

CLASSICS

Lewis, Carroll, H.G., - ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND Alice's ordinary life is turned upside-down by following a rabbit down a rabbit hole.

****Smith, Betty – A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN** The tale of an immigrant little girl living in the slums of Brooklyn, who dreamily watches out her window as a tree struggles to reach the sky, seeing in it a metaphor for her family's ability to overcome adversity and thrive.

Wells, H.G. - WAR OF THE WORLDS Martians come to exterminate all of mankind, will they succeed?

SCIENCE FICTION

****Adams, Douglas, HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY** Seconds before Earth is demolished to make room for a galactic freeway, an earthman is saved by his friend and together they journey through the galaxy.

Shusterman, Neil – THE SCHWA WAS HERE Eighth-grader Antsy Bonano realizes his friend Calvin Schwa has the ability to be nearly invisible, he concocts a money-making scheme.

Nelson, O. T. – THE GIRL WHO OWNED A CITY. When a plague sweeps over the earth killing everyone except children under twelve, ten-year-old Lisa organizes a group to rebuild a new way of life.

**SUMMER READING TIME MANAGEMENT WORKSHEET
(SAMPLE)**

DATE	BOOK TITLE	PG#s	REFLECTION
6-25-13	Hunger Games	1-26	Very descriptive beginning. I like Katniss. I thought she was a boy at first.
6-26-13	Same	26-35	It was slow going at first, but it is really taking off. Some of it is sad.

Full Name: _____

SUMMER BOOK REPORT- MONSTER (20 points)

Book Title: _____

Author: _____ *#of Pages:* _____

Setting: *Write a description of when and where the story takes place. Be sure to include important details of the setting that affect the plot.*

Main Characters: *Give the names and a brief description of the story's main characters (you do not need to include minor characters.)*

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

BOOK REVIEW: Would you recommend this book to a friend? Why or why not. Write a persuasive paragraph either recommending the book for next year’s Seventh Grade Summer Reading List or arguing to keep it off the list. Be sure to cite specific **reasons** you liked it or did not like it. (I like it because...)

Full Name: _____

SUMMER BOOK REPORT-BOOK 2 (20 points)

Book Title: _____

Author: _____ *#of Pages:* _____

Setting: *Write a description of when and where the story takes place. Be sure to include important details of the setting that affect the plot.*

Main Characters: *Give the names and a brief description of the story's main characters (you do not need to include minor characters.)*

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

BOOK REVIEW: Would you recommend this book to a friend? Why or why not. Write a persuasive paragraph either recommending the book for next year’s Seventh Grade Summer Reading List or arguing to keep it off the list. Be sure to cite specific **reasons** you liked it or did not like it. (I like it because...)

READING TIME MANAGEMENT WORKSHEET (20 points)

Directions: You may make as many copies of this sheet as necessary, or re-create it on loose leaf paper.

DATE	BOOK TITLE	PG#s	REFLECTION/SHORT SUMMARY