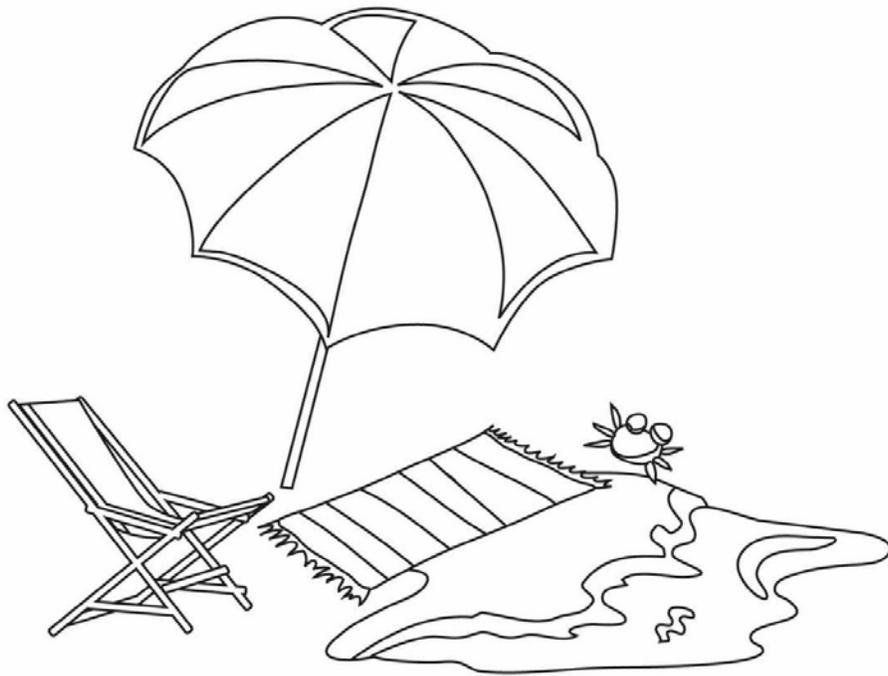


Summer Reading List 2018



Jared Eliot Middle School
Grades 6-8

Jared Eliot Middle School
Summer Reading 2018

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Summer Reading Directions

Students entering grades 6, 7, and 8 in the fall are required to read two books.

The first book must be selected from the Book Chat List (attached), and students must be prepared to discuss the book in the fall.

The second book is a free choice selection, and students must complete the assignment questions (attached) on this book. This assignment is due to the homeroom teacher on Friday, September 7, 2018.

The book chat grade and the free choice book assignment grade will be averaged and included as the first English grade of the marking period.

The following websites will provide suggestions for the student's free choice book selection:

www.nutmegaward.org

www.ala.org/yalsa/2017-best-fiction-young-adults

www.carnegielibrary.org/kids-teen/

www.ala.org/yalsa/booklistsawards/booklists

Grade 6 Book Chat List

- Students entering Grade 6 must select one of their two book choices from the following list.
- Students should take notes on their selection, so that they will be prepared to discuss the book with a teacher in a small group in the fall.
- The book chat will be counted as part of an English grade in the first marking period.

Avi
S.O.R. Losers

South Orange River (S.O.R.) School is famous for its teams and athletes until the dedicated non-jocks of the special seventh grade soccer team make a new kind of sports history. A very funny sports saga.

Cooney, Caroline
If the Witness Lied

First Jack Fountain's mother dies of cancer after postponing treatment so her baby, Tris, could be born. Then his father is run over after two year old Tris accidentally moves the parking brake. When their evil aunt comes to take care of the family, she sells the Fountains' tragic story as a reality TV show. Every chapter is narrated alternately by each sibling and ends with suspense.

Hunt, Lynda Mullaley
One for the Murphys

Carley uses humor and street smarts to keep her emotional walls high and thick. But the day she becomes a foster child, and moves in with the Murphys, she's blindsided. This loving family shows Carley the stable family life she never thought existed. Despite her resistance, the Murphys eventually show her what it feels like to belong—until her mother wants her back.

Mass, Wendy
Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life

Just before his thirteenth birthday, Jeremy Fink receives a keyless locked box—set aside by his father before his death five years earlier—that purportedly contains the meaning of life.

Ritter, John
The Boy Who Saved Baseball

The story of a boy named Tom who loves baseball and has to win a game to save the baseball field from being destroyed. The story is funny and delightful.

Spinelli, Jerry
Maniac Magee

The class award winning story of a twelve-year-old boy who finds himself when he escapes an unbearable situation. When Jeffrey Lionel Magee wanders into Two Mills, Pennsylvania, the stories begin to circulate about how fast and how far he can run, and how he scores forty-nine touchdowns when he plays football with the high school team. The story is told with exaggeration, humor, and melodrama.

Spinelli, Jerry
Who Put that Hair in My Toothbrush?

It's all out war between brother and sister who do everything to sabotage each other.

Taylor, Theodore
The Cay

All his life Phillip had looked down upon black-skinned people. Now, suddenly, he was a refugee from a fatal shipwreck, and dependent on an extraordinary West Indian named Timothy. There were just the two of them cast up on the barren little Carribean island, and a crack on the head left Phillip blind. An exciting moving adventure story tells of their struggle for survival.

Grade 7 Book Chat List

- Students entering Grade 7 must select one of their two book choices from the following list.
- Students should take notes on their selection, so that they will be prepared to discuss the book with a teacher in a small group in the fall.
- The book chat will be counted as part of an English grade in the first marking period.

Card, Orson Scott
Ender's Game

Ender's skills make him a leader in school and respected in the Battle Room, where children play at mock battles in zero gravity. Yet growing up in an artificial community of young soldiers, Ender suffers from isolation, rivalry from his peers, pressure from adult teachers, and an unsettling fear of the alien invaders. His psychological battles include loneliness, fear of becoming like his brother, and fanning the flames of devotion to his beloved sister.

Danzigar, Paula
The Cat Ate My Gym Suit

Marcy hates school until Ms. Finney comes along, an English teacher with innovative methods. When Ms. Finney gets suspended, Marcy organizes a student protest on her behalf.

Hinton, S.E.
The Outsiders

Since his parents' deaths, Ponyboy's loyalty has been to his brothers and his gang. However, when his best friend kills a member of a rival gang, Ponyboy finds himself caught up in a nightmare of violence.

Horowitz, Anthony
Scorpia

Alex Rider, teen spy, has always been told he is the spitting image of the father he never knew. But when he learns that his father may have been an assassin for the most lethal and powerful organization in the world, Scorpia, Alex's world shatters. Now Scorpia wants him on their side. Alex no longer has the strength to fight them until he learns of Scorpia's latest terrorist plot. Can Alex prevent the slaughter, or will Scorpia prove once and for all that the terror will not be stopped?

Lupica, Mike
Batboy

Brian Dudley grew up around baseball. His dad, Cole, was a major league pitcher, and they had season tickets for the Detroit Tigers games. Even though Cole walked out on Brian and his mom, Brian still loves baseball and lands a job as a batboy for the Tigers. He is put in the line of action.

Shusterman, Neal
Bruiser

There's a reason why Brewster can't have friends—why he can't care about too many people. Because when he cares about you, things start to happen. Impossible things that can't be explained. I know, because they're happening to me.

Sonnenblich, Jordan
Zen and the Art of Faking It

With a father in jail and a mother trying hard to keep her family together, San Lee's home life is anything but Zen. He's entering yet another new school as an outside eighth grader—and moving from big town Houston to small-town Pennsylvania isn't exactly his idea of fun. He becomes an unlikely school hero, the local Zen Master.

Van Draanen, Wendelin
The Running Dream

Jessica thinks her life is over when she loses a leg in a car accident. She's not comforted by the news that she'll be able to walk with the help of a prosthetic leg. Who cares about walking when you live to run?

Grade 8 Book Chat List

- Students entering Grade 8 must select one of their two book choices from the following list.
- Students should take some notes on their selection so that they will be prepared to discuss the book with a teacher in a small group in the fall.
- The book chat will be counted as part of an English grade in the first marking period.

Bodeen, S.A.

The Raft

Robie is an experienced traveler. She's taken the flight from Honolulu to the Midway Atoll, a group of Pacific islands where her parents live, many times. When she has to get to Midway in a hurry, she gets on the next cargo flight. All systems are go until a storm hits during the flight. Robie doesn't panic until the engine suddenly cuts out, and she finds herself on a raft in the middle of the Pacific Ocean fighting for her life.

Cooney, Caroline

Code Orange

Mitty has always loved New York City and felt safe there, even after 9/11. When he is doing research for his Biology class, he stumbles upon a dangerous and deadly virus. Could he be infected? Terrorists kidnap Mitty to use him as a biological weapon; he must find a way to protect himself and the people in the city he loves.

Mulligan, Andy

Trash

One unlucky-lucky day, Raphael finds something very special and very mysterious. So mysterious that he decides to keep it, even when the city police offer a handsome reward for its return. That decision brings with it terrifying consequences, and soon the dumpsite boys must use all of their cunning and courage to stay ahead of their pursuers. It's up to Raphael, Gardo and Rat—boys who have no education, no parents, no homes, and no money—to solve the mystery and right a terrible wrong.

Pfeffer, Beth

Life as We Knew It

The moon's orbital path is slightly changed after a giant meteor crashes into it. The moon is now closer to Earth, and it is creating many climactic changes and problems like earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions etc. Miranda writes in her journal how this is affecting her family and everyone around her.

Sonnenblick, Jordan

After Ever After

This is a sequel to *Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie*. Jeffrey isn't a little boy with cancer anymore. He's a teen who's in remission, but life still feels fragile. The after effects of treatment have left Jeffrey with an inability to be a great student or to walk without limping. Jeffrey has to deal with his anger at his older brother Steven who left, an old friend who is keeping something secret, and a girl who is way out of his league.

Sonnenblick, Jordan

Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip

Meet Peter Friedman, high school freshman, talented photographer, former baseball star. When a freakish injury ends his pitching career, Peter has some major things to figure out. Is there life after sports?

Sonnenblick, Jordan

Notes from the Midnight Driver

One measly little car crash, and suddenly I'm some kind of convicted felon. My parents are getting divorced, I might be in love with a girl who could kill me with one finger, and now I'm sentenced to baby-sit some insane old guy. What else could possibly go wrong?

Yolen, Jane

The Devil's Arithmetic

Hannah is tired of hearing about the Nazis during the Holocaust, but when she opens the door for Elijah at the Passover Seder, she is transported in time to 1940's Poland where she is captured and put in a death camp.

Book Chat Questions

(Optional)

1. Did you like the book? Why or why not? Give an example of something that happens in the book to illustrate your point.
2. Who was your favorite or least favorite character? What was he/she like? Give an example from the book that shows one of his/her traits.
3. What was a conflict in the story? How was it resolved? What did this show about the character involved?
4. How was friendship shown in the book? Talk about the relationship, whether friendly or not, between any two people in the book.
5. What was the author's purpose in writing this book? What message was he/she trying to tell us.
6. Who would you recommend this book to? Why?
7. What was the setting (time and place)? Was it important to the story? Could this story have happened anywhere and/or anytime?
8. Describe the conclusion of the story. Were all conflicts resolved? Did the story have a satisfying ending? Suggest a different type of ending.
9. What is the significance of the book title? Suggest another title.

Summer Reading Questions

(Required for free choice selection)

Name of Student: _____ Date: _____

Title of Book Read: _____

Author: _____

Check One: Fiction Nonfiction

Summer Reading Questions (**Required**)

(Answer fiction questions below for fiction book or nonfiction questions on the next page for nonfiction book).

► **WRITE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES.** ◀

(Please use page 9 if additional space is needed.)

FICTION

How did the main character in your book change from beginning to end?

What was a problem in the book and how was that problem resolved?

Summer Reading Questions

(Required for free choice selection)

Name of Student _____

NONFICTION

Explain the subject/event of your nonfiction book and include a detailed description.

Describe the author's attitude toward the topic and give one example from the text (find something the author said—specific words) that proves that you are correct.
