

Summer Reading 2023

Grades 6-8

Incoming sixth, seventh, and eighth-grade students are required to **read at least TWO*** books over the summer. Students are required to read or listen to ONE of the books on the list below of “Required Reading Books” for their respective grade levels. Students are encouraged to take notes/annotate (in a notebook, on post-its, etc...) on characters, setting, theme, plot development, author’s craft, etc.

Students will be assessed on the book(s) they choose at the start of the year and should be prepared to discuss their chosen text. Students WILL be able to use any of the notes they have taken throughout the summer for this assessment.

Happy Reading!

** Note: The Mountainside Public Library provides digital copies, and audiobooks.*

**You can acquire a library card online if you do not already have one.*

Required Reading Books- Fiction

6th- Choose 1	7th- Choose 1	8th- Choose 1	8th Honors- Choose 2
Short - Holly Goldberg Sloan What the Moon Saw - Laura Resau The Wild Robot -Peter Brown Mr. Popper’s Penguins -Richard & Florence Atwater The Lemonade War -Jacqueline Davies Out of My Mind -Sharon Draper Captain Nobody -Dean Pitchford Front Desk -Kelly Yang	The Crossover - Kwame Alexander Fish In a Tree - Lynda Mullaly Hunt Flipped -Wendelin Van Draanen Schooled -Gordon Korman Heat -Mike Lupica The Lions of Little Rock -Kristen Levine Restart -Gordon Korman	The Outsiders -S.E. Hinton Murder on the Orient Express -Agatha Christie The Giver -Lois Lowry The Hunger Games -Suzanne Collins Ranger’s Apprentice -John Flanagan	The Outsiders -S.E. Hinton The Alchemist -Paulo Coelho A Tree Grows in Brooklyn -Betty Smith Life of Pi -Yann Martel

Free Choice Reading--Nonfiction *(1 For All Levels)*

Students may choose a biography, autobiography, memoir, or a narrative nonfiction text. Below are some **suggested** titles for each grade level. Students may feel free to read an appropriate title not listed below.

**Post-it notes/annotations are not required for free choice reading.*

6th	7th	8th
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knots in My Yo-Yo String by Jerry Spinelli• Reaching for the Moon by Katherine Johnson• My Inventions: The Autobiography of Nikola Tesla by Nikola Tesla• Small Steps: The Year I Got Polio by Peg Kehret• The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind (young reader's ed.) by William Kamkwamba• Man on the Moon: How a Photograph Made Anything Seem Possible by Pamela Jain Dell• Shark Lady: True Adventures of Eugenie Clark by Ann McGovern & Ruth Chew• Baseball Biographies for Kids: The Greatest Players from the 1960s to Today by Dean Burrell	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brown Girl Dreaming- Jacqueline Woodson• Who Was Series• Freedom Riders - A Primary Source Exploration of the Struggle for Racial Justice by Heather E. Schwart• All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys' Soccer Team, by Christina Soontornvat• How We Got to the Moon: The People, Technology, and Daring Feats of Science Behind Humanity's Greatest Adventure, written and illustrated by John Rocco• Undefeated: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team by Steve Sheinkin• How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous by Georgia Bragg• Port Chicago 50 : Disaster, Mutiny, and the Fight for Civil Rights by Steve Sheinkin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No Excuses: The True Story of a Congenital Amputee Who Became a Champion in Wrestling and in Life by Kyle Maynard• Red Scarf Girl by Ji-Li Jiang• Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly• The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot• Chasing Lincoln's Killer by James L. Swanson• Chasing King's Killer by James L. Swanson• I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai• Anne Frank- The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank• Shoe Dog by Phil Knight

It may be helpful to reference a site such as commonsensemedia.org in order to best determine which book choice will be most appropriate for your child.

Incoming 8th Grade Honors students are required to read **three books total- 2 required fiction texts + 1 free choice nonfiction book*