

The Perkiomen School

Middle School Summer Reading

Reading is basic to all learning and is encouraged at The Perkiomen School Middle School. During the summer, students entering grades five through eight are required to read a minimum of two books from the attached grade level lists. English assignments, in the early fall, are based on the summer reading. These can include in class writing assignments and/or homework assignments.

Summer Reading Guidelines

- Students should choose **two** books from their respective grade's list.
- They should not choose books they have already read.
- If a student enrolls after August 15, they only have to read one book.
- ESL students do not have to do summer reading.
- Preparing a Study Guide is optional, but strongly encouraged.

Optional Study Guide

Students may choose to take notes as they read and develop study guides. The students should develop the study guides on their own with only organizational help from parents. They should not be so long or detailed that they are not useful. Study guides are meant to be a quick reference tool that can be used when completing assignments.

Possible Organizational Format

Main characters: Make a list of the main characters and describe them. Students should include: age, physical description, and notes about the character's personality.

Setting: Include the time and place in which the novel takes place. The setting may change throughout the story.

Conflict: What is the problem or conflict in the story? Are there other minor conflicts that are also important?

Plot Summaries: Divide the book into five to ten sections and write a plot summary for the sections.

Optional Reading Opportunities

Reading Olympics: Our middle school has a very active Reading Olympics Team. We hope that students will look at the Reading Olympics Book list to get a head start on the reading for the club if they are interested in joining. The link to the Reading Olympics book choices is on the school web site under Middle School.

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Summer Reading Choices

(Choose two from your respective grade)

5th Grade	
Title	Author
<i>Hoot</i>	Carl Hiaasen
<i>The Cay</i>	Theodore Taylor
<i>The Thief Lord</i>	Cornelia Funke
<i>Crispin: The Cross of Lead</i>	Avi
<i>Because of Winn-Dixie</i>	Kate DiCamillo
<i>Rascal</i>	Sterling North
<i>Maniac Magee</i>	Jerry Spinelli
<i>The Lightning Thief</i>	Rick Riordan
<i>Missing May</i>	Cynthia Rylant
<i>Belle Teal</i>	Anne M. Martin
<i>Inkheart</i>	Cornelia Funke
<i>Gold Dust</i>	Chris Lynch
<i>Nory Ryan's Song</i>	Patricia Reilly Giff

6th Grade	
Title	Author
<i>The Sea of Trolls</i>	Nancy Farmer
<i>Dragonsong</i>	Anne McCaffrey
<i>The Golden Compass</i>	Philip Pullman
<i>The Subtle Knife</i>	Philip Pullman
<i>The Amber Spy Glass</i>	Philip Pullman
<i>The True Confession of Charlotte Doyle</i>	Avi
<i>Chasing Vermeer</i>	Balleitt Blue
<i>The View from Saturday</i>	E.L. Konigsburg
<i>Hatchet</i>	Gary Paulsen
<i>Catherine Called Birdy</i>	Karen Cushman
<i>Stargirl</i>	Jerry Spinelli
<i>My Side of the Mountain</i>	Jean Craighead George

7th Grade	
Title	Author
<i>Tangerine</i>	Edward Bloor
<i>The Giver</i>	Lois Lowry
<i>Artemis Fowl</i>	Eoin Colfer
<i>Dragondrums</i>	Anne McCaffrey
<i>Dragonflight</i>	Anne McCaffrey
<i>Eragon</i>	Christopher Paolini
<i>Eldest</i>	Christopher Paolini
<i>Brisingr</i>	Christopher Paolini
<i>Bud, Not Buddy</i>	Christopher Paul Curtis
<i>The Rifle</i>	Gary Paulsen
<i>The Wanderer</i>	Sharon Creech
<i>Heat</i>	Mike Lupica
<i>Out of the Dust</i>	Karen Hesse

8th Grade	
Title	Author
<i>Milkweed</i>	Jerry Spinelli
<i>Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy</i>	Douglas Adams
<i>The Chosen</i>	Chaim Potok
<i>The Promise</i>	Chaim Potok
<i>A Tree Grows in Brooklyn</i>	Betty Smith
<i>The Ruby in the Smoke</i>	Philip Pullman
<i>Warriors Don't Cry</i>	Melba Patillo
<i>Travel Team</i>	Mike Lupica
<i>Animal Farm</i>	George Orwell
<i>Fever 1793</i>	Laurie Halse Anderson
<i>Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie</i>	Jordan Sonnenblick