

REQUIRED SUMMER READING LIST 2023
for 4TH – 12TH Grade

Please read the book(s) for the grade level you will be entering in the fall.
7th-12th graders, be sure to fill out a Summer Reading Summary Worksheet for each book read.

Students are strongly encouraged to read not only their required reading this summer but to participate in summer reading programs offered in the area. Summer reading programs are offered through public libraries and book stores such as Barnes and Noble and Half Price Books. For reading a certain number of books, students can receive tangible rewards such as pencils and book marks but can also receive free tickets for local venues such as Lego Land and Sky Zone. Incentives vary so check out different places to receive maximum rewards.

4th Grade:

Tales of A Fourth Grade Nothing – Judy Blume

Life with his little brother, Fudge, makes Peter Hatcher feel like a fourth grade nothing. Whether Fudge is throwing a temper tantrum in a shoe store, smearing mashed potatoes on the walls at Hamburger Heaven, or trying to fly, he's never far from trouble. He's an almost three-year-old terror who gets away with everything, and Peter's had it up to here! When Fudge walks off with Dribble, Peter's pet turtle, it's the last straw. Peter has put up with Fudge for too long. Way too long! How can he get his parents to pay attention to him for a change?

5th Grade:

Missing Pieces - Jerry Jenkins

Someone is playing mailbox baseball in the town where Bryce and Ashley Timberline live, and a missing person's case has caught Ashley's attention. All clues point to their stepsister's boyfriend, Randy, leaving broken mailboxes in their wake, and Bryce is determined to prove it. Will Randy find out before they can discover the truth?

6th Grade

The Door Within – Wayne Thomas Batson

Aidan Thomas is miserable. Within two weeks, Aidan's life is completely uprooted as his parents move the family across the country to care for his ailing grandfather. The quiet but imaginative Aidan is struggling with attending a new school and fitting in with a new group of friends. But when he begins having nightmares and eerie events occur around his neighborhood, Aidan finds himself drawn to his grandfather's basement – where he discovers three ancient scrolls and a mysterious invitation to another world.

7th Grade:

Where the Red Fern Grows –Wilson Rawls

Billy has long dreamt of owning not one, but two, dogs. So when he's finally able to save up enough money for two pups to call his own—Old Dan and Little Ann—he's ecstatic. It doesn't matter that times are tough; together they'll roam the hills of the Ozarks.

8th Grade:

The Hiding Place – Corrie ten Boom

At one time Corrie ten Boom would have laughed at the idea that there would ever be a story to tell. For the first fifty years of her life nothing at all out of the ordinary had ever happened to her. She was an old-maid watchmaker living contentedly with her spinster sister and their elderly father in the tiny Dutch house over their shop. However, with the Nazi invasion and occupation of Holland, a story did ensue. Corrie ten Boom and her family became leaders in the Dutch Underground, hiding Jewish people in their home in a specially built room and aiding their escape from the Nazis.

9th Grade:

Same Kind of Different as Me – Ron Hall and Denver Moore

A dangerous, homeless drifter who grew up picking cotton in virtual slavery. An upscale art dealer accustomed to the world of Armani and Chanel. A gutsy woman with a stubborn dream. A story so incredible no novelist would dare dream it.

The Outsiders – S.E. Hinton

No one ever said life was easy. But Ponyboy is pretty sure that he's got things figured out. He knows that he can count on his brothers, Darry and Sodapop. And he knows that he can count on his friends—true friends who would do anything for him, like Johnny and Two-Bit. But not on much else besides trouble with the Socs, a vicious gang of rich kids whose idea of a good time is beating up on “greasers” like Ponyboy. At least he knows what to expect—until the night someone takes things too far

10th Grade:

***Tuesday's with Morrie* – Mitch Albom**

This is a true story about the love between a mentor and his pupil. In it we meet Morrie Schwartz--a one of a kind professor, whom the author describes as looking like a cross between a biblical prophet and Christmas elf. Even on his deathbed, this twinkling-eyed mensch manages to teach us all about living robustly and fully.

***Nerves of Steel: How I Followed My Dreams, Earned My Wings, and Faced My Greatest Challenge* – Captain Tammie Jo Shults**

Nerves of Steel is the captivating true story of Tammie Jo Shults's remarkable life—from growing up the daughter of a humble rancher, to breaking through gender barriers as one of the Navy's first female F/A-18 Hornet pilots, to safely landing the severely crippled Southwest Airlines Flight 1380 and helping save the lives of 148 people.

11th Grade:

***Fahrenheit 451* – Ray Bradbury**

Guy Montag is a fireman. In his world, where television rules and literature is on the brink of extinction, firemen start fires rather than put them out. His job is to destroy the most illegal of commodities, the printed book, along with the houses in which they are hidden. However, a chance meeting with his neighbor changes the direction of his life irrevocably.

***Hidden Figures* – Margot Shetterly**

Before John Glenn orbited the earth, or Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of dedicated female mathematicians known as "human computers" used pencils, slide rules and adding machines to calculate the numbers that would launch rockets, and astronauts, into space.

12th Grade:

***And Then There Were None* – Agatha Christie**

"Ten . . ."

Ten strangers are lured to an isolated island mansion off the Devon coast by a mysterious "U. N. Owen."

"Nine . . ."

At dinner a recorded message accuses each of them in turn of having a guilty secret, and by the end of the night one of the guests is dead.

"Eight . . ."

Stranded by a violent storm, and haunted by a nursery rhyme counting down one by one . . . as one by one . . . they begin to die.

"Seven . . ."

Which among them is the killer and will any of them survive?

12th Graders should also choose one of the following.

***Sense and Sensibility* – Jane Austin**

***The Time Machine* – H.G. Wells**

***All Creatures Great and Small* – James Herriot**

***Treasure Island* – Robert Lewis Stevenson**