

“Summertime Stories” Summer Reading Program

Are you looking to relax, develop focus and concentration, improve your abilities and knowledge, have fun, and reduce boredom this summer?

Pick up a book!

<https://www.lifehack.org/articles/lifestyle/10-benefits-reading-why-you-should-read-everyday.html>

This summer, we’re encouraging you to read as much as possible! YOU have the choice. YOU have the power. This is your opportunity to explore your own interests.

*****Note*****

Honors courses require two summer reading books. Students will choose their own book and complete the assignment detailed in this packet, and they will ALSO read an assigned book and complete an assignment in September, according to their enrolled course.

AP courses have an entirely different assignment; see below

9th grade honors: *Animal Farm* by George Orwell

10th grade honors: *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd

11th grade honors: *1984* by George Orwell

12th grade honors: *A Long Way Gone* by Ishmael Beah

AP Literature: Different assignment; click here

AP Language: Different assignment; click here

Now, how can we find a book that aligns with your interests?

- Search on Sora for an ebook
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nwGV0SFvVYbNnrktHf8pVSLF7PcvxDCr/view?usp=sharing> Also available as an app!
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YE0epaucWD_o0loW_Qvnwjb8K5dGI_yL/view?usp=sharing
- Search on Destiny for a print book
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1c6ML1VclEbIZacHEF4HCx-GGap9s3w2R/view?usp=sharing>
- Check our “Spotlight Titles” list
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PjhWs6PNk4nZUI4NxUABqZW64AQLFKsGTN5EveHNMk/edit?usp=sharing>
- Visit the MHS Media Learning Commons or Mahwah Public Library
<https://www.mahwah.k12.nj.us/Domain/287>
- Ask a librarian, teacher, or friend for a recommendation
- Check out Goodreads or Amazon for reviews and top picks
- Visit <https://www.whatshouldireadnext.com/> to find books similar to things you’ve already enjoyed

Before you leave school in June, you will fill out a Google form with your intended book selection.

Virtual Book Fair Project/Presentation
(to be done over the summer/ first two weeks of school)

After reading the book of your choice, you are going to share your experiences. You must complete a creative project and writing sample, which will be explained through a video recording.

Here's the [rubric](#).

Select one of the following:

1. Create a 2-3 minute video "book commercial." First, write a script (approximate ½ page to 1 page long). Give a very brief summary. Then, explain why you would or wouldn't recommend the book to others. Be persuasive! Be specific about how the book made you feel! Did you relate to it? Did it remind you of anything else (movies, shows, other books, etc.)? Were there any quotes that stood out? Don't give away the ending! After writing your script, record your book commercial to persuade others to read your book (or not!). Students will submit BOTH the script and the video.
2. Create a soundtrack that would play in the movie adaptation of your book. Choose 5-6 songs. Write an explanation (approximate ½ page to 1 page long) detailing why you chose these songs. How do they relate to the book? Do they represent a particular character? Do the book and the song represent similar themes or emotions? Which scene would the song play over? Also include a lyric from each song to help support your choice. Then, create a 2-3 minute video, telling us all of your song choices, and explaining 2 of them in detail. Students will submit BOTH the written explanation and the video.
3. Create a piece of art or digital media that visually represents the book. It can be a drawing, painting, etc. (no sketches on lined notebook paper, please!) Write an explanation (approximate ½ page to 1 page long) detailing why you created the art in this way. Briefly explain your book (summary, themes, characters), and explain how the artwork represents it (similar themes, representation of a character, etc.). Why did you choose this medium? Why did you select these colors? What symbols did you include? Etc. Then, create a 2-3 minute video, showing us your artwork and explaining how it represents your book. Students will submit BOTH the written explanation and the video.
4. Create a talk-show style video interview with the main character from your book. First, write a script (approximate ½ page to 1 page long). You should play both the interviewer, and the character. Then, create a 2-3 minute video of the interview. The character should speak and act in a way that's appropriate to their actions/ character development within the book. Students will submit BOTH the script and the video.

Suggestions for video creation:

- "Selfie" style video recording of yourself using your phone or your computer's webcam (make sure we can see clearly!)

- Google Slides to display your song choices or artwork, narrated and recorded using Screencastify
- Video created using Adobe Spark

Store your videos in your Mahwah Google Drive, so you can submit the link to your teacher.

If you need help with any of the technology, please see Mrs. Hartigan Miller in the Media Learning Commons when school starts in September!

The First Weeks of School

We hope that you read your selected book over the summer, because reading for fun is a relaxing summer activity! Bring your book to the beach or lake with you.

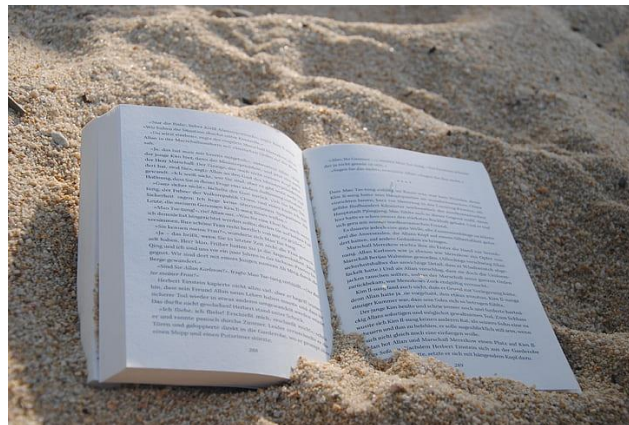
By **September 8th**, you will confirm your chosen book with your English teacher. If your selection changed from when you submitted the Google Form in June, please let us know!

You must be prepared to submit your videos on Google Classroom by **September 22th**.

Video links will be posted on Google Classroom and used for in-class “Virtual Book Fair.”

You will **not** have time in class to work on these projects!

Have fun this summer! Enjoy relaxing with a great book!



Extension Activities

If you enjoyed your book over the summer, we offer a variety of activities throughout the school year to help you read other books we know you'll enjoy!

October: One Book, One School. All students are welcome to read the same book, and then participate in an after school "Escape the Room" game in the Media Center

January: Winter Book Festival. Small group book discussions led by various teachers from different subjects.

May: "Drop Everything and Read" morning. Students are able to participate in this in-school morning field trip, where you are excused from class to come spend the morning relaxing and reading.