

Tips for Readers

Good readers know why they are reading and actively use **strategies** to understand the text. Examples of strategies include:

- asking **questions** of the text,
- **rereading** challenging portions of the text,
- making **connections** between your life and the text, and
- using **graphic organizers** during and/or after reading.

Tips for Parents

- Schedule library/bookstore visits.
- Let your child choose what he/she wants to read.
- Help your child select books at an appropriate reading level. A general rule of thumb is that if a child struggles with more than five words on a page the text is too hard.
- When possible, connect reading to other summer activities.
- Read the same book as your child and have book chats along the way.

The Purpose of a Summer Reading List

Why read in the summer?

During the school year, students engage daily in processes that cultivate strong reading habits. Research shows that students actually lose one-three months of learning during the summer when they do not engage in academic activities. Reading is one way to keep the mind sharp during the summer months. In fact, the National Center for Education Statistics reports that fourth grade students who read for fun on their own time score higher on reading assessments than students who do not read on their own.

Mraz, M., & Rasinski, T (2007). Summer reading loss. *The Reading Teacher*. 60.8, 784-789.
National Assessment of Educational Progress. (2001). *The nation's report card: Fourth-grade reading 2000*. Retrieved on April 8, 2008, from <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pubs/main2000/2001499.asp>

Students are encouraged to read widely this summer. The summer reading list is intended to give students and parents a starting point for selecting young adult literature. Choose books from this list or other young adult titles to enjoy this summer.

The books are recommended by reading teachers, librarians, and classroom teachers. **All titles are available at your local Arlington County Public Library.**

Middle School Summer Reading Book List Fall 2014



For Students Entering Grades 6, 7, & 8

Grade 6
For Students Entering
Grade 6 in the Fall of 2014

The Big Field—Lupica * +
A Black Hole is Not a Hole—DeCristofano
Book of a Thousand Days—Hale * +
Coraline—Gaiman * +
Elijah of Buxton—Curtis *
Guys Read (series)—Scieszka * +
Hereville (series)—Deutsch
Liesl and Po—Oliver * +
Lincoln's Last Days—O'Reilly and Zimmerman *
The London Eye Mystery—Dowd * +
Mockingbird—Erskine * +
One Crazy Summer—Williams-Garcia * +
The Rock and the River—Magoon *
Ruby Redfort (series)—Child * +
The Strange Case of Origami Yoda—
Angleberger *
Trash—Mulligan * +
The Underneath—Appelt *
The Whole Story of Half a Girl—Hiranandani +

Grade 7
For Students Entering
Grade 7 in the Fall of 2014

After Tupac and D Foster—Woodson * +
Almost Astronauts—Stone * +
The Circuit—Jimenez * +
Dairy Queen (series)—Murdock * +
Drama—Telgemeier
The Graveyard Book—Gaiman * +
Heat—Lupica *
Mare's War—Davis +
Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell 25—Evans
Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children—Riggs * +
Nation—Pratchett * +
Outcasts United—St. John +
Return to Sender—Alvarez * +
Scat—Hiaasen * +
Silhouetted by the Blue—Jones
Skulduggery Pleasant (series)—Landy * +
Trapped—Northrop
When You Reach Me—Stead * +

Titles marked with an asterisk* are available as audio or eAudio books. Titles marked "+ " are available as eBooks. Blog posts for each book with overviews, genre designations, and book trailers (for some titles) are available at <http://tatalonline.blogspot.com/>.

Check with your local librarian for information on title availability.

Grade 8
For Students Entering
Grade 8 in the Fall of 2014

Finding Miracles—Alvarez * +
Flygirl—Smith
Gone (series)—Grant +
Ichiro—Inzana
Leviathan (series)—Westerfeld *
A Mango-Shaped Space—Mass * +
My Name is Parvana—Ellis +
The Name of the Star (series)—Johnson * +
Pinned—Flake *
Pop—Korman * +
Ranger's Apprentice (series)—Flanagan *
Shackleton's Stowaway—McKernan +
Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different—Blumenthal*
Sunrise Over Fallujah—Myers *
Tell Us We're Home—Budhos
The Tequila Worm—Canales +
The True Meaning of Smekday—Rex *
Vietnam (series)—Lynch