



SUMMER READING LISTS AND PROJECT OPTIONS

For students entering grades 7 or 8

PURPOSE OF PROGRAM: The Carlisle Area School District offers a Summer Reading Program to students in grades 6 through 12. This program is designed to encourage students to continue to read while on summer vacation and to enjoy leisure time reading activities. In addition, the program is designed to provide additional marking period grade incentives for students who wish to participate in this optional reading program. The optional Summer Reading Program is designed to positively impact the first marking period grade for students who choose to participate and does not negatively impact the grade for a student who chooses not to participate. Students in each grade will receive a summer reading list which includes titles ranging from fiction to non-fiction, mystery, action/adventure, science fiction and many others.

GRADE INCENTIVE: Students who participate in the optional Summer Reading Program must demonstrate to their English teacher that they have read the chosen book. Students have the opportunity to choose both the book and the manner in which it will be assessed. Students who have demonstrated that they have read the book may receive up to 2 percentage points towards their first marking period grade. Students who complete two summer reading projects may earn up to 4 percentage points. Percentage points may be applied to the first or second marking period but may not exceed the 2% district-wide extra credit limit for either marking period. A student may not earn over 100% for any class in any marking period. Any project deemed to be plagiarized will not be accepted for credit. Students who plagiarize will be subject to disciplinary action according to school district policy.

Assessments must be submitted to English teachers by the second Friday of the school year.

ASSESSMENTS: Students who choose to participate in the Summer Reading Program must demonstrate to their English teacher that they have read the chosen book. Students are cautioned to submit original work only; teachers will check written work at turnitin.com. Students may choose from the following assessment opportunities:

- **ESSAY:** Submitted essays must be 1-2 pages in length for students entering 7th and 8th grade. All essays are to be double-spaced and word processed in 12 point font. The essay must demonstrate that the student has read the book and must include the following components: a summary of the plot, a description of the setting, a description of the main characters and an explanation of the theme. The concluding paragraph should include the student's personal opinion of the book.
- **CREATIVE WRITING RESPONSES:** The written response must be 1-2 pages in length for middle school students, double-spaced and word processed in 12 point font. Students may choose from the following list:
 - *Write an interview with one of the main characters;*
 - *Write a prologue to the book;*
 - *Write an alternative ending to the book;*
 - *Write a newspaper article describing a major incident in the book; or,*
 - *Add a new character to the story and give his/her observations about the other characters*

- **ORAL PRESENTATIONS:** Students may choose to make an oral presentation to their English class. The oral presentation must be three to five minutes in length and include the following components: a summary of the plot, a description of the setting, a description of the main characters and an explanation of the theme. The conclusion must include the student's personal opinion of the book. Students must submit a written outline of the presentation to the teacher three days prior to the scheduled presentation. Students must make arrangements with the English teacher to schedule a date and time for this oral presentation. Students may use Power Point slides with appropriate graphics as part of their oral presentation.
- **TECHNOLOGY/MEDIA PRESENTATIONS:** Students may choose to make a presentation through the use of technology and other available media. Students may complete a videotaped presentation and submit it to their English teacher. A video presentation must be three to five minutes in length and include the following components: a summary of the plot, a description of the setting, a description of the main characters and an explanation of the theme. The conclusion must include the student's personal opinion of the book.
- **ARTISTIC REPRESENTATIONS:** Students may choose to demonstrate their understanding of the book through artistic representations. Students may choose to write or record a song, create a collage/poster or create a tri-fold brochure. Artistic representations must include the following components: a summary of the plot, a description of the setting, a description of the main characters and an explanation of the theme. Students must include a written paragraph which tells their personal opinion of the book.

7th GRADE SUMMER READING OPTIONS—Current 6th grade students choose from this list:

TITLE	AUTHOR	YEAR	DESCRIPTION
Among the Hidden	Margaret Peterson Haddix	1998	Fantasy
The Barn	Avi	1994	Family
When Zachary Beaver Came to Town	Kimberly Willis Holt	1999	Teenagers
Because of Winn-Dixie	Kate DiCamillo	2000	Dogs
A Year Down Yonder	Richard Peck	2000	Contemporary Problems
Eragon	Christopher Paolini	2003	Fantasy
Homeless Bird	Gloria Whelan	2000	India
Hatchet	Gary Paulsen	1987	Survival
Al Capone Does My Shirts	Gennifer Choldenko	2004	Humor
Fever 1793	Laurie Halse Anderson	2000	Colonial Life
Babe Didrikson Zaharias: The Making of a Champion	Russell Freedman	1999	Sports-Women-Biography

8th GRADE SUMMER READING OPTIONS—Current 7th grade students choose from this list:

TITLE	AUTHOR	YEAR	DESCRIPTION
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings	Maya Angelou	1969	Autobiography
Gathering Blue	Lois Lowry	2000	Science Fiction
The Hobbit	J.R.R. Tolkein	1977	Fantasy
Travels with Charley	John Steinbeck	1962	Travel
Jacob Have I Loved	Katherine Paterson	1980	Fiction
Hiroshima	John Hersey	1960	History
Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants	Ann Brashares	2001	Fiction
Artemis Fowl	Eoin Colfer	2001	Humor
Loser	Jerry Spinelli	2002	Family
Jayhawker	Patricia Beatty	1991	Historical Fiction-Civil War
Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mt. Everest Disaster	Jon Krakauer	1997	Survival-Non-Fiction