



Middle School (6-8)
Summer Reading List

Directions: Students will be assigned one book per grade level, and students must read one additional book of their choice. Before your student begins reading their book of choice, please have them go to Lexile.com, and type in the title of the book to find out its lexile, or reading level. Many students are on a variety of reading levels, and I want your student to find books that are on their level, or slightly above. For a reference, these are the average lexile levels for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade readers:

6th grade: 665L to 1000L

7th grade: 735L to 1065L

8th grade: 805L to 1100L

If you are unsure of your child's reading level, they can answer a couple of questions at: <https://lexile.com/fab/>, and it will start them on the right track. I will be offering suggestions as to what their second book can be, or students are free to choose their own. I recommend looking up the book on the website *Common Sense Media*, which will help you and your student evaluate if the book content is appropriate.

Over the summer, students will complete a short project **over their selected book of choice, and students should be ready for discussion on the grade level assigned book**. When the school year begins, students will take a short reading comprehension quiz over the **assigned** book, and also discuss key points of the book with their classmates. They do not need to complete a summer project over this book. They should be finished with their books by August 17, 2016. Should you have any questions about summer reading, please feel free to contact me.

I hope you all have a great summer, and happy reading!

Ms. McCollum
SPPS English Language Arts

REQUIRED SPPS SUMMER READING 2016-17

6th Grade

One Came Home, by Amy Timberlake

7th Grade

Under the Egg, by Laura Marx Fitzgerald

8th Grade

Breaking Stalin's Nose, by Eugene Yelchin

READING SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL BOOK

Counting by 7s (6th grade only)
by Holly Goldberg Sloan

The Crossover
By Kwame Alexander.

Dogs of War
by Sheila Keenan,
illustrated by Nathan Fox

*Family Romanov: Murder, Rebellion,
and the Fall of the Roman Empire*
by Candace Fleming

Fish in a Tree
by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

The Fourteenth Goldfish
by Jennifer L. Holm

Golden Boy
by Tara Sullivan

The Great Greene Heist
by Varian Johnson

The Hired Girl
by Laura Amy Schlitz

Hook's Revenge
by Heidi Schulz

The Iron Trial (7th and 8th grade only)
by Holly Black and Cassandra Clare

The Night Gardener
by Jonathan Auxier.

The Outsiders
by S.E. Hinton

*The Port Chicago 50: Disaster, Mutiny, and the
Fight for Civil Rights*
by Steve Sheinkin

Road Trip (6th and 7th grade only)
by Gary Paulsen and Jim Paulsen

The Secret Hum of a Daisy
by Tracy Holczer.

Skink: No Surrender (8th only)
by Carl Hiaasen.

Stand Tall
by Joan Bauer

Uglies
by Scott Westerfield

Tesla's Attic
by Neal Shusterman and Eric Elfman

Titanic: Voices from the Disaster
by Deborah Hopkinson

Wildflower
by Alecia Whitaker

READING PROJECTS: CHOOSE ONE
DUE AUGUST 18, 2016

ONE of the following book projects should be completed over the book your child selected, **NOT** over the assigned book.

Book Project #1

Write a letter to the author of the book you read that explains your views of the novel. You might want to explain what the book taught you, why the book was particularly special to you, what you liked/didn't like about it, suggest ideas for a sequel/etc. Use specific examples from the book to explain what you mean. This should be between 300-450 words, and be at least three paragraphs.

Book Project #2

Turn 1-2 important scenes from your novel into a short play. Write the screenplay (script) complete with stage directions and recommend actors and actresses to play each main part. This should be between 400-600 words.

Book Project #3

Create a soundtrack for your novel. Include a 20-30 line poem, song, or rap to introduce your project. More detailed instructions for this project included on the next two pages.

Book Project #3 (Genre and book of your choice)

Create a soundtrack that represents different aspects of the book you have read.

Requirements for the soundtrack:

- A song that portrays the main characters overall personality.
- A song depicting the primary conflict, feelings and or emotions of the novel – the plot.
- A song describing the setting of the story.
- 3 songs of your choice that you feel go along with the book.
- You must have at least 6 songs on your soundtrack. On a separate sheet of paper make a list of the songs you have chosen along with a brief explanation as to why that song fits with this book.
- Your soundtrack can have no more than 12 songs total.

After completing the actual soundtrack, you then need to design a soundtrack cover. I want to see something original that you feel fits the book you read. I do not want to see a copy of the book's cover. You will be graded upon your fresh idea for the soundtrack cover, neatness, and how the cover relates somewhat to the songs you have chosen. The soundtrack cover will be made on a 5 x 5 piece of white paper and the songs and their artists will be written on a separate sheet of 5 x 5 piece of paper. When you are finished you will turn in a front cover, a back cover with a list of songs that go along with the novel and a list of all the songs you chose with a brief explanation of how this song relates to the book.

Book Project #3

Soundtrack

1. Song Title:
Reason:

2. Song Title:
Reason:

3. Song Title:
Reason:

4. Song Title:
Reason:

5. Song Title:
Reason:

6. Song Title:
Reason: