

Grade 7 – Summer Work



Students entering seventh grade in the fall are required to read at least **THREE** books and are encouraged to work on math skills over the summer.

Unless noted, families must either purchase or borrow their own copies of books. Digital format (Kindle) is acceptable, as is audiobook accompaniment for readers who benefit from it. Many digital books are accessible through Park's Digital Library and *Hoopla* (Boston Public Library's digital resource, which all Massachusetts residents can access for free).

To strengthen the home-and-school connection, you are invited (but by no means required) to read these selections alongside your child. Most of all, please join us in promoting reading as a wonderful way to relax, and enjoy the summer.

English

Our intention for summer reading is to promote a lifelong love of reading, enrich students' understanding of the world, and prepare them for Grade 7.

Students are expected to select books that they have not read before; If students have read all of these books, they are expected to re-read one. Students are expected to come to school in September ready to actively engage in discussions about these texts.

1. ONE selection from the Grade 7 Summer Novel List:

Readers should make mental note of overarching themes, character development, and storytelling techniques (ex, perspective, narrative arc) used by the authors

[*The Lines We Cross*](#) by Randa Abdel-Fattah

[*Hound of the Baskervilles*](#) (unabridged) by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

[*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*](#) by Mark Haddon

[*Echo*](#) by Pam Munoz Ryan

[*The Seventh Most Important Thing*](#) by Shelley Pearsall

2. ONE selection from the Grade 7 Summer Novel in Verse List:

Readers should make mental note of poetic devices and how form lends meaning to the text.

[*The Crossover*](#) and/or [*Rebound*](#) by Kwame Alexander

[*Enchanted Air*](#) by Margarita Engle

[*Diamond Willow*](#) by Helen Frost

[*The Red Pencil*](#) by Andrea Davis Pinkney

[*White Rose*](#) by Kip Wilson

If you have any questions about reading or obtaining these texts, contact [Susan Bogue Myslik](#).

Social Studies

3. *Chains*, by Laurie Halse Anderson

(Provided to all students by the social studies department)

Chains, by Laurie Halse Anderson, is an historical fiction novel set around the time of the American Revolution. *Chains* is told from the point of view of a 13-year-old enslaved girl named Isabel. The novel takes a look into the arguably hypocritical nature of the revolution. Patriots fought for freedom — but only for a select few. Although the novel is fictional, the story delves into events that actually took place and includes some real historical characters. Adapted from www.supersummary.com

We ask readers to think about these questions as they read:

- What was life like in 1776 in New York? (Think about food, clothes, transportation, gender roles, children's activities, etc.)
- What is most appealing about life in 1776 NYC?
- What is most distressing about life in 1776 NYC?

Questions? Please contact [Chris Beeson](#)

Math

Just as students benefit from reading throughout the summer, regular practice with problem solving, computation, and math facts will maintain and strengthen the mathematical gains made during the school year. We recommend students practice the following skills to a level of proficiency to start Grade VII math. For students who would benefit from targeted skill practice, we recommend that families purchase the [Spectrum Math Workbook](#). For students seeking more mixed skill review, we recommend [Summer Math Skill Sharpener](#) workbook. Please purchase the grade level your child just completed. **Math Stretch and Challenge**

For additional stretch and challenge, we recommend [Problems of the Week](#) on the MathCounts website, [previous AMC8 contest](#) competitions and [previous Purple Comet competitions](#).

Questions? Please contact [Christy Keblusek](#).