

Dear Staples Students,

We have made it through this year and we all deserve to enjoy the summer more than ever! Many of you have said that, over the past 18 months, one of the things this time has brought you is a new love, rekindled love, or even a newfound tolerance, of reading. We teachers look forward to our summer reading and hope that you do, too.



So, this summer, we want you to enjoy yourself and just read. We don't care what. Just pick up some books, whether physical, digital, or audio and read. In the fall, when you return to your English classes, you will have different opportunities to share your thinking about your summer reading experience. Our only "required" summer reading is that **you all read at least two books**, but as always, the more you read, the better. You can read whatever genre(s) you like, (realistic fiction, historical fiction, fantasy, dystopian, memoir, biography, informational nonfiction, etc.)

We also suggest you do the following so that you can keep track of what you have read and ideas you want to share:

- Take notes on parts of the book that stand out to you. This could be a Google doc, sketch note, notebook jots, whatever is the best way for you to keep track of the ideas you want to discuss in the fall.
- Keep a list of what you have read.
- Keep a list of what to read next.
- Create a [Goodreads account](#) for yourself. It is an awesome tool to keep track of what you have read and want to read, as well as suggestions for future reads .

Below, we have included resources for finding great books.

But remember, reading is a social activity, so ask your friends, relatives, teachers, TikTok acquaintances, anyone you want, for suggestions. And read with them! See who you can read the same book as, create a mini-book club experience. We promise, you will enjoy it!

Most of all, stay safe, take care of yourselves, and find enjoyment in what you read. We can't wait to (literally) see you in the fall.

Happy reading,

The Staples English Department

*Please note: while we encourage everyone to read as much as possible over the summer, students enrolled in Myth and Bible Honors, AP Literature and Composition, or AP

Language and Composition are not required to complete the general summer reading requirements and should **focus first on the specific summer assignment for your specific course. Those assignments and texts will be available beginning June 15th and will be announced at that time.**

Resources

[Goodreads](#)

[NPR Book Concierge](#)

[ILA Book Choices 2020](#)

[Top 10 LGBTQ + YA Novels for All Tastes](#)

[Penny Kittle High School Student Recommendations](#)

[Reese Witherspoon's Book Club - Hello Sunshine](#)

[Nerdy Book Club YA #1](#)

[Nerdy Book Club YA #2](#)

[Nerdy Book Club Nonfiction](#)

[Nerdy Book Club Graphic Novels](#)

[Nerdy Book Club Poetry and Novels in Verse](#)

[#OwnVoices YA Favorites - Seattle Public Library](#)

[The National Book Award lists from 2020](#)

[Hugo Award Winners 2020 \(science fiction\)](#)

[Stoker Award Winners 2020 \(horror\)](#)

[We Need Diverse Books](#) is an organization that promotes reading diverse titles. There are many lists in this link from all different cultures, religions, and backgrounds.

Where can you find books these days?

- Our library has [Sora](#), which has MANY digital and audio texts (and yes, listening is reading!) - These are the [directions](#) for logging in and finding books.
- You can buy books. If you choose this option, please consider supporting independent bookstores. Here are some options:
 - [RJ Julia](#) in Madison, CT
 - [Bookshop](#) supports independent bookstores around the country
 - [Barrett Bookstore](#) in Darien, CT
- And don't forget to visit the Westport Library and all of their wonderful resources.
 - [Summer Reading Club](#)
 - [Camp Explore and Summer Learning Clubs](#)
 - [WPL Book Lists](#)