

PARK TUDOR

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Middle School Summer Reading 2024

Philosophy of Summer Reading

As our students immerse themselves in varied activities this summer, our fondest wish in the English department is that they will tuck a book under their arms as they go. Reading allows us to gather knowledge, gain empathy, think critically about our world, and derive pleasure from the printed word. Former U.S. Senator and English professor S.I. Hayakawa observes that, "It is not true that we have only one life to live; if we can read, we can live as many more lives and as many kinds of lives as we wish."

Instructions for Students:

All English classes will begin the year with discussions, activities, and writing assignments based on the assigned summer reading books. Instructors suggest that students thoroughly review the required book toward the end of the summer. Teachers will conduct classroom discussions about the selection during the first few weeks of school. All middle school English students will be assessed on the required book for their grade.

Required Reading

Rising 6th Grade:

Among the Hidden, Margaret Peterson Haddix

Rising 7th Grade:

The Outsiders, S.E. Hinton

Rising 8th Grade:

The Adoration of Jenna Fox, Mary E. Pearson

Part II: In addition, rising 6th, 7th, and 8th graders will be required to complete [assigned coursework on IXL \(click here for directions\)](#). This is a program that strengthens grammar, mechanics, sentence fluency and more!

Part III: Students will be required to choose and read one book from the Middle School Recommended Reading Book List.

Middle School Recommended Reading List

Students who wish to read a free choice book that is not on this list may contact the appropriate teacher to seek approval before reading.

6th grade: Mrs. Nahmias anahmias@parktudor.org

7th grade: Ms. Venturi tventuri@parktudor.org

8th grade: Mrs. Odmark lodmark@parktudor.org

Rising 6th Grade Free Choice

Classics

Little Women, Alcott

The Miracle Worker, Gibson

Treasure Island, Stevenson

The Hobbit, Tolkien

Historical Fiction

Fever, 1793, Anderson

The Boy Who Dared, Bartoletti

Prairie Songs, Conrad

The Watsons Go to Birmingham, 1963, Curtis

Out of the Dust, Hesse

The Circuit, Jimenez

Kira-Kira, Kadohata

Inside Out and Back Again, Lai

Thunder Rolling on the Mountains, O'Dell

Yellow Star, Roy (Holocaust content)

The Wednesday Wars, Schmidt

The Invention of Hugo Cabret, Selznick

Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry, Taylor

Devil's Arithmetic, Yolen (Holocaust content)

Contemporary Fiction

Tangerine, Bloor

Bloomability, Creech

Chasing Redbird, Creech

Samurai Shortstop, Gratz

The View from Saturday, Kingsburg

Heat, Lupica

The Boy From the Basement, Shaw

So B. It, Weeks

Front Desk, Yang

Stanford Wong Flunks Big Time, Yee

Science Fiction/Fantasy

The Last Cuentista, Barba Higuera

Artemis Fowl (any in series), Colfer
City of Ember, Duprau
People of Sparks, Duprau
Running Out of Time, Haddix
Hoot, Hiaasen
Stormbreaker, Horowitz
Redwall (any in series), Jacques
Eragon (any in series), Paolini
Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief (any in series), Riordan

Mystery

The Wright 3, Balliett
The Potato Chip Puzzles, Berlin
Tunnels, Gordon and Williams
Breakout, Messner
Greenglass House, Milford
The Westing Game, Raskin
The Mysterious Benedict Society (any in series), Stewart

Rising 7th Grade Free Choice

Classics

Watership Down, Adams
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, Carroll
The Count of Monte Cristo, Dumas
Anne of Green Gables, Montgomery (any in series)
Tales of Mystery and Magic, Poe

Historical Fiction

Before We Were Free, Alvarez
The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle, Avi
Al Capone Does My Shirts (any in series), Choldenko
When Zachary Beaver Came to Town, Holt
Cracker! The Best Dog in Vietnam, Kadohata
Goodnight, Mr. Tom, Magorian
They Called Us Enemy, Takei
The Bomb, Taylor

Contemporary Fiction

The Contender, Lipsyte
A Mango-Shaped Space, Mass
Touching Spirit Bear, Mikaelson
Monsoon Summer, Perkins
Life As We Knew It, Pfeffer
Ghost (any in series), Reynolds

The Schwa was Here, Schusterman
Girls, Drums, and Dangerous Pie, Sonnenblick
Stargirl, Spinelli

Multicultural Fiction

City of the Beasts, Allende
The Moves Make the Man, Brooks
Bindi Babes, Dhani
The Conch Bearer, Divakaruni
Crossing the Wire, Hobbs
Zazoo, Mosher
Ties That Break, Ties That Bind, Namioka
Keeper, Peet
Jaguar, Smith

Non-Fiction

10,000 Days of Thunder: A History of the Vietnam War, Caputo
Having Our Say: The Delany Sisters' First 100 Years, Delany
Cheaper by the Dozen, Gilbreth
Farewell to Manzanar, Houston
The Hiding Place, Ten Boom
Chinese Cinderella, Yen Mah
I Am Malala, Yousafzai

Science Fiction/Fantasy

Fantastic Voyage, Asimov
The Ear, the Eye, and the Arm, Farmer
House of the Scorpions, Farmer
Silent Boy, Lowry
Son, Lowry
The Golden Compass, Pullman
Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children, Riggs (any in series)

Mystery

The Hound of the Baskervilles, Doyle
And Then There Were None, Christie
Last Shot, Feinstein
Theodore Boone, Grisham
The Ghost in the Tokaido Inn, Hoobler

Rising 8th Grade Free Choice

Classics

Jane Eyre, Bronte
The Old Man and the Sea, Hemingway

Flowers for Algernon, Keyes
A Tree Grows in Brooklyn, Smith
The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, Stevenson
The Lord of the Rings, Tolkien (any in series)
The War of the Worlds, Wells

Historical Fiction

The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Anderson
Code Talker, Bruchac
Bull Run, Fleischman
Dreamland Burning, Latham
March – Book One and Book Two, Lewis, Aydin, Powell (graphic nonfiction)
Harlem Summer, Myers
The Book Thief, Zusak

Contemporary Fiction

Hope Was Here, Bauer
Ironman, Crutcher
Night Hoops, Deuker
All-American Boys, Kiely and Reynolds
Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie, Lubar
Monster, Myers
The Hate U Give, Thomas
Make Lemonade, Wolff

Science Fiction/Fantasy

Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, Adams
The Compound, Bodeen
Ender's Game, Card
Fahrenheit 451, Bradbury
Kindred, Butler
The Graveyard Book, Gaiman
The Age of Miracles, Walker

Multicultural Fiction

Does My Head Look Big in This?, Abdel-Fattah
A Long Way Home, Brierley
Ask Me No Questions, Budhos
Hiroshima, Hersey
Red Scarf Girl, Jiang
Cry, The Beloved Country, Paton
The Chosen, Potok

Non-Fiction

Shakespeare, Bryson
The Ghost Map, Johnson

The Perfect Storm, Junger

Into Thin Air, Krakauer

Lies My Teacher Told Me (any four chapters), Loewen

True or False: A CIA Analyst's Guide to Spotting Fake News, Otis

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, Skloot

Just Mercy, Stevenson (young readers or adult version)

Mystery

A Northern Light, Donnelly

A Thief of Time, Hillerman