DCS Grade 7 English language arts

2026 Summer Reading

Dublin City Schools Philosophy on Summer Reading:
Literacy involves reading, writing, speaking, listening, thinking, and interacting. When considering reading, research shows that choice and volume of reading are essential to reading development. Reading over the summer is a critical way to maintain and build upon the reading habits developed throughout the school year. Dublin City Schools values students' reading lives. Therefore, there will be year-round opportunities for students to engage in experiences that allow growth in literacy.

Summer Reading Expectations:
Each student is encouraged to read during the summer and work on completing as many BINGO squares as possible.

Dublin City Schools Summer Reading Essential Questions:
Both fictional as well as informational texts help readers better understand the world around them. Readers should consider the following questions as they read from the suggested texts on the Bingo board on the following page. The table below can be used to collect notes.

Essential Questions	Student Notes
What does this text teach me about the world?	
What is this text convincing me to do or believe?	

<u>Student Assignment</u>

1. Consider the essential questions while reading.
2. Complete a BINGO pattern to earn a Chromebook sticker.

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Join A Community of Readers

Students are encouraged to join the Summer Reading Google Classroom, which will connect them with resources and teachers who host the informal summer meet-ups. To join the course, use the link and access code below.

https://bit.ly/DCS-MS-SummerRead
Access Code: tq2slxro

This classroom provides online opportunities to explore and share ideas surrounding each selected summer reading text. The book does not have to be finished in order to engage in the interactions. Please stop back during these dates to explore, interact, and discuss topics online related to the summer reading books.

Discussion Meet-Ups:
These sessions provide an opportunity to listen to teacher guidance as well as engage in group discussions to share ideas surrounding your selected summer reading texts. You do not have to have the pieces completely read in order to attend these sessions. Each session has a different focus for discussion. Please bring your text to the session. Sign up to attend the meet-ups with the link below.

Date	Time	Location
June 23	2:00-3:00pm	Karrer MS Media Center
July 9	10:00-11:00am	Sells MS Media Center
July 21	10:00-11:00am	Emerald Campus Student Union
July 30	3:00-4:00pm	Dublin Library Meeting Room 1

Sign Up To Attend Meet-Ups (bit.ly/DCS-MS-SummerMeetUp) - Make sure you are part of the Summer Reading Google Classroom to receive Meet-Up updates and information! This sign up is optional, but will help teachers prepare for the meetings.

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7th Grade Summer Reading Bingo

Watch a movie based on a book	Read two short stories	Read by the water	**Read *Red Kayak* by Priscilla Cummings**	Read with a friend
Read a book with a blue cover	Read an article from a magazine or a newspaper	**Read *Elephant Run* by Roland Smith**	Read a novel of your choice via audiobook	Social Studies Text Set
Read outside	**Read *The Last Cuentista* by Donna Barba Higuera**	Read on a trip	Read a play	Read a book with a single-word title
Read *Full Cicada Moon* by Marilyn Hilton	Read and follow a recipe or directions	Science Text Set	Ask a librarian for a book recommendation	**Read *New Kid* by Jerry Craft (or any book in the series)**
Read with a family member	Poetry text set	Attend a Summer Reading Meet-Up or Join the Summer Reading Google Classroom	**Read a novel of your choice**	Read to an animal

Accountability

Initial the reading options you completed. Let us allow the adults in our lives to hold us accountable and challenge us to read a variety of literature over the course of our summer. Please sign to verify your reading of the above choices.

Student Reader: _____

Adult Reader: _____

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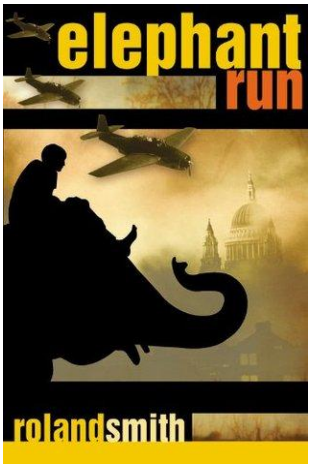
Students should be prepared to share their thoughts and reflections about their summer reading choices when they return to school.

Elephant Run Roland Smith ISBN: 1423104021  	In 1941, bombs drop from the night skies of London, demolishing the apartment Nick Freestone lives in with his mother. Deciding the situation in England is too unstable, Nick's mother sends him to live with his father in Burma, hoping he will be safer living on the family's teak plantation. But as soon as Nick arrives, trouble erupts in this remote Burmese elephant village. Japanese soldiers invade, and Nick's father is taken prisoner. Nick is stranded on the plantation, forced to work as a servant to the new rulers. As life in the village grows more dangerous for Nick and his young friend, Mya, they plan their daring escape. Setting off on elephant back, they will risk their lives to save Nick's father and Mya's brother from a Japanese POW camp. (Goodreads.com)
The Last Cuentista By Donna Barba Higuera ISBN: B0971TRGQG 	There lived a girl named Petra Peña, who wanted nothing more than to be a storyteller, like her abuelita. But Petra's world is ending. Earth has been destroyed by a comet, and only a few hundred scientists and their children – among them Petra and her family – have been chosen to journey to a new planet. They are the ones who must carry on the human race. Hundreds of years later, Petra wakes to this new planet – and the discovery that she is the only person who remembers Earth. A sinister Collective has taken over the ship during its journey, bent on erasing the sins of humanity's past. They have systematically purged the memories of all aboard – or purged them altogether. Petra alone now carries the stories of our past, and with them, any hope for our future. Can she make them live again? (Goodreads.com)

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Full Cicada Moon By Marilyn Hilton ISBN: 0525428755 	It's 1969, and the Apollo 11 mission is getting ready to go to the moon. But for half-black, half-Japanese Mimi, moving to a predominantly white Vermont town is enough to make her feel alien. Suddenly, Mimi's appearance is all anyone notices. She struggles to fit in with her classmates, even as she fights for her right to stand out by entering science competitions and joining Shop Class instead of Home Ec. And even though teachers and neighbors balk at her mixed-race family and her refusals to conform, Mimi's dreams of becoming an astronaut never fade—no matter how many times she's told no. (Goodreads.com)
Red Kayak Priscilla Cumming s ISBN: 0142405734 	Brady loves life on the Chesapeake Bay with his friends J.T. and Digger. But developers and rich families are moving into the area, and while Brady befriends some of them, like the DiAngelos, his parents and friends are bitter about the changes. Tragedy strikes when the DiAngelos' kayak overturns in the bay, and Brady wonders if it was more than an accident. Soon, Brady discovers the terrible truth behind the kayak's sinking, and it will change the lives of those he loves forever. Priscilla Cummings deftly weaves a suspenseful tale of three teenagers caught in a wicked web of deception. (Goodreads.com)

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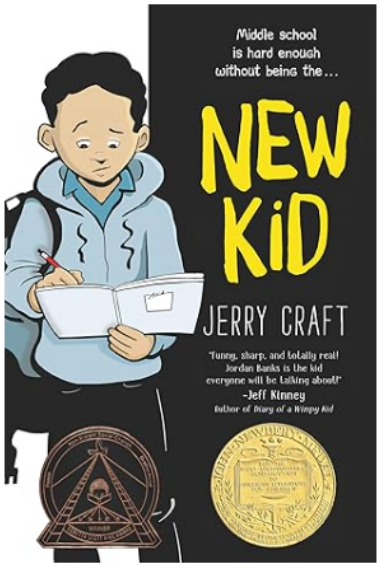
New Kid By Jerry Craft ISBN: 0062691198  	**Winner of the Newbery Medal, Coretta Scott King Author Award, and Kirkus Prize for Young Readers' Literature!** Seventh grader Jordan Banks loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade. As he makes the daily trip from his Washington Heights apartment to the upscale Riverdale Academy Day School, Jordan soon finds himself torn between two worlds—and not really fitting into either one. Can Jordan learn to navigate his new school culture while keeping his neighborhood friends and staying true to himself? This middle grade graphic novel is an excellent choice for tween readers, including for summer reading.