



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 as readers. Therefore, there will be year-round opportunities for students to engage in experiences that allow them to grow in literacy.

Dublin City Schools Summer Reading Essential Question:

How does what we know about the world affect how we view ourselves?

Summer Reading Expectations:

Each student is encouraged to read over the summer. Students wishing to 'opt-in' to Dublin City Schools' summer reading program will do so by [filling out this form](#) in which they reflect on a book they've read over the summer.

Students opting in to DCS's summer reading program who complete the above form will take part in a celebration next fall with a community of readers. Engaging in a community read fulfills the primary purpose of summer reading: to provide an opportunity for students to engage in an experience that allows growth in literacy.

DCS teachers have created the short list of suggested reading tasks below. These texts are relevant and connect to the summer reading essential question. Students opting in to DCS's summer reading program will commit to one of these choices in order to attend a fall celebration. **There will be no classroom assessment covering any summer reading materials.**

Student wishing to participate in DCS's summer reading program should follow these steps:

1. Complete one of the district-suggested reading tasks for your 2025-2026 grade level/course.
2. Complete [this form](#) to reflect on what you read and document your participation in DCS's summer reading program
3. If desired, refer to the grade-level guiding questions and consider them while reading.
4. If desired, jot down thoughts related to the guiding questions using the provided organizer.
5. Be prepared to participate in a fall school-funded celebration of reading with a community of your fellow readers! Complete the form in step 2 so you can join the celebration!



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Students participating in DCS's summer reading program will select one of the following choices. They will be invited to a fall celebration of reading. There will be no classroom assessment covering any summer reading materials.

	<i>All American Boys</i> Brendan Kiely and Jason Reynolds ISBN: 1481463330	In this <i>New York Times</i> bestselling novel, two teens—one black, one white—grapple with the repercussions of a single violent act that leaves their school, their community, and, ultimately, the country bitterly divided by racial tension. A bag of chips. That's all sixteen-year-old Rashad is looking for at the corner bodega. What he finds instead is a fist-happy cop, Paul Galluzzo, who mistakes Rashad for a shoplifter, mistakes Rashad's pleadings that he's stolen nothing for belligerence, mistakes Rashad's resistance to leave the bodega as resisting arrest, mistakes Rashad's every flinch at every punch the cop throws as further resistance and refusal to STAY STILL as ordered. But how can you stay still when someone is pounding your face into the concrete pavement? (Goodreads.com)
OR	1984 George Orwell ISBN: 9780451524935 OR 1984: The Graphic Novel ISBN: 0358359929	Among the seminal texts of the 20th century, <i>Nineteen Eighty-Four</i> is a rare work that grows more haunting as its futuristic purgatory becomes more real. Published in 1949, the book offers political satirist George Orwell's nightmarish vision of a totalitarian, bureaucratic world and one poor stiff's attempt to find individuality. The brilliance of the novel is Orwell's prescience of modern life—the ubiquity of television, the distortion of the language—and his ability to construct such a thorough version of hell. Required reading for students since it was published, it ranks among the most terrifying novels ever written. (Goodreads.com)



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	<i>Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience and Redemption</i> Laura Hillenbrand	On a May afternoon in 1943, an Army Air Forces bomber crashed into the Pacific Ocean and disappeared, leaving only a spray of debris and a slick of oil, gasoline, and blood. Then, on the ocean surface, a face appeared. It was that of a young lieutenant, the plane's bombardier, who was struggling to a life raft and pulling himself aboard. So began one of the most extraordinary odysseys of the Second World War.
OR		
	<i>Unbroken: An Olympian's Journey from Airman to Castaway to Captive</i> Laura Hillenbrand	The lieutenant's name was Louis Zamperini. In boyhood, he'd been a cunning and incorrigible delinquent, breaking into houses, brawling, and fleeing his home to ride the rails. As a teenager, he had channeled his defiance into running, discovering a prodigious talent that had carried him to the Berlin Olympics and within sight of the four-minute mile. But when war had come, the athlete had become an airman, embarking on a journey that led to his doomed flight, a tiny raft, and a drift into the unknown. (Goodreads.com)

Not a fan of these titles? Interested in more? Check out [this list of companion texts](#) DCS teachers have compiled and feel free to substitute or add to your reading with these related articles, poems, and stories.

See a title recommended for a different grade on the [district website](#) that interests you more than these? Go for it! The most important thing is that you spend some time reading over the summer.



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Below are questions and an organizer created to help guide and capture thinking while reading. Responses and evidence of thinking will **not** be collected.

Essential question: How does what we know about the world affect how we view ourselves?

Guiding questions:

- What conflicts do the characters face? As a group? As individuals?
- What does your book show the reader about the human experience?

THINKING ORGANIZER:

Remember this is to help guide and capture your thinking while reading. Responses and evidence of thinking will **not be collected.

What conflicts do the characters face? As a group? As individuals?

Pg. # ___ My thinking:

What does your book show the reader about the human experience?

Pg. # ___ My thinking: