

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.

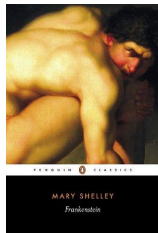
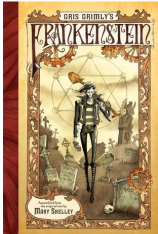
DCS teachers have created the short list of suggested reading tasks below. These texts are relevant and connect to the summer reading essential question. Students opting in to DCS's summer reading program will commit to one of these choices in order to attend a fall celebration. **There will be no classroom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

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

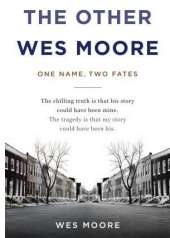
1. Complete one of the district-suggested reading tasks for your 2025-2026 grade level/course.
2. Complete [this form](#) to reflect on what you read and document your participation in DCS's summer reading program
3. If desired, refer to the grade-level guiding questions and consider them while reading.
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>Clap When You Land</i> by Elizabeth Acevedo ISBN: B07YYKWC81	Camino Rios lives for the summers when her father visits her in the Dominican Republic. But this time, on the day when his plane is supposed to land, Camino arrives at the airport to see crowds of crying people... In New York City, Yahaira Rios is called to the principal's office, where her mother is waiting to tell her that her father, her hero, has died in a plane crash. Separated by distance—and Papi's secrets—the two girls are forced to face a new reality in which their father is dead and their lives are forever altered. And then, when it seems like they've lost everything of their father, they learn of each other. (Goodreads.com)
 <i>Frankenstein</i> Mary Shelley ISBN: 0061862983 OR  <i>Gris Grimly's Frankenstein</i> Gris Grimly, Mary Shelley ISBN: 0141439475	Mary Shelley began writing <i>Frankenstein</i> when she was only eighteen. At once a Gothic thriller, a passionate romance, and a cautionary tale about the dangers of science, <i>Frankenstein</i> tells the story of committed science student Victor Frankenstein. Obsessed with discovering the cause of generation and life and bestowing animation upon lifeless matter, Frankenstein assembles a human being from stolen body parts but; upon bringing it to life, he recoils in horror at the creature's hideousness. Tormented by isolation and loneliness, the once-innocent creature turns to evil and unleashes a campaign of murderous revenge against his creator, Frankenstein. (Goodreads.com) Using an abridged version of the original text, Gris has created an experience that is part graphic novel, part prose novel, and all Gris Grimly: a bold sewing-together of elements both classic and contemporary. Beautifully terrifying and terrifyingly beautiful, this is Frankenstein as you've never seen it before. (Goodreads.com)

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 <i>The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates</i> Wes Moore ISBN: 0385528191	In December 2000, the Baltimore Sun ran a small piece about Wes Moore, a local student who had just received a Rhodes Scholarship. The same paper also ran a series of articles about four young men who had allegedly killed a police officer in a spectacularly botched armed robbery. The police were still hunting for two of the suspects who had gone on the lam, a pair of brothers. One was named Wes Moore. Wes just couldn't shake off the unsettling coincidence, or the inkling that the two shared much more than space in the same newspaper. After following the story of the robbery, the manhunt, and the trial to its conclusion, he wrote a letter to the other Wes, now a convicted murderer serving a life sentence without the possibility of parole. His letter tentatively asked the questions that had been haunting him: Who are you? How did this happen? (Goodreads.com)
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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:

Share your reading on social media using #DCSsumread