

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 engage in meaningful summer reading. Books, stories, articles, poems, and graphic novels are all great ways to read. Students who read will share their experiences in the fall through a form distributed by their English teachers. Students who do so 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 grade-level appropriate titles below. These texts are relevant and connect to the summer reading essential question. Students are encouraged, but not required, to select from this list, **There will be no classroom assessment covering any summer reading materials.**

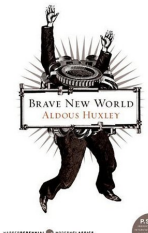
Student wishing to participate in DCS's summer reading program should follow these steps:

1. Engage in meaningful summer reading by reading one of the district-suggested books for your 2026-2027 grade level/course or other choice reading more aligned to your interests.
2. If desired, refer to the grade-level guiding questions and consider them while reading.
3. If desired, jot down thoughts related to the guiding questions using the provided organizer.
4. Share your reading experience in the fall with your English teacher next year and on a form that will be distributed..
5. Be prepared to participate in a fall school-funded celebration of reading with a community of your fellow readers!

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Students wishing to be invited to a fall celebration of reading are encouraged, but not required, to select from one of the following titles. They may choose to read a different choice book or collection of texts of other genres. There will be no classroom assessment covering any summer reading materials.

District-selected AP Literature Text:

 <i>Brave New World</i> Aldous Huxley ISBN: 0060929871	<i>Brave New World</i> is a dystopian novel written in 1931 by English author Aldous Huxley, and published in 1932. Largely set in a futuristic World State of genetically modified citizens and an intelligence-based social hierarchy, the novel anticipates huge scientific developments in reproductive technology, sleep-learning, psychological manipulation, and classical conditioning that are combined to make a utopian society that goes challenged only by a single outsider (Goodreads.com).
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Want more options? DCS teachers have compiled [this list](#) of articles, poems, and short stories that pair well with the titles above. Feel free to substitute or add to your reading with these related companion choices.

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.

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?

***A Brave New World* Guiding questions:**

- What are the ethical issues surrounding the cloning of humans?
- With every law and rule enacted, some personal freedom is lost. To what extent does the value in protecting society outweigh the corresponding loss of personal freedom?
- To what extent are drugs used in our society like Soma in *Brave New World* to make "difficult" people less of a "burden" on society?
- Is being conditioned by society unavoidable? Is it necessary? Why do you believe that?

Share your reading on social media using #DCSsumread

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DCS AP LITERATURE SUMMER READING CHOICE LIST

A

All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr
All the Pretty Horses by Cormac McCarthy
Anna Karenina by Leo Tolstoy
The Awakening by Kate Chopin

B

Beloved by Toni Morrison

C

Catch-22 by Joseph Heller
Ceremony by Leslie Marmon Silko

D

Dracula by Bram Stoker

E

Emma by Jane Austen
Exit West by Mohsin Hamid
Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close by Jonathan Safran Foer

F

Fathers and Sons by Ivan Turgenev
For Whom the Bell Tolls by Ernest Hemingway

G

The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy
The Goldfinch by Donna Tartt

H

Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi

I

In the Time of the Butterflies by Julia Alvarez

J -**K**

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

L

Life of Pi by Yann Martel

M *Mudbound* by Hillary Jordan

N

The Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri
Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro
No Country for Old Men by Cormac McCarthy

O

Obasan by Joy Kogawa
Oryx and Crake by Margaret Atwood

P

Persuasion by Jane Austen
The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver
Purple Hibiscus by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

R

The Remains of the Day by Kazuo Ishiguro
The Road by Cormac McCarthy
A Room of One's Own by Virginia Woolf

S

Siddhartha by Herman Hesse
Sing, Unburied, Sing by Jesmyn Ward
Slaughterhouse Five by Kurt Vonnegut

T

Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston
Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe
A Thousand Acres by Jane Smiley

U-V -**W**

We Were the Mulvaney by Joyce Carol Oates
Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens
The Woman Warrior by Maxine Hong Kingston

X-Z -**#**

1984 by George Orwell