



Dear Middle School Families,

It's time for a well-deserved summer break, and summer provides an excellent opportunity for students and families to enjoy great books together! Middle school students are tasked with reading TWO books of their choice for summer reading.

While 5th and 6th graders may enjoy exploring the titles on the [Rhode Island Middle Grade Book Award Nominees List](#) and 7th and 8th graders might be interested in [the 2027 Rhode Island Teen Book Award Nominees List](#), these are optional suggestions and not required reading lists. Your local library is also a great resource for recommendations. Most importantly, students are encouraged to choose any books that excite them! *(Click [here](#) for more information about middle grade and young adult literature.)*

The goal of our summer reading program is to foster a love of reading, so students are encouraged to choose books that *truly* interest them and suit their independent reading ability. If your child finds a book difficult or frustrating to read, encourage them to choose a different book that feels more manageable and enjoyable for their reading level.

Although it is not required, some strategies that may help students engage with the texts as they read include keeping a reading journal or annotating the book with questions, ideas, or personal responses. Students may also benefit from reading the same title as a friend or family member and engaging in ongoing discussions about the book. These are just some helpful approaches for remembering main ideas upon our return in September.

Best wishes for an enjoyable summer!