

Summer Reading 2019 ~ Grade 7



Dear Grade 7 students, parents, and guardians,

Welcome to 7th grade! I am so excited to meet you and to have the opportunity to work with you next year! For the upcoming school year I am offering three different options for completing your summer reading assignment. You will find descriptions of each of the options and how they will be scored in this packet. You will also find short summaries of the 2019 and 2020 *Teen Nutmeg Nominees*. You are encouraged to choose a book from either of these lists. To learn more about the selection process and history of this Connecticut book award, feel free to visit www.nutmegaward.org.

While these books have been selected for middle school students, titles span a broad range of both reading and maturity levels. NOT ALL of the books listed will be appropriate for all readers. Adults are encouraged to take an active role in helping to select those books that are aligned with your child's level of maturity as well as your family's values and comfort level. Please consult commonsensemedia.org or goodreads.com for reviews if you have any concerns.

Your second book can be any *grade appropriate* book of your choice as long as it 150 pages in length, so you will find helpful websites and a list of recommended authors to assist you with your selection in this packet.

When you return to school, you will be completing a project using your favorite summer reading book. This will count as your first quiz grade of the year in your language arts class. (It's always a great idea to take notes to help you remember the key parts of the story. Post-its are the best!) Remember, also, to record each of the books that you read on the attached *Governor's Summer Reading Challenge* form. Please turn this in to the Library Media Specialist, Mrs. Goad, during the first week of the new school year.

Although you must complete at least one of the assignments listed, you are encouraged to read as much as you can throughout the summer months!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Amy Gallagher, Grade 7 Language Arts
Mrs. Monica Selmont, Reading Specialist
Mrs. Patti Goad, Library Media Specialist

**Some students may be given the option of using the Intermediate Nutmeg list, but this will be determined on a case-by-case basis and you will be notified.*

*This Summer Reading packet can be accessed through the Westbrook Middle School website.
Additional copies will be available in the Middle School office as well as at the
Westbrook Public Library.*

Resources for Selecting 2nd Book



The link below is for the *American Library Association's Notable Children's Books List*. The books that make this prestigious list have received awards such as The Coretta Scott King Award, The Michael L. Printz Award, The Schneider Family Book Award and others! Many more books and short summaries can be found on this website:

<http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/notalists/ncb>

More recommended websites that may help you find a great title for your second Summer Reading book:

www.goodreads.com

www.scholastic.com (Click on "Kids" then "Books and Authors")

www.thechildrensbookreview.com

http://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/CTRead/Grade_7-Grade_8.pdf?la=en

In addition to ANY of the **authors** of the *Nutmeg* books, the following authors consistently write appropriate books for middle school readers!



Avi, Wendy Mass, Gordon Korman, Neal Schusterman, Andrew Clements, Caroline Cooney, Chris Crutcher, Christopher Paul Curtis, Dan Gutman, Richard Peck, Mike Lupica, Gary Paulsen, Matt Christopher, Johanna Hurwitz, Marty Crisp, Linda Sue Park, Patricia Reilly Giff, Erin Colfer, Cornelia Funke, Rick Riordan, Meg Cabot, Walter Dean Myers, Peg Kehret, Jacqueline Davies, Gennifer Choldenko

Governor's Summer Reading Challenge information can be found at:

<http://portal.ct.gov/SDE/CTRead/Connecticut-Reads>

7th Grade Summer Reading Assignment Options

For any of these options, you may choose to listen to the audio version of the book if that helps you. Listening to audio books requires the same mental processing skills as reading while eliminating issues with fluency. When listening to a text, students can actually comprehend up to two grade levels ahead of their independent reading level!

Option A- Listen

For this assignment you will listen to/read a minimum of **two** books. For one of the two books you will listen to the audio version with or under the supervision of an adult and have them sign off that you successfully completed both books.

*This is a fabulous option for anyone traveling over the summer. Use **audible.com** or get a book on tape from a public library for that road trip or plane ride. Visualization is key when listening to an audio book— picture the story like a movie in your head. It is highly recommended that you listen with someone else so that you can have a discussion about what you read.*

Option B- Read Aloud

For this assignment you must read a minimum of **two** books of your choosing. One of the two books must be read aloud with an adult and they must sign off that you successfully completed both books.

*This is a great option if you want to enjoy a good book with an adult and work on your fluency (how well you read aloud.) You may even choose to take turns and read a page and then have your adult partner read the next. Some great times to read aloud are while your family member makes dinner, on car trips, or right before bed. Enjoying a good book with a family member is a great way to spend time together!
If you are really ambitious, read both books aloud!*

Option C- Read A Lot

For this assignment you will read at least four books of your choosing. You will have a parent or guardian sign-off to verify that you did indeed complete at least four books.

*This is a great option if you LOVE to read, and you don't want to be slowed down by any additional assignments. For this option, you will just need to record the books you read and have a parent or guardian sign off that you completed each of them. **There is a matter of trust involved here, so be honest!***

Challenge Option- Read A Ton!!!

For this assignment you will read at least six books of your choosing. A parent or guardian must sign-off to verify that you did indeed complete the six books.

Research shows that the best way for students to avoid the "summer slide" is to read six books or at least 20 minutes a day over the summer. I challenge you to read six books this summer!

Summer Reading Form

Please check which option you chose to complete. There is a scoring guide on the following page.

- **Option A-** I read at least two grade-level appropriate books that were 150 pages or longer. For at least one of the books I listened to the audio version with or under the supervision of an adult.
- **Option B-** I read at least two grade-level appropriate books that were 150 pages or longer. One of the books I read aloud with an adult.
- **Option C-** I read at least four grade-level appropriate books that were 150 pages or longer.
- **Challenge Option-** I read at least six grade-level appropriate books that were 150 pages or longer!

	Title of Book	Author	# of Pages	Did you read this book aloud with an adult?	Did you listen to the audio version of the book?
Ex.	<u>Al Capone Does My Shirts</u>	Gennifer Choldenko	225	no	yes
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					

I verify that my child has completely read all of the books listed above.

Parent/ Guardian

Signature _____

I verify (give my word) that I honestly and completely read all of the books I have listed above.

Student

Signature _____

SCORING GUIDELINES

Option A or Option B

100% You read/ listened to at least two grade-level appropriate books that were 150 pages or longer. One of the books you read aloud with an adult.

50% You read/ listened to at least one grade-level appropriate book aloud that was 150 pages or longer.

No Credit You did not read at least one grade-level appropriate book aloud that was 150 pages or longer.

Option C or Challenge Option

100% You read at least four grade-level appropriate books that were 150 pages or longer.

85% You read at least three grade-level appropriate books that were 150 pages or longer.

70% You read at least two grade-level appropriate books that were 150 pages or longer.

50% You read at least one grade-level appropriate book that was 150 pages or longer.

No Credit You did not read at least one grade-level appropriate book aloud that was 150 pages or longer.