



Let's Read! HCPS Middle School Summer Reading

Rising 6th-8th Graders

If you are taking IB English next year, there is a different required assignment you must follow.

Why do I have to read on summer break?

Reading during the summer is a great way to keep your mind active and growing while you are away from school. While it is essential to your progress as a student, the English and reading teachers of Henrico County Public Schools also believe summer reading should be fun! The goal is for you to read 20 minutes a day because studies show that good readers naturally spend more time in daily reading. Exposure to reading is important in developing vocabulary for fluency and comprehension. Also, students who score in the top percentiles on reading tests read for more than 20 minutes a day – exposing them to 1.8 million words a year. So, your goal this summer is to log 20 minutes of reading a day (We'll give you the holiday and weekends off).

How will I do this? What do I have to read?

Reading is fun when we have choice. This year, you have lots of choices. Yes, you must read 20 minutes each weekday, but you can choose the type of texts you read (you may even choose to read-along with an audio version). We want you to be exposed to different types of text. Below are samples of different genres and texts to look at:

Fiction (Novels/ Novellas)	Fiction (Shorter Works--many in collections)	Non-Fiction (Longer Works)	Non-Fiction (Shorter Works)
-Realistic Fiction	-Poetry	-Autobiography	-Magazine Article
-Romance	-Short Story	-Biography	-Newspaper article
-Science Fiction	-Fable/Folk Tale/Fairy Tale	-Memoir	-Professional Essay
-Fantasy/Mystery/Suspense	-Legend/Myth	-Self-Help/How-to	-Professional Speech
-Graphic Novel		-Trade Book (careers)	-Published Letter

How do I find the right book for me?

- Visit your local library: The public librarians are here to guide you to the right books. If you let them know your interests, the librarians can easily guide you to the best reads. You can even fill out a form online and get personalized recommendations emailed directly to you: <http://hcplteenscene.org/3books4me> or www.henricolibrary.org/summerreading
- Research the Books: We've provided links to resources that will help you find those books that might be interesting to you. Use these resources to learn about the books on our list.
 - Virginia State Reading Association - <http://www.vusra.org/links.htm>
 - Good Reads - <https://www.goodreads.com/list/tag/middle-school>
- Preview the Books: Once you've reviewed the information, go to the library or the bookstore and preview the book. Read the first few pages before you check it out or buy it. Consider the vocabulary. If there are more than seven words on the page that you don't know, you might want to try a different book. Remember, you're looking for books that are fun, interesting and appropriate for you!
- Read! Read! Read: We hope your ability to choose your readings will inspire you to read much, much more.

Okay, so I'm reading, now what?

Great! We hope you really enjoy the texts you are choosing. You just need to log your readings to show your understanding of the text. The activity will be due to your English teacher during the second week of school. This assignment will count as one grade during the 1st nine weeks of school.

Please include the following in your log: Title, Author, Genre, Summary/Reflection/Connection, Time spent in the text. Your log may be handwritten or electronic—whichever is easiest for you. You will use your logs throughout the year as you make connections to other texts and provide examples in your writings.