

Summer Reading 2010

Meadowcreek High School Language Arts Department

Greetings from the MHS Language Arts Department

In an effort to prepare for the 2010-2011 academic year, the Language Arts department is **requiring** all MHS students to read at least one book over the summer vacation. Summer reading has been proven to help students approach the new school year in a better state of academic readiness. Outside reading is valuable; it keeps the mind active and is one of the most effective ways to expand one's vocabulary and develop strong language skills. We encourage parents and guardians to pursue outside reading with their students.

The Language Arts department has generated a summer reading list for each grade level. Students should pick at least one book from this list. **All students MUST read at least one book on the list for their class. Students will be assessed on their required reading in the Fall semester.** We also strongly encourage parents to read the book their child chooses to read and discuss the reading with them.

These summer reading books can be checked out at the local Gwinnett Public Library branch or purchased at a bookstore. In August, students may also present an extra-credit project based on what they have read.

Project Guidelines

- Do not choose a book that you have previously studied in school or one that is studied by language arts classes at Meadowcreek HS, Lilburn MS, or Radloff MS. See the "Off Limits Lists" on the back of the project page. If your project is on a book from this list, you will not receive credit for summer reading.
- Do not choose a book that you know is too easy for you.
- For additional reading of books beyond the required one from the list, do not choose a book that would definitely not be appropriate for writing about or discussing in a school setting. If you are unsure, ask an adult.
- Readers Rally books have an asterisk (*).

Once you have selected a book, carefully read the project descriptions and select one. You will turn in a project on the book you've selected in the fall.

Suggested Titles

ESOL LA II

Ashes of Roses- Auch
The True Prince-Cheaney
Jacob Have I Loved- Paterson
The Indian in the Cupboard- Reid
Harry Potter series- Rowling
A Place to Grow- Pak Soyung
Esperanza Rising-Ryan
Izzy, Willy-Nilly- Voigt
Nothing but the Truth- Avi
Percy Jackson series- Riordan

The Playmaker- Cheaney
Dancing on the Edge- Han
A Voice of Her Own- Lasky
Holes- Sacher
Saladin- Stanley
Ellen Foster-Gibbons
Goosebumps Series-Stine
Matilda- Dahl
Tears of a Tiger- Draper
An Ocean Apart, A World Away- Naniiokei

Freshmen College Prep and Freshmen ESOL Sheltered

The Crossing – Paulsen
The Skin I'm In- Flake
Maniac Magee - Spinelli
Twilight- Meyer
**Burn*- Phillips
**Carter Finall Gets It*- Crawford
The Face in My Mirror- Wartski
James and the Giant Peach-Dahl
Witches – Dahl
**The Orange Houses*- Griffin

Freshmen Honors and Gifted

The Heart is a Lonely Hunter
- McCullers
Brave New World- Huxley
Praying for Sheetrock- Greene
The Optimists' Daughter- Welty
All Over But the Shoutin'-Bragg
Catcher in the Rye – Salinger

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
-Robert Louis Stevenson
Jane Eyre -Brontë
Mythology- Hamilton
Silas Marner- Eliot
Night-Elie Wiesel
A Separate Peace -Knowles

Sophomore College Prep

Mexican Cowboy- de la Pena
Waiting for Normal- Connor
The Battle of Jericho- Draper
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings- Angelou
Dark Dude- Hijuelos
Othello - Shakespeare
**Jerk, California*- Friesan
**Hold Still*- LaCour
**Dream Factory*- Barkly & Hepler

**Wintergirls*- Anderson
Looking for JJ- Cassidy
**Brutal*- Harmon
How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents- Alvarez
Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?-Albee
**King of the Screwups*- Going
**The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks*- Lockhart

Sophomore Honors/ Sophomore Gifted

Much Ado About Nothing
-Shakespeare
Evolution, Me, and Other Freaks of Nature- Brande
Ten Cents a Dance- Fletcher
A Clockwork Orange-Burgess
A Lesson Before Dying- Gaines
Touching Snow – Felin
Bloodsong- Spurgess
A Thousand Splendid Suns- Hosseini
Burned-Hopkins
The Color of Water-McBride
The Bluest Eye- Morrison
A Farewell to Arms- Hemingway

Junior College Prep and Junior ESOL Sheltered

**Muchacho*- Johnson
**Skinned*- Wasserman
The Color of Water- McBride
**The Year We Disappeared* -Busby
Eclipse – Meyer
Montana 1948- Watson
Charms for the Easy Life -Gibbons
**Flygirl*-Smith
**Shiver*- Stiefvater
**Bonechiller*-McNamee

Junior Honors/Junior Gifted

Snow Falling On Cedars- Gutterson
The Color Purple- Walker
In the Time of Butterflies- Alvarez
We Were the Mulvaney- Oates
The Things They Carried- O'Brien
Song of Solomon- Morrison
Midwives –Bohjalian
Native Son- Wright
Black Boy - Wright
Cold Mountain- Frazier
Woman Warrior - Kingston
Invisible Man- Ellison
The Sun Also Rises-Hemingway
Their Eyes Were Watching God
-Hurston

Senior College Prep

**North of Beautiful*-Headley
Pride and Prejudice- Austen
**After*- Efav
Eaters of the Dead – Crichton
Breaking Dawn- Meyer
Frankenstein - Shelley
**If I Stay*-Forman
**The Forest of Hands And Teeth*-Ryan
Gulliver's Travels- Swift
Grendel- Gardner
The Host- Meyer
A Tale of Two Cities - Dickens

For Senior Advanced Placement English Literature & Composition (Mrs. Gardner-4.212), **Senior Advanced Placement English Language & Composition** (Dr. Malone-5.217) , and **Junior AP English Language & Composition (American Literature Concentration)** (Ms. Johnson 5.219) see these teachers for your summer reading assignment.

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Beowulf, Seamus Heaney translation

Summer Reading Extra-Credit Projects

ESOL Projects Level II Below you will find a variety of projects you can do for summer reading.

1. **Book Report Sandwich** – you will need to draw and cut out your sandwich using construction paper. On the top slice of bread, write the title and the author of the book the student finished reading. On the lettuce, write a brief summary of the book. Write about the main character on the tomato slice. On the mayonnaise, describe the book's setting. State the book's climax on the Swiss cheese. On the ham, describe the plot. On the bottom piece of bread, draw a favorite scene from the story.

2. Character Trait Diagram –

Create a Venn diagram to illustrate similarities and differences in the traits of two of the main characters in a book just completed. (You can also create a Venn diagram showing similarities and differences between the book's main character and yourself.)

3. Characters Come to Life!

Create a life-size "portrait" of one of the characters from a book just read. The portrait should include a written piece that tells about the character. The piece might also include information about events, traits, or conflicts in the book that involve character.

4. **Collage** - Using words and pictures cut out of old magazines and newspapers, as well as paint, markers, colored pencils, etc., create a collage illustrating the plot, theme, characters, or setting of your book. You may want to include phrases or sentences copied from the book. Include a written explanation of the significance of the images you choose.

LA III- LA IV, College Prep, Honors, Gifted and Sheltered

1. Interview a character

Compose 10 to 12 questions to ask a main character in a book you've just completed. Write the character's response to each question. The questions and answers should provide information that shows you read the book without giving away the most significant details.

2. Concentration

You will need 30 index cards to create a Concentration-style game related to a book you just finished. Choose 14 things, characters, or events that played a part in the book and create two cards that have identical pictures of each of those things. The two remaining cards, mark as Wild Cards! Turn all 30 cards facedown and mix them up. When you return in the fall, demonstrate how the game works.

3. In the News!

Create the front page of a newspaper that tells about events and characters in a book you just read. The newspaper page might include weather reports, an editorial or editorial cartoon, ads, etc. The title of the newspaper should be something appropriate to the book.

4. Resume Writing

As a tie-in to your career education program, create a resume for a book character. Include in the resume a statement of the applicant's goals and a detailed account of his or her experience and outside interests.

5. Create a Comic Book

Turn a book, or part of it, into a comic book, complete with comic-style illustrations and dialogue, bubbles.

6. Prove it in Five Minutes!

Give a 2 ½ minute oral presentation in which you share information about a book's plot and characters. Then close the presentation by offering an opinion and recommendation about the book. Your classmates have 2 ½ minutes to question you about the book. If you are able to prove in five minutes that you read the book, then you will be excused from filing a written report about it.

7. Character Trait Chart –

Create a chart with three columns. Each column is headed with the name of one of the book's characters. As you read the book, keep a record of the traits each character possesses and include an incident that supports each trait.

Dear Diary -

Create a diary or journal and write at least 10 entries that might have been written by a character in a book you just read. The entries should share details about the story that will prove you read the book.

Theme Report

Select a concept or a theme from the book you just finished and use the library or Internet resources to explore it further. Then write a two-page report that shares information about the topic. Be sure to show the connection between the text and the information that you are reporting. State how the information is relevant to the book.

The Off Limits list: The selections listed below cannot be used for a summer reading project. If you use any selection on this list, you will not receive credit.

A Raisin in the Sun, The Red Badge of Courage, The Scarlet Letter, Romeo and Juliet, A Tale of Two Cities, Things Fall Apart, Tuck Everlasting, 1984, Animal Farm, Antigone, Call of the Wild, Cry, The Beloved Country, A Day No Pigs Would Die, Diary of Ann Frank, Fahrenheit 451, Gentlehands, The Giver, Grapes of Wrath, Great Expectations, The Great Gatsby, Hamlet, Huckleberry Finn, Ironman, Julius Caesar, To Kill a Mockingbird, I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings, Lord of the Flies, Killing Mr. Griffin, and The Watsons Go to Birmingham

READERS RALLY

Readers Rally is a quiz bowl style competition for students in grades 4 – 12. Students read books from a predetermined list and answer questions about those books. Each Gwinnett County school may send one team of up to 10 players to the Readers Rally. If you are interested in the Readers Rally team, begin reading the books below and contact Mrs. Gardner in room 4.212.

After by Amy Efaw

Bonechiller by Graham McNamee

Brutal by Michael Harmon

Burn by Suzanne Phillips

Carter Finally Gets It by Brent Crawford

The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks by E. Lockhart

Dream Factory by Brad Barkley and Heather Hepler

Flygirl by Sherri L. Smith

The Forest of Hands and Teeth by Carrie Ryan

Hold Still by Nina LaCour

If I Stay: a Novel by Gayle Forman

Jerk, California by Jonathan Friesen

King of the Screwups by K.L. Going

Muchacho: a Novel by LouAnne Johnson

North of Beautiful by Justina Chen Headley

The Orange Houses by Paul Griffin

Shiver by Maggie Stiefvater

Skinned by Robin Wasserman

Wintergirls by Laurie Halse Anderson

The Year We Disappeared: a Father-Daughter Memoir by Cylin Busby