

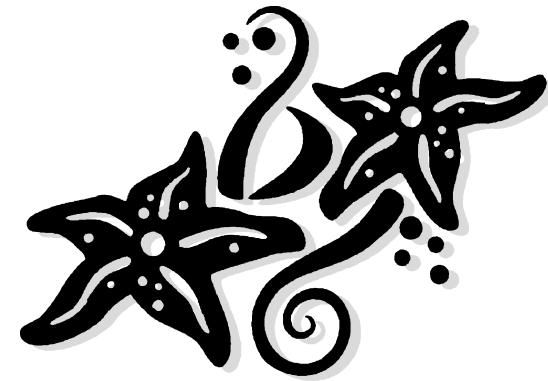
"If we want students who are readers, not just students who can read, we must surround them with high-quality books they want to read."

Steve Wolk from *What Students Should Be Reading in School*

Read for the fun of it!



Hamden Middle School



2010
Summer Reading
Grade 8

Purpose of Summer Reading

Research has shown that students who read during the summer improve their vocabulary and increase their reading skills. We encourage you to catch the reading habit and become a lifelong reader. This summer – *read for the fun of it!*

Reading Requirements

All students entering 8th grade at Hamden Middle School are **required** to read at least **two books** during the summer. You may choose any books that interest you. We have listed several fiction authors that are popular with HMS students. For nonfiction, we have listed some of the topics that you will be studying in 8th grade. As you read this summer, record the titles and authors on the Summer Reading Journal. When you return to school in September, give your list to your English teacher. The media specialist will total all the books read during the summer by HMS students and submit that number to the Governor's Summer Reading Challenge.

As you read this summer, think about the questions below. Be prepared to discuss your favorite books in your English class in September. You may take notes to help you remember, but notes are not required. **You will be receiving class credit for the books you read this summer.**

1. What are the main events in the book? (forming a general understanding)
2. What parts of the book are most important, interesting, or surprising? (examining content and structure)
3. What does the book say about people in general? Does the book remind you of people you know or have read about? (making a reader/text connection)
4. Write one fact and one opinion about the book. (developing an interpretation)



Fiction Authors

Avi	Paulsen, Gary
Dickinson, Peter	Pierce, Tamora
Flake, Sharon	Pullman, Phillip
Hamilton, Virginia	Rennison, Louise
Hesse, Karen	Rinaldi, Ann
Horowitz, Anthony	Ryan, Pam Muñoz
Jacques, Brian	Shusterman, Neal
Jiménez, Francisco	Soto, Gary
Johnson, Angela	Steinbeck, John
Klass, David	Taylor, Mildred
Lowry, Lois	Voigt, Cynthia
Lynch, Chris	Woodson, Jacqueline
Myers, Walter Dean	Yolen, Jane
Park, Linda, Sue	Zindel, Paul

2011 Nutmeg Award Nominees

Pearsall, Shelley	<i>All of the Above</i>
Fletcher, Susan	<i>Alphabet of Dreams</i>
Anderson, Laurie Halse	<i>Chains</i>
Lockhart, E.	<i>The Disreputable History of Frankie-Landau Banks</i>
Applegate, Katherine	<i>Home of the Brave</i>
de Mari, Silvana	<i>The Last Dragon</i>
Dowd, Siobhan	<i>The London Eye Mystery</i>
Shusterman, Neal	<i>Unwind</i>
Connors, Leslie	<i>Waiting for Normal</i>
Schmidt, Gary D.	<i>The Wednesday Wars</i>

Nonfiction Topics

- The Holocaust
- Civil and criminal justice
- Writers of the Constitution
- Biographies of famous mathematicians (i.e. Pythagoras, DaVinci, Einstein, Escher)
- Nutrition & Wellness
- Eating disorders