Rising 7th-Grade Summer Reading

There is no such thing as a child who hates to read;
there are only children who have not found the right book.
– Frank Serafini

All students should prioritize reading for at least 20 minutes every day. Over the summer, you are required to read at least three books. These books may come from the Battle of the Books list, the Miscellaneous list, or both. You may not choose books you have already read independently or studied in any class.

Battle of the Books List
If you'd like to get a head start on next year's Battle of the Books competition, please read at least three books from this list over the summer and continue reading from this list during the school year.
The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne
Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis
Chasing Lincoln's Killer by James L. Swanson
Counting by 7s by Holly Sloan
The Egypt Game by Zilpha Keatley Snyder
Elephant Run by Roland Smith
Enchanted Air by Margarita Engle
Harbor Me by Jacqueline Woodson
House Arrest by K.A. Holt
The Last Cuentista by Donna Higuera
Lost in the River of Grass by Ginny Rorby
Middle School, The Worst Years of My Life by James Patterson
Mona Lisa Vanishes by Nicholas Gray
New Kid by Jerry Craft
On the Far Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George
The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise by Dan Gemeinhart
The Running Dream by Wendelin Van Draanen
Scary Stories for Young Foxes by Christian McKay Heidicker
A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park
Surviving the Applewhites by Stephanie S. Tolan

2026-27 Battle of the Books Goals
-Each student will read at least six Battle of the Books titles by April.
-Collectively, each class section will read every book on the Battle of the Books list by April.

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Miscellaneous List
If you prefer, you may choose to read three books from this list, which includes classic and contemporary middle school titles.

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
Alex Rider: Point Blank by Anthony Horowitz
Alex Rider: Skeleton Key by Anthony Horowitz
Alone by Megan E. Freeman
The Best Bad Luck I Ever Had by Kristin Levine
The Cay by Theodore Taylor
The Chronicles of Narnia (or any book in the series) by C.S. Lewis
A Day No Pigs Would Die by Robert Newton Peck
Doll Bones by Holly Black
The Eyes and the Impossible by Dave Eggers
The Hired Girl by Laura Amy Schlitz
I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai
Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes
Life of Pi by Yann Martel
A Long Way from Chicago by Richard Peck
Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli
The Maze Runner by James Dashner
The Miracle Worker by William Gibson
The Midwife's Apprentice by Karen Cushman
Mockingbird by Kathryn Erskine
The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton
The Red Pony by John Steinbeck
The Skin I'm In by Sharon G. Flake
Starfish by Lisa Fipps
The Thing About Luck by Cynthia Kadohata
Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt
The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin
When Stars Are Scattered by Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed
Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls
The Witch of Blackbird Pond by Elizabeth George Speare