

Looking for an engaging summer read? Want to start off the year with extra credit already in the gradebook?



This summer 7th and 8th Grade Language Arts Teachers will be giving students the opportunity to earn extra credit before the school year starts. For every book read and book review completed (in addition to the assigned summer reading), students will earn 3 points of extra credit. Attached is a list of suggested texts to choose from, as well as the book review template.

***Please note that students can receive up to 15 points of extra credit. Also, students should feel free to choose texts not listed in this document.**

Name: _____

**Extra Credit Summer Reading Form
Grades 7 & 8**



Title of the Book: _____

Author: _____

Genre: _____

Write a brief summary of the book.	
List and describe the main characters.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1.2.3.4.
Write and define 5 new words you learned while reading this book.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1.2.3.4.5.
Would you recommend this book? Why or why not?	

FICTION

Revolution by Deborah Wiles

It's 1964. Enter the world of the Freedom Summer when kids must figure out how to stand up for themselves and figure out what's right.

Close To Famous by Joan Bauer

Foster McFee dreams of having her own cooking show. Everyone she knows has a dream, but nobody is even close to famous in the little town of Culpepper. Unexpected events shake the town and its inhabitants-and put their big ambitions to the test.

Into the Killing Seas by Michael P. Spradlin

Stranded in the war torn Pacific, Patrick and his younger brother Teddy are finally homewardbound. They've stowed away on one of the US Navy's finest ships, and now they just need to stay hidden. But Japanese torpedoes rip their dream apart.

Rain Reign by Ann M. Martin

Rose Howard purposely gives her dog Rain a name with two homonyms (Reign, Rein), which, according to Rose's rules of homonyms, is very special. Not everyone understands Rose's obsessions, her rules, and the other things that make her different. When a storm hits their rural town, rivers overflow, and Rain goes missing. Now Rose has to find her dog, even if it means leaving her routines and safe places to search.

Crossover by Kwame Alexander

Josh and Jordan must come to grips with growing up on and off the basketball court to realize breaking the rules comes at a terrible price, as their story's heart-stopping climax proves a game-changer for the entire family.

Joshua's Song by Joan Hiatt Harlow

Disaster strikes the city of Boston in 1919. Joshua must do what he can to help, and in doing so he finds the place -- and the voice -- that he thought he'd lost.

Return to Sender by Julia Alvarez

After 11-year-old Tyler's father is injured in a tractor accident, the family is in danger of losing their dairy farm. Desperate for help, Tyler's family employs Mari's family, who are illegal migrant Mexican workers.

Inside Out and Back Again by Thanhha Lai

HÀ has only known the beautiful Saigon. But now the Vietnam War has reached her home. HÀ and her family are forced to flee as Saigon falls. This

is the moving story of one girl's year of change, dreams, grief, and healing as she journeys from one country to another, one life to the next.

Hero by Mike Lupica

Zach Harriman thought he knew his dad. And then, Tom Harriman's plane crashes under mysterious circumstances, and everything Zach thought he knew about his father explodes with it.

A Snicker of Magic by Natalie Lloyd

Midnight Gulch used to be a magical place before a curse drove the magic away. In Midnight Gulch, 12-year-old Felicity thinks her luck's about to change. A "word collector," Felicity sees words everywhere. Felicity wants to stay in Midnight Gulch more than anything, but first, she'll need to figure out how to bring back the magic.

Faith, Hope, and Ivy by June Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

During a student exchange program, seventh graders Ivy June and Catherine share their lives, home and communities and find that although their lifestyles are total opposites, they have a lot in common.

Pop by Gordon Korman

When Marcus moves to a new town, he strikes up an unlikely friendship with Charlie. He can't believe his good luck when he finds out that Charlie is actually Charlie Popovich, a former NFL linebacker.

George's Secret Key to the Universe by Lucy and Stephen

Hawking

George is taken through the vastness of space by a scientist, his daughter, and a super computer named Cosmos.

Hit the Road by Joan Bauer

Sixteen-year-old Brit is illegally driving her Nannie and two other elderly women to their 65th college reunion.

Heat by Mike Lupica

Michael Arroyo has a pitching arm that throws serious heat. But that firepower is nothing compared to the heat Michael faces in his day-to-day life.

Guitar Notes by Mary Amato

On odd days, Tripp Broody uses a school practice room. On even days, Lyla Marks uses the same practice room. What starts as a series of snippy notes quickly blossoms into the sharing of interests and secrets and dreams, and the forging of a friendship.

One of the Murphys by Lynda M. Hunt

Carley uses humor and street smarts to keep her emotional walls high and thick. But the day she becomes a foster child, and moves in with the Murphys, she's blindsided. This loving, bustling family shows Carley the stable family life she never thought existed.

Masterpiece by Elise Broach

James, a boy who lives with his family in a grand apartment on the Upper East Side of Manhattan, and Marvin, a beetle whose extended family resides behind James' mother's kitchen, find themselves embroiled in a plot to steal a Dürer drawing from the Metropolitan Museum. They must find creative ways to communicate to foil the thieves and protect the masterpiece.

The Hypnotists by Gordon Korman

Jackson Opus has always been persuasive, but he doesn't know that he's descended from the two most powerful hypnotist bloodlines on the planet. He's excited to be accepted into a special program, where Jackson will have to find a way to use his powers to save his friends, his parents, and his government.

Eleven by Patricia Reilly Giff

Sam doesn't know why he fears the number eleven, but as his 11th birthday approaches, he feels a need to explore his past. When he discovers a locked box and a newspaper clipping in the attic, he learns he might once have been a missing child.

Kaleidoscope Eyes by Jen Bryant

In 1968, while the Vietnam War rages, 13-year-old Lyza inherits a project from her deceased grandfather, who was using his knowledge of maps and the geography of Lyza's New Jersey hometown to locate the lost treasure of Captain Kidd.

The Great Wall of Lucy by Wu Wendy Long-Lan Shang

Lucy Wu, aspiring basketball star and interior designer, is on the verge of having the best year of her life. In an instant, though, her plans are shattered when she finds out that Yi Po, her beloved grandmother's sister, is coming to visit. A funny tale about the ways life often reveals silver linings in the most unexpected clouds.

Brooklyn Bridge by Karen Hesse

Joe, fourteen, is the first member of his Russian-Jewish family born in the United States. He wonders if he will ever get to go to Coney Island, but in 1903, his life changes when his parents turn their apartment into a teddy-bear factory.

OK for Now by Gary D. Schmidt

Doug is an 8th grader who, due to his father losing his job, moves to a small town with his family. Amidst multiple family issues, Doug manages to discover much about not only his neighbors, but himself as well.

House of Dies Drear by Virginia Hamilton

A huge, old house with secret tunnels, a cantankerous caretaker, and buried treasure is a dream-come-true for 13-year-old Thomas. The fact that it's reputedly haunted only adds to its appeal! While on his own, he explores the hidden passageways in and under the house, piecing clues together in an increasingly dangerous quest for the truth about the past.

The Last Dragon by Sarah Weeks

Yorsh and his two human friends, Sajra and Monser, experience a host of comical misunderstandings that offset the dangerous situations they encounter in the Dark Mountains.

Becoming Naomi Leon by Pam Munoz Ryan

Naomi travels to Mexico with her great-grandmother and younger brother in search of her father.

Ashes of Roses by Mary Jane Auch

The Nolan family travels to America in the early 1900s. Rose, the oldest daughter, finds inner strength as she faces her new life in America working at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory.

The Klipfish Code by Mary Casanova

The year is 1942, and Norway is under Nazi occupation. Twelve-year-old Marit has decided to take action, despite her grandfather's warnings.

Little Audrey by Ruth White

It's 1948, and Audrey lives in a Virginia coal-mining camp with her family. There is great trauma for the White family before the family is able to live a better life.

Ted and Me by Dan Gutman

Stosh should have figured that the FBI would find him eventually. Now they've turned up on his doorstep—and they know all about his ability to travel through time using baseball cards. In fact, they want to send him back in time on a mission: to warn President Roosevelt about the attack on Pearl Harbor!

Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo

A young boy is stranded on a small island with a man from a much different background who helps him survive.

Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson

Isabel is a slave trapped in New York City in the early days of the Revolution.

Lizzie at Last by Claudia Mills

Lizzie, who has always been considered a nerd by the other kids, begins the seventh grade determined to change her image so that she can blend in better with the popular crowd.

The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton L. Stewart

After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected to go on a secret mission at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules.

Uprising by Margaret Peterson Haddix

The author draws on extensive historical research to bring the tragedy of the Triangle Shirtwaist fire to life through her story of Yetta, Bella, and Jane.

Miss Spitfire by Sarah Miller

This book traces Annie Sullivan's first experiences with her famous pupil, Helen Keller.

Counting by 7s by Holly Goldberg Sloan

Willow Chance is a twelve-year-old genius, obsessed with nature and diagnosing medical conditions, who finds it comforting to count by 7s. It has never been easy for her to connect with anyone other than her adoptive parents, but that hasn't kept her from leading a quietly happy life . . . until now.

CLASSICS**Old Yeller** by Fred Gipson

Enjoy the adventures of a boy and his dog in the wilderness.

Black Beauty by Anna Sewell

When Black Beauty is just a young colt, his mother warns him that a horse's life is often difficult. This strong, handsome horse meets with many adventures and all types of people.

Anne of Green Gables by L. M. Montgomery

Eleven-year-old Anne Shirley wins the heart of her foster mother in the first of this well-known series.

The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien

Discover the adventures of dwarf-like creatures, the Hobbits, living in Middle Earth.

The Prince and the Pauper by Mark Twain

A prince and a pauper, identical in appearance, change places as a prank.

Everything On It by Shel Silverstein

More than one hundred and thirty poems and drawings by the American poet-artist, this collection will follow in the tradition and format of Shel Silverstein's acclaimed poetry classics.

National Velvet by Enid Bagnold

A fourteen-year-old girl rides her piebald horse in the Grand National.

Fantastic Voyage by Isaac Asimov

Journey with four men and a woman into the living body of a man as told in this classic science fictional tale.

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

Share the joys and sorrows of the four March sisters in 19th century New England.

Hound of the Baskervilles by Arthur Conan Doyle

Sherlock Holmes sets out to solve the mystery that haunts the Baskerville family.

Journey to the Center of the Earth by Jules Verne

Geologist Liedenbrock can't resist setting out with his 16-year-old nephew to go where only one man has gone before --- the core of the Earth.

Kontiki by Thor Heyerdahl

Six men on a small raft sail four thousand miles across the Pacific Ocean, from Peru to the Polynesian Islands.

Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes

This is the story of a tragically injured young silversmith who ends up hip-deep in the American Revolution.

The Incredible Journey by Sheila Burnford

A young Labrador Retriever, an aging Bull Terrier, and a feisty Siamese cat embark on a dangerous journey home through the Canadian wilderness.

NONFICTION

I Will Always Write Back by Caitlin Alifirenka and Martin Ganda with Liz Welch

It started as a writing assignment for Caitlin and Martin. That letter was the beginning of a correspondence that spanned six years and changed two lives.

Steve Jobs: Thinking Differently by Patricia Lakin

Read about the extraordinary and complex life of Steve Jobs and how he has impacted our lives today.

Call of the Klondike: A True Gold Rush Adventure by David Meissner and Kim Richardson

This is the riveting, true, action-packed adventure of Marshall Bond and Stanley Pearce as they travel to the Klondike goldfields. The account includes their telegrams, diaries, and letters, as well as newspaper articles and photographs.

The Great Molasses Flood by Deborah Kops

January 15, 1919, an unseasonably warm day in Boston, Massachusetts. Suddenly, a sea of molasses transforms the north end of the city. What happened? Why?

Wheels of Change by Sue Macy

Through vintage photographs, advertisements, cartoons, and songs, *Wheels of Change* transports readers to bygone eras to see how women used the bicycle to improve

The Finest Hours: The True Story of the U.S. Coast Guard's Most Daring Sea Rescue by Michael Tougias and Casey Sherman

In the winter of 1952, New England was battered by the most brutal nor'easter in years. As the weather wreaked havoc on land, the freezing Atlantic became a wind-whipped zone of peril, setting the stage for one of the most heroic rescue stories ever lived.

Behind Enemy Lines by Bill Doyle

The amazing stories of courage from the American Revolution to current world conflicts.

Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart by Candace Fleming

In alternating chapters, the reader moves back and forth between Amelia's life (from childhood up until her last flight) and the exhaustive search for

her and her missing plane.

Up Close: Theodore Roosevelt by Michael L. Cooper

This extremely readable biography portrays the 26th president's full and varied life as a naturalist, cowboy, soldier, author, loving husband, doting father, civil servant, and unexpected (but very successful) president.

Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World by J. Armstrong

This story follows Shackleton and his crew on their 1914 Antarctic Expedition.

The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism & Treachery by Steve Sheinkin

Packed with first-person accounts, astonishing battle scenes, and surprising twists, this is a gripping and true adventure of Benedict Arnold, America's first notorious traitor.

The Boy on the Wooden Box: How the Impossible Became Possible... on Schindler's List by Leon Leyson, Marilyn J. Haran and Elisabeth B. Leyson

Leon Leyson's remarkable memoir is a moving account of a happy childhood shattered by the Holocaust. Leyson was fortunate enough to survive, thanks largely to Oskar Schindler. As the youngest member of Schindler's list, Leyson offers a unique perspective on the man who became his lifelong hero.

Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice by Philip M. Hoose

In Montgomery, AL, March 1955, 15-year-old Colvin refused to give up her bus seat to a white passenger. Colvin played a central role in the city's civil rights drama, but her story has been largely lost in the shadow of Rosa Parks.

Bomb: The Race to Build--and Steal--the World's Most Dangerous Weapon by Steve Sheinkin

This is the story of the plotting, the risk-taking, the deceit, and genius that created the world's most formidable weapon. This is the story of the atomic bomb.

Phineas Gage by John Fleischman

The story of a construction foreman, who, in 1848, survived ten years after a 13 pound iron rod shot through his brain.

Hidden Like Anne Frank by Marcel Prins, Peter Henk Steenhuis and Watkinson Laura

Fourteen unforgettable true stories of children hidden away during World War II.

Longitude: The True Story of a Lone Genius by Dava Sobel

Read how John Harrison developed a clock that measured longitude.

Grayson by Lynne Cox

In this memoir, Cox details a morning swim off the coast of California that took an unexpected turn: returning to shore, she discovered that she was being followed by a baby gray whale that had been separated from its mother.

Imprisoned: The Betrayal of Japanese Americans during World War II by Martin W. Sandler

This book shows the inside life in the internment camps gives an in-depth look at a troubling period of American history.

An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793 by Jim Murphy

History, science, politics, and public health come together in this account of the yellow fever epidemic.

American Revolutionaries by Milton Meltzer

Young people at the time of the American Revolution describe historical events.

Gizmos and Gadgets: Creating Science Contraptions that Work and Knowing Why by J. Hauser

Besides providing instructions for making contraptions, this book explains how to think like an inventor.

Chew on This by Eric Schlosser and Charles Wilson

Read about the fast-food industry's growth, practices, and effects on public health. The author lays out the details behind the tasty burgers and sandwiches of fast food restaurants.

Kindred Spirit by Catherine M. Andronik

Discover the personal and literary career of the Canadian writer best known for her novels about Anne of Green Gables.

Mistakes That Worked by Charlotte Foltz-Jones

Learn about forty familiar inventions and how they came to be.

Bonanza Gold by Pierre Berton

Discover the characters and stories about the beginning of Canada's great Klondike gold rush.

Bushnell's Submarine by Arthur Lefkowitz

This book relates the story of America's first submarine, the American Turtle, used during the Revolutionary War.

Gold Rush Dogs by Iaire Rudolf Murphy

Read about the notable dogs of the Gold Rush era.