

Summer Reading 2009

Meadowcreek High School Language

Arts Department

Greetings from the MHS Language Arts Department

In an effort to prepare for the 2009-2010 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 high school work.
- 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

**City of Bones*- Clare
**Generation Dead*- Waters
**Graceling*- Cashore
The Face in My Mirror- Wartski
James and the Giant Peach-Dahl
Maniac Magee - Spinelli

The Crossing – Paulsen
**Bad Monkeys*- Ruff
The Skin I'm In- Flake
**Oh, My, Gods.*- Childs
Twilight- Meyer
Witches - Dahl

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
**The Hunger Games*- Collins
**13 Reasons Why*- Asher
**Spud*-Van de Ruit
**Wicked Lovely*-Marr
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings- Angelou
Dark Dude- Hijuelos
New Moon - Meyer

**Getting the Girl*- Jubly
Twisted- Anderson
Waiting for Normal- Connor
Looking for JJ- Cassidy
The Battle of Jericho- Draper
How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents- Alvarez
Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? - Albee

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
A Farewell to Arms- Hemingway
The Bluest Eye- Morrison

Othello-Shakespeare
A Thousand Splendid Suns- Hosseini
Bloodsong- Burgess
The Lovely Bones- Sebold
The Color of Water-McBride
Touching Snow – Felin
Burned-Hopkins

Junior College Prep and Junior ESOL Sheltered

**Unwind*- Schusterman
**Three Little Words*
-Rhodes-Courter
The Color of Water- McBride
**My Most Excellent Year* -Kluger
The Lovely Bones- Sebold
The Host- Meyer

Montana 1948- Watson
Charms for the Easy Life
-Gibbons
**Blood Brothers*- Harazin
**Wake*- McMann
Eclipse – Meyer

Junior Honors/Junior Gifted

Snow Falling On Cedars- Gutterson
The Color Purple- Walker
In the Time of Butterflies- Alvarez
We Were the Mulvaney's- Oates
The Things They Carried- O'Brien
Song of Solomon- Morrison
The Handmaid's Tale- Atwood
Their Eyes Were Watching God
-Hurston

Native Son- Wright
Black Boy - Wright
Beloved - Morrison
Woman Warrior - Kingston
Invisible Man- Ellison
Cold Mountain- Frazier
Midwives -Bohjalian
The Sun Also Rises
-Hemingway

Senior College Prep

Pride and Prejudice- Austen
**Deadline*- Crutcher
**Little Brother*- Doctorow
Eaters of the Dead – Crichton
Breaking Dawn- Meyer
Frankenstein - Shelley
A Tale of Two Cities - Dickens

Gulliver's Travels- Swift
**Impossible*- Werlin
**Ophelia: A Novel*- Klein
Grendel- Gardner
The Host- Meyer
**Lessons from a Dead Girl*
- Knowles

For Senior Advanced Placement English Literature & Composition (Mrs. Gardner-4.212), Senior Advanced Placement English Language & Composition (Dr. Malone-5.226) , and Junior AP English Language & Composition (American Literature Concentration) (Ms. Johnson 5.219) see separate attachment.

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, read the books below and contact Mrs. Gardner in room 4.212.

13 Reasons Why by Jay Asher

Bad Monkeys by Matt Ruff

Blood Brothers by S.A. Harazin

City of Bones by Cassandra Clare

Deadline by Chris Crutcher

Generation Dead by Daniel Waters

Getting the Girl by Susan Juby

Graceling by Kristin Cashore

The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins

Impossible by Nancy Werlin

Lessons from a Dead Girl by Jo Knowles

Little Brother by Cory Doctorow

My Most Excellent Year: A Novel of Love, Mary Poppins and Fenway Park by Steve Kluger

Oh.My.Gods by Tera Lynn Childs

Ophelia: A Novel by Lisa Klein

Spud by John Van de Ruit

Three Little Words: A Memoir by Ashley Rhodes-Courter

Unwind by Neal Shusterman

Wake by Lisa McMann

Wicked Lovely by Melissa Marr