

2017 RCPS Summer Reading Requirement Options for Rising Sixth-Twelfth Grade Students

All students entering grades 6-12 for the 2017-2018 school-year are required to complete a summer reading assignment. To better equip students for success with these assignments, before the end of the year, teachers will conference with students about their book selections and the required assignments. All students who enroll in Rockdale County Public Schools prior to August 7 are required to complete the summer reading assignments. For Summer 2017, we are offering two summer reading options for students. Please read and discuss the Summer Reading Requirements below with your child to determine which option is best for him/her.

Option 1:

1. Students must read one book from the required reading list for the grade level they will enter August 2017.
2. Students must complete three short assignments on the required book they selected; these are due August 11. The specific guidelines and rubric for the assignments are included on the next page.
3. *All students, including those in Program Challenge(PC)/Excel, may select any book on their respective grade level lists. There is not a separate book list for PC/Excel students.*

Option 2: (available only to students who had Achieve 3000 access during the 2016-2017 school year):

In the Achieve 3000 on-line platform, your child will read high-interest, informational articles, customized to match his/her specific reading level. Each article includes a variety of fun activities to improve your child's comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills. It is important that your child's answers to the questions reflect work completed independently and without extra assistance.

1. Students must complete a minimum of **10 activities** on the Achieve 3000 platform. A complete activity consists of:
 - a. Responding to the Before Reading Poll,
 - b. Reading the Article,
 - c. Answering the Activity Questions,
 - d. Responding to the After Reading Poll, and
 - e. Answering the open-ended Thought Question (only required for 3 of the 10 articles)
2. Students must score a minimum average of 75% on 10 reading activities. You will see the score in the program platform.
3. *All students, including those in Program Challenge(PC)/Excel courses will complete the same Achieve 3000 assignment. There is not a separate Achieve 3000 assignment for PC/Excel students.*

Students who choose Option 2 should log into Achieve 3000 by using their Clever login. Please write down your child's Clever login before the end of the school year as there is not an option to retrieve forgotten username/password from this site. Please note that students can only access Achieve 3000 through June 30. If a student does not complete all 10 activities by this date, he/she will have to complete Option 1.

If you have questions about the Summer Reading Requirements, please contact your child's school.

Special Note: RCPS is pleased to announce that students may check out titles from the summer reading lists and other high interest books from the Summer Lunch Mobile Program. School buses will visit neighborhoods across Rockdale each day to deliver lunches and books. Please note that the Nancy Guinn library has limited copies of titles from the Summer Reading List, so we strongly encourage students to take advantage of this additional resource.

Revised: May 15, 2017

**RCPS Tenth Grade Summer Reading List
Summer 2017**

TITLE	AUTHOR	SUMMARY	LEXILE	GENRE
<i>The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens</i>	Sean Covey	The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People provides a useful, sequential framework for understanding much about the process of personal development. Many highly successful people seem to have naturally developed these principles of effectiveness. Stephen Covey's principled approach is not a quick-fix prescription for personal growth. But, says Covey, if you work hard at acquiring these principles... [t]hey will lead to fundamental change because they will affect who you are – your character – for the better.	870L	Non-fiction
<i>Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children</i>	Ransom Riggs	A World War II veteran and Jewish refugee, Abe loves nothing better than to tell his grandson Jacob stories about his childhood. But these are no ordinary stories. They are populated with flesh-eating monsters, a hawk that smokes a pipe and children who have peculiar abilities — they levitate, lift heavy boulders with ease or eat using a mouth in the back of their heads. One boy is invisible, and another has a swarm of bees living inside him. As he grows older, Jacob becomes skeptical of his grandfather's stories, even though Abe shows him a cigar box full of old photos to prove he is telling the truth.	890L	Fiction
<i>An Island Like You: Stories of the Barrio</i>	Judith Ortiz Cofer	Twelve provocative stories reveal the rich, lively world of Puerto Rican American teenagers in a New Jersey barrio. Humorous, poignant, and brimming with life, this collection deftly captures the experience of growing up Puerto Rican in the United States.	910L	Fiction
<i>A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier</i>	Ishmael Beah	Child soldiers have been profiled by journalists, and novelists have struggled to imagine their lives. But until now, there has not been a first-person account from someone who came through this hell and survived. In <i>A Long Way Gone</i> , Beah, tells a riveting story: how at the age of twelve, he fled attacking rebels and wandered a land rendered unrecognizable by violence. By thirteen, he'd been picked up by the government army, and Beah, at heart a gentle boy, found that he was capable of truly terrible acts.	920L	Non-fiction: Memoir
<i>Million-Dollar Throw</i>	Mike Lupica	What would you do with a million dollars, if you were 13? Nate Brodie is nicknamed "Brady" not only for his arm, but also because he's the biggest Tom Brady fan. He's even saved up to buy an autographed football. And when he does, he wins the chance for something he's never dreamed of: to throw a pass through a target at a Patriots game for one million dollars. Nate should be excited. But things have been tough lately. His dad lost his job and his family is losing their home. It's no secret that a million dollars would go a long way. So all Nate feels is pressure, and just when he needs it most, his golden arm begins to fail him.	960L	Fiction
<i>The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates</i>	Wes Moore	Two kids grew up with the same name of Wes Moore. It's unbelievable how many similarities the two of them held- not only did both of them have the same name, but they were also raised fatherless, born in the same neighborhood in Baltimore, Maryland during the late 1970's, and encountered many similar experiences as they were growing up.	990L	Non-fiction
<i>Outliers</i>	Malcolm Gladwell	Outliers is Malcolm Gladwell's examination of what makes some people phenomenally more successful than others. These "outliers," as he calls them, are commonly thought to possess talent and intelligence far above that of the average person, but he challenges this popular belief by looking at the background of some notable outliers.	1080L	Non-fiction
<i>1968, The Year America Grew Up</i>	Michael T. Kaufman	From racial and gender equality fights to the struggle against the draft and the Vietnam war, in 1968 Americans asked questions and fought for their rights. Now, 30 years later, we look back on that seminal year--from Dr. Martin Luther	1310L	Non-Fiction

		King, Jr.'s assassination to the Columbia University riots to our changing role among other nations--in this gripping introduction to the events home and abroad.		
<i>Democracy</i>	James Laxer	Democracy explains the rise of this form of government and how women and minorities struggled for and won democratic rights for themselves. In clear prose, author James Laxer relates the story of the replacement of Communist regimes in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe by ostensibly democratic political systems. In some of these countries, he argues, democracy has flourished, while in others authoritarianism is on the rise. Showcasing examples from all over the world, the book examines the current status of democracy in both developed and developing nations.	1350L	Non-fiction



RCPS Summer Reading Option 1 Assignment Guidelines

Please write an essay that includes the following:

- **First Paragraph-Summary/Critique**

Write or type a well-developed summary (approximately 300 words) of the book, emphasizing the plot or key details. Be sure to include the genre (i.e., biography, mystery, information, etc.), title of the book, and the author. As you start to write, remember to grab the reader's attention by creating a sense of humor, wonder, mystery, curiosity, etc. These feelings cause the reader to want to know what happens next.

- **Second Paragraph-Theme/Central Idea**

Identify the theme (general lesson about life in a fictional text) or central idea (main idea that the author wants to convey about the topic of a non-fiction text) of the book you read. Choose three (3) quotes that support the theme or central idea. For each quote, write a well-developed paragraph that explains how the quote relates to the theme or central idea. Consider choosing one quote each from the beginning, middle, and end of the book to ensure you identify an appropriate and logical theme or central idea.

- **Third Paragraph-Recommendation**

Persuade or dissuade someone to read your book. Using specific details, explain why you did or did not enjoy reading this book. In addition, be sure to include details that explain the type of reader for whom the book was written, i.e. athletes, nature-lovers, mystery-readers, risk-takers, etc. *Although you may not have liked your book, the author must have had someone in mind when writing it.*

Directions: Students must complete the required three parts of the assignment. Students will receive a score for each part of the assignment submitted (see rubric). A score of zero will be given for any part of the assignment not submitted. Please see rubric on the next page for specific requirements and scoring procedures.

Deadline: The summer reading assignment is due to your English Language Arts teacher August 11, 2017. *All students who enroll in Rockdale County Public Schools prior to August 7 are required to complete the summer reading assignments.*

RCPS SUMMER READING OPTION 1 SCORING RUBRIC

	DISTINGUISHED	PROFICIENT	DEVELOPING	BEGINNING
Summary: (Maximum 10 Points) Standard: RL/RI2 Summarize the key supporting details and ideas	10 9	8 7	6 5	4 3
Theme/Central Idea (Maximum: 25 Points) Standard: RL/RI1-Cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text. RL/RI2-Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development	25 24	23 22	21 20	19 18
Recommendation: (Maximum 10 Points) Standard: RL/RI1-Cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text	10 9	8 7	6 5	4 3
Grammar/Conventions: (5 Points) Standard: L1/L2- Demonstrate the command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage, capitalization, punctuation, spelling	5	4	3	2

Score Range	Assignment Points: _____/50 Teacher Commentary:
Distinguished= 47-50	
Proficient= 40-43	
Developing= 33-36	
Beginning= 26-29	