

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 Eleventh Grade Summer Reading List
Summer 2017**

TITLE	AUTHOR	SUMMARY	LEXILE	GENRE
<i>Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close</i>	Jonathon Safran Foer	Meet Oskar Schell, an inventor, Francophile, tambourine player, Shakespearean actor, jeweler, pacifist, correspondent with Stephen Hawking and Ringo Starr. He is nine years old. And he is on an urgent, secret search through the five boroughs of New York. His mission is to find the lock that fits a mysterious key belonging to his father, who died in the World Trade Center on 9/11. An inspired innocent, Oskar is alternately endearing, exasperating, and hilarious as he careens from Central Park to Coney Island to Harlem on his search. Along the way he is always dreaming up inventions to keep those he loves safe from harm. What about a birdseed shirt to let you fly away? What if you could actually hear everyone's heartbeat? His goal is hopeful, but the past speaks a loud warning in stories of those who've lost loved ones before. As Oskar roams New York, he encounters a motley assortment of humanity who are all survivors in their own way.	940L	Fiction: Historical/ Disability
<i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i>	Jacqueline Woodson	Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world. Woodson's eloquent poetry also reflects the joy of finding her voice through writing stories, despite the fact that she struggled with reading as a child. Her love of stories inspired her and stayed with her, creating the first sparks of the gifted writer she was to become	990L	Fiction: Poetic Memoir
<i>I am Malala: Girl Who Stood Up for Education</i>	Malala Yousafzai and Christine Lamp	When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. On Tuesday, October 9, 2012, when she was fifteen, she almost paid the ultimate price. She was shot in the head at point-blank range while riding the bus home from school, and few expected her to survive. Instead, Malala's miraculous recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey from a remote valley in northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations in New York. At sixteen, she has become a global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest nominee ever for the Nobel Peace Prize. I AM MALALA is the remarkable tale of a family uprooted by global terrorism, of the fight for girls' education, of a father who, himself a school owner, championed and encouraged his daughter to write and attend school, and of brave parents who have a fierce love for their daughter in a society that prizes sons.	1000L	Non-fiction
<i>A Walk to Remember</i>	Nicholas Sparks	There was a time when the world was sweeter....when the women in Beaufort, North Carolina, wore dresses, and the men donned hats.... Every April, when the wind smells of both the sea and lilacs, Landon Carter remembers 1958, his last year at Beaufort High. Landon had dated a girl or two, and even once sworn that he'd been in love. Certainly the last person he thought he'd fall for was Jamie,	1010L	Fiction: Romance

		the shy, almost ethereal daughter of the town's Baptist minister....Jamie, who was destined to show him the depths of the human heart-and the joy and pain of living. The inspiration for this novel came from Nicholas Sparks' sister: her life and her courage.		
<i>Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance</i>	Robert Pirsig	The extraordinary story of a man's quest for truth. It will change the way you think and feel about your life. "The cycle you're working on is a cycle called 'yourself.'" "The study of the art of motorcycle maintenance is really a study of the art of rationality itself. Working on a motorcycle, working well, caring, is to become part of a process, to achieve an inner peace of mind. The motorcycle is primarily a mental phenomenon." --	1040L	Fiction
<i>The Tipping Point</i>	Malcolm Gladwell	How does a style of clothing become trendy? What causes a sudden drop in the crime rate of a major city? Under what circumstances can a political cause explode into a revolutionary mass movement? Why do some advertisements stick in people's minds while others are ignored? How does a book become a best-seller? These are the kind of questions for which Gladwell tries to find a common denominator. Just as a single match can start a large wildfire under the right conditions, or one sick individual in a crowd can bring about a flu epidemic, Gladwell argues that little things can make a big difference in social dynamics.	1160L	Non-fiction
<i>10 Days That Unexpectedly Changed America</i>	Steven M. Gillon	<i>10 Days That Unexpectedly Changed America</i> pinpoints pivotal days that transformed our nation. For the book, The History Channel challenged a panel of leading historians, including author Steven M. Gillon, to come up with some less well-known but historically significant events that triggered change in America. Together, the days they chose tell a story about the great democratic ideals upon which our country was built.	Not Available	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	