

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 Ninth Grade Summer Reading List
Summer 2017**

TITLE	AUTHOR	SUMMARY	LEXILE	GENRE
<i>Monster</i>	Walter Dean Myers	FADE IN: INTERIOR: Early morning in CELL BLOCK D, MANHATTAN DETENTION CENTER. Steve (Voice-Over) Sometimes I feel like I have walked into the middle of a movie. Maybe I can make my own movie. The film will be the story of my life. No, not my life, but of this experience. I'll call it what the lady prosecutor called me ... Monster.	670L	Fiction: Realistic
<i>Navigating Early</i>	Clare Vanderpool	At the end of World War II, Jack Baker, a landlocked Kansas boy, is suddenly uprooted after his mother's death and placed in a boy's boarding school in Maine. There, Jack encounters Early Auden, the strangest of boys, who reads the number pi as a story and collects clippings about the sightings of a great black bear in the nearby mountains. Newcomer Jack feels lost yet can't help being drawn to Early, who won't believe what everyone accepts to be the truth about the Great Appalachian Bear, Timber Rattlesnakes, and the legendary school hero known as The Fish, who never returned from the war. When the boys find themselves unexpectedly alone at school, they embark on a quest on the Appalachian Trail in search of the great black bear.	790L	Fiction: Historical
<i>Rich Dad, Poor Dad</i>	Robert Kiyosaki	<i>Rich Dad, Poor Dad</i> is the story of author Robert Kiyosaki's upbringing in Hawaii and his two fathers – one rich father (not biological) and one poor father (biological). Kiyosaki was forced to choose between following in the footsteps of his poor father – a highly educated government worker – or his rich father – an entrepreneur who never graduated high school. Ultimately, Kiyosaki decides to learn from his rich dad - who wouldn't?	860L	Non-Fiction
<i>We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball</i>	Kadir Nelson	The story of Negro League baseball is the story of gifted athletes and determined owners; of racial discrimination and international sportsmanship; of fortunes won and lost; of triumphs and defeats on and off the field. It is a perfect mirror for the social and political history of black America in the first half of the twentieth century. But most of all, the story of the Negro Leagues is about hundreds of unsung heroes who overcame segregation, hatred, terrible conditions, and low pay to do the one thing they loved more than anything else in the world: play ball.	900L	Non-Fiction: History
<i>Outcasts United: The Story of a Refugee Soccer Team that Changed a Town</i>	Warren St. John	Just a few miles from Atlanta, Clarkston, Georgia became a settlement for families of refugees from war-torn countries. Soccer coach Luma Mufleh formed the Fugees, a soccer team consisting of boys from various countries and backgrounds. This inspiring book explores the array of challenges the team faced on and off the field and how determination prevailed.	980L	Non-Fiction
<i>Whale Talk</i>	Cris Crutcher	There's bad news and good news about the Cutter High School swim team. The bad news is that they don't have a pool. The good news is that only one of them can swim anyway. A group of misfits brought together by T. J. Jones (the J is redundant) to find their places in a school that has no place for them, the Cutter All Night Mermen struggle to carve out their own turf. T. J. is convinced that a varsity letter jacket--unattainable for most, exclusive, revered, the symbol (as far as T. J. is concerned) of all that is screwed up at Cutter High--will be an effective carving tool. He's right. He's also wrong.	1000L	Fiction
<i>Boy: Tales of Childhood</i>	Roald Dahl	<i>Boy</i> is a funny, insightful and at times macabre glimpse into the early life of Roald Dahl, one of the world's favorite authors. We discover his experiences of the English public school system, the idyllic paradise of summer holidays in Norway, the pleasures (and pains) of the sweetshop, and how it is that he avoided being a Boozer. This is the unadulterated childhood - sad and funny, sinister and delightful - that inspired the much-loved children's writer.	1090L	Non-Fiction: Biography

**RCPS Ninth Grade Summer Reading List
Summer 2017**

<i>Catch-22</i>	Joseph Heller	Catch-22 is like no other novel. It is one of the funniest books ever written, a keystone work in American literature, and even added a new term to the dictionary. At the heart of Catch-22 resides the incomparable, malingering bombardier, Yossarian, a hero endlessly inventive in his schemes to save his skin from the horrible chances of war. His efforts are perfectly understandable because as he furiously scrambles, thousands of people he hasn't even met are trying to kill him.	1140L	Fiction
<i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time: A Novel</i>	Mark Haddon	The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, is a murder mystery of sorts--one told by an autistic version of Adrian Mole. Fifteen-year-old Christopher John Francis Boone is mathematically gifted and socially hopeless, raised in a working-class home by parents who can barely cope with their child's quirks. He takes everything that he sees (or is told) at face value, and is unable to sort out the strange behavior of his elders and peers.	1180L	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
<p>Summary: (Maximum 10 Points)</p> <p>Standard: RL/RI2 Summarize the key supporting details and ideas</p>	10 9	8 7	6 5	4 3
<p>Theme/Central Idea (Maximum: 25 Points)</p> <p>Standard: RL/RI1-Cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.</p> <p>RL/RI2-Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development</p>	25 24	23 22	21 20	19 18
<p>Recommendation: (Maximum 10 Points)</p> <p>Standard: RL/RI1-Cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text</p>	10 9	8 7	6 5	4 3
<p>Grammar/Conventions: (5 Points)</p> <p>Standard: L1/L2- Demonstrate the command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage, capitalization, punctuation, spelling</p>	5	4	3	2

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