

NMS 7th Grade Summer Reading Assignment Sheet

What's the point of reading during the summer?

General Information on the Importance of Reading:

1. All It Takes Is Four. Did you know? By simply reading at least **4** books over the summer, kids can avoid the “summer slide,” or gap in academic skills, when they return to school.
2. Top Of The Tests. Kids who read a million words a year score in the top 2% on standardized tests. A million words may sound like a lot, but it is only approximately 15-20 average length novels.
3. Big Vocabularies. Kids learn 4,000 to 12,000 new words every year just by reading. That means 2-3 months without books can make a huge difference in their vocabularies and test scores.

Why Read 20 Minutes a Day?

Student A	Student B	Student C
Reads 20 minutes a day	Reads 5 minutes a day	Reads 1 minute a day
3600 minutes a school year	900 minutes a school year	180 minutes a school year
1,800,000 words	282,000 words	8,000 words
90th percentile on standardized tests	50th percentile on standardized tests	10th percentile on standardized tests

*If a student starts reading in Kindergarten:

- by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days.
- by the end of 6th grade, Student B will have read for the equivalent of 12 school days.
- by the end of 6th grade, Student C will have read for the equivalent of 3 days.

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Summer Reading Books for Rising 7th Graders at NMS (Choose At Least One):

- *Fuzzy Mud* by Louis Sachar
- *No Summit Out of Sight* by Jordan Romero
- *The Jungle Book* (complete and unabridged version) by Rudyard Kipling.

*For the 2017-2018 school year :

- When you return in August, we will be discussing/conducting activities that draw on lessons learned from the common themes of the three texts. *We have chosen books that are very insightful and contain relevant lessons to teach. Please take it seriously, and as you are reading, constantly think about how the themes of your chosen book can be applied to your own life.*
- You need to have finished reading your chosen book and have the given assignments completed by the first day of school to turn in.
- Do not procrastinate!

*****Assignments Due the First Day of School for Language Arts:**

- A Literary Review of the book (must use the format given on the next pages).
- An art project. Project ideas: map, collage, diorama, poster, sculpture, or your own original “artsy” idea from the book. Points given for originality and creativity.

This summer reading assignment is not optional. It will be your first graded assignment! If you have any questions about these assignments, please feel free to shoot us an e-mail at: bjonbjones@acs.aces@acs.ac or ahorak@acs.ac. Have a great summer!

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Literary Review Format for Summer Reading

***Must be done in this format on separate sheets of loose-leaf notebook paper or typed as a Google Doc on your school account.**

If you are reading more than one book, choose your favorite for this assignment.

	Last Name and Page #	
	First and Last Name	
	Mrs. Horak/Mr. Jones	
	Reading Language Arts	
	4 August 2017	
	<u>Literary Review</u>	
	Name of Book and Author:	
	What does the story suggest about life? What textual evidence (details from the story) support your thinking?	
	How do/does the main character(s) change through the story? What causes this change? What does he/she learn through this process?	
	Discuss how one or more of the following themes* (life lessons) are presented in your book:	
	1. Perseverance and determination can help overcome great difficulties.	
	2. Never judge a person by outward appearance.	
	3. Nature is a force to be respected.	
	<i>*Themes must contain a point of view; almost like an opinion ... hmmm ... a universal truth about the human experience.</i>	

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	Last Name and Page #	
	Provide an example from the text of how one or more of the themes recurs (is seen over and over again).	
	How does the development of character(s), setting, and/or plot contribute to the theme(s)?	
	Your thoughts, feelings, & reactions about the book (how do you connect to it?):	