

## How to Choose a Good Book

1. Find a book that is interesting. Search by genre, subject, reading level, and recommendation. Visit the summer reading website for online search tools.
2. Use the 5 Finger Rule to help identify a good fit! Open your book to any page and read the words on the page. Count the number of words you do not know on your fingers. If you hold up four or five fingers the book might be too difficult.
3. If you found a "just right" book, take it for a test drive and read a few pages or even a chapter.

## Where can I find books?

- Worcester Public Library
- Libby and Lily Mobile Libraries
- Borrow and take suggestions from friends!
- Summer Programs
- Bookstores such as Barnes & Noble and Amazon
- Goodwill and Salvation Army
- E-Books
- Digital Books

## Summer Reading Requirement for Grades 5 and 6:

- Read at least 3 Books or 800 Pages
- Three Activities

Visit the summer reading website for more information!

<https://sites.google.com/worcesterschools.net/summerreading>

## Notice and Note Stop and ask yourself...

**Contrasts & Contradictions:** When a character says or does something that is opposite (contradicts) what you expect them to do ask yourself, "Why is the character acting this way?" This could help you make a prediction or an inference about the plot and conflict.

**Again & Again:** When notice a word, phrase, object, or situation mentioned over and over again, ask yourself, "Why does this keep showing up again and again?" This will tell you about the theme and conflict, or it might foreshadow what will happen later.

**Memory Moment:** When the author interrupts the action with a flashback to the past and tells you a memory, ask yourself, "Why might this memory be important?" This will tell you about the theme, conflict, or it might foreshadow what will happen later.

**Aha Moment:** When a character realizes, understands, or finally figures something out, ask yourself, "How might this change things?" If the character solved a problem you discovered the conflict; if the character understood a life lesson, you discovered a theme.

**Words of the Wiser:** When a character takes the main character aside and gives advice, ask yourself, "What's the life lesson, and how might it affect the character?" Whatever the lesson is, you've probably found a theme for the story.

**Tough Questions:** When a character asks himself a difficult question, ask yourself, "What does this question make me wonder about?" This will help you predict will happen later in the story.

(Adapted from *Notice and Note* by Kylene Beers.)

## The Super 7 Effective Reading Habits

**Make Connections:** When I read I think "That reminds me of..."

**Create Images:** When I read "I picture in my mind..."

**Infer:** Even though it isn't said in the text, when I read "I know..." "I think..." or "I am guessing that..." or "I predict..."

**Monitor for Meaning:** When I get confused when I read "I can..." and "Let me review what I know..."

**Determine Importance:** When I read "I know the detail I just read is important because..."

**Synthesize:** When I read I notice things are connected and "I know this is a big idea because..." or "Aha..."

**Questioning:** When I read I ask myself questions about the book such as "I wonder why..." or "I am curious about..."



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## WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# Summer Reading



For Students Entering  
Grades 5 and 6

2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Summer reading is an exciting opportunity for students to enjoy good books. When children discuss books with their parents/guardians they build new language skills, knowledge, and experiences. The Worcester Public Schools summer reading program includes a suggested reading list. Please encourage your child to explore different types of books and to read for at least 20 minutes each day. Students should submit their summer reading assignments to their teacher when school opens.

Please visit the WPS summer reading website for additional information! You can also download copies of all summer reading materials. Reading together this summer helps set the stage for future success in schooling. We appreciate your support!

### Requirement for Grades 5 and 6:

- Read at least 3 Books or 800 Pages
- Three Activities

Happy Reading!

Maureen Binienda  
Superintendent of Schools

Visit for more Information:

<https://sites.google.com/worcesterschools.net/summerreading>

### **Fantasy and Science Fiction (Books and Authors)**

Artemis Fowl (series) by Colfer  
Books of a Thousand Days by Hale  
Dragon Castle by Bruchac  
Dragonsong (trilogy) by McCaffrey  
47 by Mosley  
Gregor the Overlander (series) by Collins  
Half Magic by Eager  
Harry Potter (series) by Rowling  
Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III (series) by Cowell  
Jinx (series) by Blackwood  
Mister Monday (series) by Nix  
Secrets of Droon (series) by Abbott  
The Blue Sword by McKinley  
The Books of Elsewhere (series) by West  
The Night Fairy by Schlitz  
The Sisters Grimm (series) by Buckley  
Zita the Spacegirl (series) by Hatke  
Warrior (series) by Hunter

Alexander, Lloyd  
Avi  
Babbitt, Natalie  
Collins, Suzanne  
Cooper, Susan  
Coville, Bruce  
Dahl, Roald  
DuPrau, Jeanne  
Haddix, Mararet  
Ibbotson, Eva  
Jacques, Brian  
Tolkien, J.R.R.  
Levine, Gail  
L'Engle Madeleine  
Lewis, C.S.  
Lowry, Lois  
Naylor, Phyllis  
O'Brien, Robert  
Pierce, Tamora  
Riordan, Rick  
Rowling, J.K.  
Rylant, Cynthia  
Yep, Laurence  
Yolen, Jane

### **Poetry (Books and Authors)**

A Visit to William Blake's  
Inn by Willard  
Dark Emperor and Other Poems  
of the Night by Sidman  
Hip Hop Speaks to Children:  
A Celebration of Poetry with a  
Beat by Giovanni  
My Chinatown by Mak  
The Great Migration: Journey to  
the North by Greenfield  
The 20<sup>th</sup> Century Children's  
Poetry Treasury by Prelutsky  
Berry, James  
Dahl, Roald  
Fleischman, Paul  
Florian, Douglas  
Giovanni, Nikki  
Hopkins, Lee Bennett  
Hughes, Langston  
Myers, Walter  
Prelutsky, Jack  
Silverstein, Shel

### **Folktales, Fairy Tales and Legends**

Egg and Spoon by Maguire  
Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: A Worldwide Cinderella by  
Fleischman  
Just So Stories by Kipling  
More Bones: Scary Stories from Around the World by Olson  
Nelson Mandela's Favorite African Folktales by Mandela  
Pegasus by Mayer  
Red Butterfly by Noyes  
The Blue Fairy Book (series) by Lang  
The Nightingale by Anderson  
Will in Scarlet by Cody  
Aesop  
Bruchac, Joseph  
Hamilton, Virginia  
Osborne, Mary Pope  
San Souci, Robert  
Schwartz, Alvin  
Yep, Laurence

### **Biography/Autobiography (Books and Authors)**

A Volcano Beneath the Snow: John Brown's War Against  
Slavery by Marrin  
Balloons Over Broadway: The True Story of the Puppeteer of  
Macy's Parade by Sweet  
Barnum's Bones: How Barnum Brown Discovered the Most  
Famous Dinosaur in the World by Fern  
Freedom Riders: John Lewis and Jim Zwerg on the Front Lines  
by Bausum;  
Nurse, Soldier, Spy: The Story of Sarah Edmonds, Civil War  
Hero by Moss  
Roberto Clemente: Pride of the Pittsburgh Pirates by Winter  
Shining Star: The Anna May Wong Story by Yee  
The Cat with the Yellow Star: Coming of Age in Terezin by  
Rubin and Weissberger  
The Journey that Saved Curious George: The True Wartime  
Escape of Margret and H.A. Rey by Borden  
The Pilot and the Little Prince: The Life of Antoine de Saint  
Exupery by Sis  
Blumberg, Rhoda  
Fradin, Dennis  
Freedman, Russell  
Fritz, Jean  
Krull, Kathleen  
Lasky, Kathryn  
Meltzer, Milton  
Morris, Deborah  
Myers, Walter Dean  
Stanley, Diane  
Weidt, Maryann

### **Informational (Books and Authors)**

Black Gold: The Story of Oil  
in Our Lives by Marrin  
Bomb: The Race to Build—and  
Steal—the World's Most  
Dangerous Weapon by Sheinkin  
Bones Never Lie: How Forensics  
Helps Solve History's  
Mysteries by MacLeod  
Bugged: How Insects Changed  
History by Albee  
Buried Beneath Us: Discovering  
the Ancient Cities of the  
Americas by Aveni  
Buried Sunlight: How Fossil  
Fuels Have Changed the Earth  
by Bang  
Millions, Billions & Trillions:  
Understanding Big Numbers  
by Adler  
Separate is Never Equal  
by Tonatiuh  
Shimmer & Splash: The  
Sparkling World of Sea Life by  
Arnosky  
Trapped: How the World Rescued  
33 Miners from 2,000 Feet Below  
the Chilean Desert by Aronson  
Cobb, Vicki  
Fradin, Dennis  
Freedman, Russell  
Fritz, Jean  
Krull, Kathleen  
Lauber, Patricia  
Locker, Thomas  
Macaulay, David  
Meltzer, Milton  
Myers, Walter Dean  
Murphy, Jim  
Pringle, Laurence  
Rappaport, Doreen  
Eyewitness Series

### **Mystery (Authors)**

Bellairs, John  
George, Jean C.  
Kehret, Peg  
Lawrence, Caroline  
Skurzynski, Gloria  
Snyder, Zilpha  
Stolz, Mary  
Strickland, Brad  
Van Draanen, W.  
Wright, Betty Ren  
Yep, Laurence  
Nancy Drew Series  
by Carolyn Keene  
Hardy Boys Series  
by Franklin W. Dixon

### **Fiction (Books and Authors)**

Acting Out by Avi  
Also Known as Harbor by Leal  
Bamboo People by Perkins  
Best Friends by Wilson  
Divergent by Roth  
Double Identity by Haddix  
Drama by Telgemeier  
Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie by Sonnenblick  
Emma Jean Lazarus Fell Out of a Tree by Tarshis  
Feathers by Woodson  
Hatchet by Paulsen  
Hoot by Hiaasen  
Jack Henry (series) by Gantos  
Keeping the Night Watch by Smith  
Lily's Crossing by Reilly  
Make Lemonade by Wolff  
Maze Runner by Dashner  
Percy Jackson and the Olympians  
by Riordan  
Return to Sender by Alvarez;  
Slob by Potter  
So B It by Weeks  
The Adventures of Ulysses by Evslin  
The Boy on the Wooden Box by Leyson  
The Egypt Game by Snyder  
The Lunar Chronicles by Meyer  
The Tales of Beedle the Bard by Rowling  
39 Clues by various authors  
Alvarez, Julia  
Alcott, Louisa May  
Avi  
Banks, Lynne Reid  
Blume, Judy  
Byars, Betsy  
Clements, Andrew  
Crech, Sharon  
Danziger, Paula  
DiCamillo, Kate  
Fox, Paula  
Gantos, Jack  
George, Jean C.  
Hamilton, Virginia  
Henkes, Kevin  
Hurwitz, Johanna  
Konigsburg, E.L.  
Korman, Gordon  
Lowry, Lois  
Montgomery, L.M.  
Myers, Walter Dean  
Naylor, Phyllis  
Park, Barbara  
Paterson, Katherine  
Paulsen, Gary  
Peck, Robert  
Rylant, Cynthia  
Sachar, Louis  
Snicket, Lemony  
Soto, Gary  
Spinelli, Jerry  
Stolz, Mary  
Voigt, Cynthia  
Whelan, Gloria

### **Historical Fiction (Books and Authors)**

Bo at Ballard Creek  
by Hill  
Breaking Stalin's  
Nose by Yelchin  
Incantation by  
Hoffman  
Number the Stars  
by Lowry  
Song of the Trees  
by Taylor  
The Firefly Letters  
by Engle  
The Great Trouble  
by Hopkinson  
The Mighty Miss  
Malone by Curtis  
The Sixties Trilogy  
(series) by Wiles  
Unstoppable Octobia  
May by Flake  
Avi  
Berry, James  
Bruchac, Joseph  
Curtis, Christopher  
Cushman, Karen  
Dorris, Michael  
Fritz, Jean  
Hesse, Karen  
Hobbs, Will  
Koller, Jackie French  
Levine, Gail  
Lowry, Lois  
MacLachlan, Patricia  
O'Dell, Scott  
Paterson, Katherine  
Peck, Robert  
Ryan Pam Munoz  
Speare, Elizabeth  
Spinelli, Jerry  
Taylor, Mildred  
Wilder, Laura Ingalls  
Wolf, Virginia  
Yolen, Jane