

Summer Reading 2009-2010 Pikesville High School

The following chart contains some titles in our curriculum along with popular titles that may interest you this summer. The titles are organized to help you decide what area of interest you have for your future.

You are encouraged to read **three** of these books in anticipation of the start of school. Most of these books are available in the public library.

Students enrolled in AP Language and AP Literature will receive a separate summer reading assignment.

Why summer reading?

- Summer reading is a valuable way to improve vocabulary.
- Reading daily improves academic concentration.
- Reading daily helps students perform better on the SAT critical reading and writing sections.
- Reading daily improves knowledge of the world.
- Many of these works are read in the BCPS curriculum throughout the year; therefore, reading them will help you prepare for the school year.

How will you be assessed?

If you do not read during the summer, you will be expected to read one of these titles during the month of September in preparation for the assessment described below. Toward the end of September, **all sections** of English classes will be practicing an SAT essay. The writing sections of the SAT will contain an argument essay, and writers of the essay are encouraged to use their readings, observations, and experiences. As part of your response, you will be writing about one of the books you read.

During the first few weeks of school, classes will study the books listed below. Students are encouraged to read these books over the summer in order to prepare for the start of school.

Grade 9 G/T:

To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee

Grade 9 H/S:

The Contender, Robert Lipsyte

Grade 10 G/T:

Siddhartha, Herman Hesse

Grade 10:

Animal Farm, George Orwell

Grade 11:

A Lesson Before Dying, Ernest Gaines

Grade 12:

The Lord of the Flies, William Golding

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The Young Adult Library Services Association and the *American Library Association* also recommend these titles:

History:

Poets of World War II, various writers.

The Farming of Bones, Edwidge Danticat

Troy, Adele Geras

The Dream: Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Speech that Inspired a Nation, Drew Hansen

The Modern Mind: An Intellectual History of the 20th Century, Peter Watson.

Humanities:

Bee Season, Myla Goldberg

The Vibe History of Hip Hop, Alan Light

Whale Talk, Chris Crutcher

Literature:

A Rose that Grew from Concrete, Tupac Shakur

Caramelo, Sandra Cisneros

In the Time of the Butterflies, Julia Alvarez

Life is Funny, E.R. Frank

The Bean Trees, Barbara Kingsolver

Social Sciences:

Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal, Eric Schlosser

Geeks: How Two Lost Boys Rode the Internet out of Idaho, Jon Katz

Kite Runner, Khaled Hosseini

Sugar's Life in the Hood: The Story of a Former

True Notebooks, Mark Salzman

Welfare Mother, Sugar Turner and Tracy Ehlers

Science and Math:

A Short History of Nearly Everything, Bill Bryson

In Code: A Mathematical Journey, Sarah Flannery

Inventing Modern America: From the Microwave to the Mouse, David Brown.

Most Astonishing Number, Mario Livio.

The Universe in a Nutshell, Stephen Hawking

The Sand-Reckoner, Gillian Bradshaw