

West Hartford Middle Schools

Summer Reading



Summer - 2009

West Hartford Middle Schools Summer Reading 2009

To Parents and Students:

To promote a student's lifelong interest in reading, the English, reading and library media professionals at Bristow, King Philip and Sedgwick Middle Schools encourage parents and students to devote a portion of their summer to reading. All students entering 6th, 7th, and 8th grade must read one or more books prior to the start of the school year. We suggest that students select a book by one of the authors included in this brochure. Additionally, students should be encouraged to explore other authors on their own.

When students return to school in September, they will be assessed on their summer reading. Opportunities for discussion and reflection on common themes are a goal of the summer reading assignment. As an aid to comprehension a variety of graphic organizers are located at the end of this brochure and on the summer reading web site: <http://www.whps.org/library/summerreading.htm>













Students may want to choose books with their friends, perhaps using a Book Club format, which would provide further motivation to read. We encourage parents to read with their children, showing them that reading is a pleasurable activity. Books written by these authors are available at town libraries and local bookstores.

Since authors sometimes write for a variety of audiences and age levels, students should follow any guidelines for selecting books that their parents/guardians have established.



Book Selection Tips

If you need some help finding a good book to read, then ask yourself the following questions.

-  What is the title of the last book that you read and enjoyed?
-  Do you enjoy long books or short stories?
-  Do you have a favorite author?
-  Have you read anything recently that you did not like?
-  What was the last movie that you watched?
-  Do you prefer fiction or nonfiction?
-  What characteristics do you prefer in your reading? For example, do you like a book with a fast-moving plot or one with strong characters?
-  Have you tried reading the summary of the book on the inside flap of the book cover or the back of the book?
-  What does your teacher recommend?
-  What does your school library media specialist recommend?
-  What does the town librarian recommend?
-  What do your friends recommend?



2009 Middle School Summer Reading

2010 Nutmeg Book Award Nominees

Intermediate—Grades 4-6

Archer's Quest by Linda Sue Park

Attack of the Turtle by Drew Carlson

A Dog's Life: The Autobiography of a Stray by Ann M. Martin

Double Identity by Margaret Peterson Haddix

Drita, My Homegirl by Jenny Lombard

The Ghost's Grave by Peg Kehret

Paint the Wind by Pam Munoz Ryan

Rules by Cynthia Lord

The Stumptown Kid by Carol Gorman and Ron Findley

The Year of the Dog by Grace Lin

Teen—Grades 7-8

Accidental Love by Gary Soto

Code Orange by Caroline Cooney

Crackback by John Coy

Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie by Jordan Sonnenblick

Epic by Conor Kostick

Eyes of the Emperor by Graham Salisbury

Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life by Wendy Maas

Life As We Knew It by Susan Beth Pfeffer

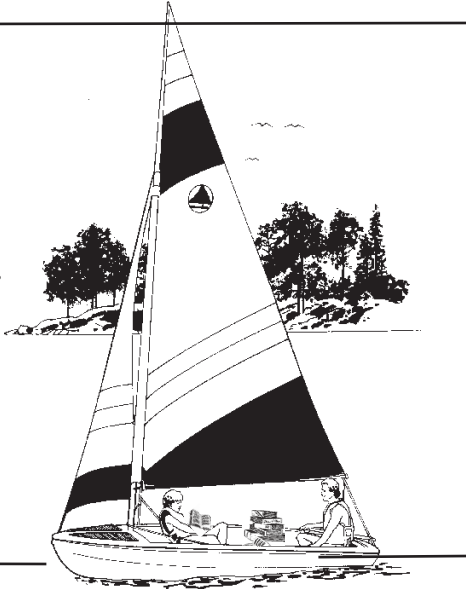
Pieces of Georgia by Jen Bryant

Skulduggery Pleasant by Derek Landy

For more information about these books visit:

<http://www.nutmegaward.org>

Summer Reading List



Humor

Clements, Andrew
Coville, Bruce
Gantos, Jack
Hiaasen, Carl
Kinney, Jeff
Pratchett, Terry
Sachar, Louis
Sleator, William
Van Draanen, Wendelin

Adventure

Horowitz, Anthony (Stormbreaker series)
Korman, Gordon (Adventure trilogies)
Mazer, Norma Fox
Namioka, Lensey
Napoli, Donna Jo
Paulsen, Gary
Shusterman, Neal
Yolen, Jane

Classic Adventures

Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson
Robinson Crusoe by Daniel DeFoe
Kidnapped by Robert Louis Stevenson
20,000 Leagues Under the Sea by Jules Verne

Mystery

Abrahams, Peter
Bellairs, John
Cooney, Caroline B.
Dixon, Franklin (Hardy Boys series)
Keene, Carolyn (Nancy Drew series)
Kehret, Peg
Korman, Gordon (On the Run series)
Nixon, Joan Lowery
Van Draanen, Wendelin (Sammy Keyes series)
VanDe Velde, Vivian



Fantasy

Avi
Barron, T. A.
Bell, Hilari
Byng, Georgia (Molly Moon series)
Colfer, Eoin
D'Lacey, Chris
Farmer, Nancy
Funke, Cornelia
Hunter, Erin
Ibbotson, Eva
Kessler, Liz (Emily Windsnap series)
L'Engle, Madeleine
Nimmo, Jenny (Charlie Bone series)
Paolini, Christopher
Pierce, Tamora (Circle of Magic series)
Riordan, Rick
Skye, Obert (Leven Thumps series)
Stroud, Jonathan (Bartimaeus trilogy)
Yep, Laurence

Science Fiction

Abela, Deborah
Armstrong, Jennifer
Armstrong, Kevin (Star Wars series)
Asimov, Isaac
Cabot, Meg (Mediator series)
Card, Orson Scott (Ender's Game, Ender's Shadow series)
Coville, Bruce
DuPrau, Jeanne (Books of Ember)
Farmer, Nancy
Haddix, Margaret Peterson (Children of the Shadows series)
MacHale, D. J. (Pendragon series)
Pullman, Phillip
Waugh, Sylvia (Ormingat trilogy)



Realistic Fiction

Bauer, Joan
Cabot, Meg (Princess series)
Creech, Sharon
Dowell, Frances O’Roarke
Draper, Sharon
Mikaelsen, Ben
Myers, Walter Dean
Paterson, Katherine
Spinelli, Jerry

Historical Fiction

Blackwood, Gary
Collier, James Lincoln
Curtis, Christopher Paul
Cushman, Karen
Dear America books – various authors
Hansen, Joyce
Hesse, Karen
Karr, Kathleen
Lasky, Kathryn
Mazer, Harry
Peck, Richard
Rinaldi, Ann
Selznick, Brian

Sports Stories

Christopher, Matt
Deuker, Carl
Dygaard, Thomas
Feinstein, John
Gutman, Dan
Lipsyte, Robert
Lupica, Mike
Myers, Walter Dean
Ritter, John H.
Wallace, Rich (Winning Season series)
Weaver, Will
Withers, Pam (Xtreme Sports series)



Science

Grossology by Sylvia Branzei
Math Doesn’t Suck: How to Survive Middle School Without Losing your Mind or Breaking a Nail by Danica McKellar
Oh Yuck! The Encyclopedia of Everything Nasty!
by Joy Masoff
What a Great Idea- Inventions That Changed the World
by Stephen Tomecek

Social Studies

Black Diamond by Patricia and Fred McKissack
Blizzard: The Storm That Changed America by Jim Murphy
Fields of Fury: The American Civil War James McPherson
Give Me Liberty! The Story of the Declaration of Independence by Russell Freedman
Oh Yikes! Histories Grossest Moments by Joy Masoff



Reading Suggestions

If you are looking for more reading suggestions please try these web sites.

Carol Hurst's Children's Literature Site

Book Review for 6th Grade

<http://www.carolhurst.com/titles/6th.html>

Book Reviews for 7th Grade

<http://www.carolhurst.com/titles/7th.html>

Book Reviews for 8th Grade

<http://www.carolhurst.com/titles/8th.html>

Children's and Young Adult Fiction Set in Connecticut

<http://ct.webjunction.org/510/articles/content/1090809>

International Reading Association Choices Booklists

<http://www.reading.org/Resources/Booklists.aspx>

Scroll down to select either Children's Choices or Young Adult's Choices.

Newbery Award Books

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/newberymedal/newberymedal.cfm>

View the current year or scroll down to the link to Newbery Medal and Honor Books 1922-Present.

Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

<http://www.socialstudies.org/resources/notable/?print-friendly=true>

Scroll down and select lists by year.

Outstanding Science Trade Books for Students K-12

<http://www.nsta.org/publications/ostb/>

Scroll down and select lists by year.

Teachers and Families: Reading Lists

<http://www.teachersandfamilies.com/open/summerread.html>

Developed by teachers for students and their parents this site was created by the Network for Instructional TV, Inc. (NITV). This section on reading lists provides access to reading lists by grade level, reading themes, lifetime reading list and author's last name. A link at the bottom of the page links to a section entitled *Reading Tips for Parents*.



Double Entry Journal

(Prepare by folding a piece of white lined paper vertically)

Left Side

Copy anywhere from two to five phrases or sentences from your reading. Align each one with a comment on the right. You could pick any passage that you find:

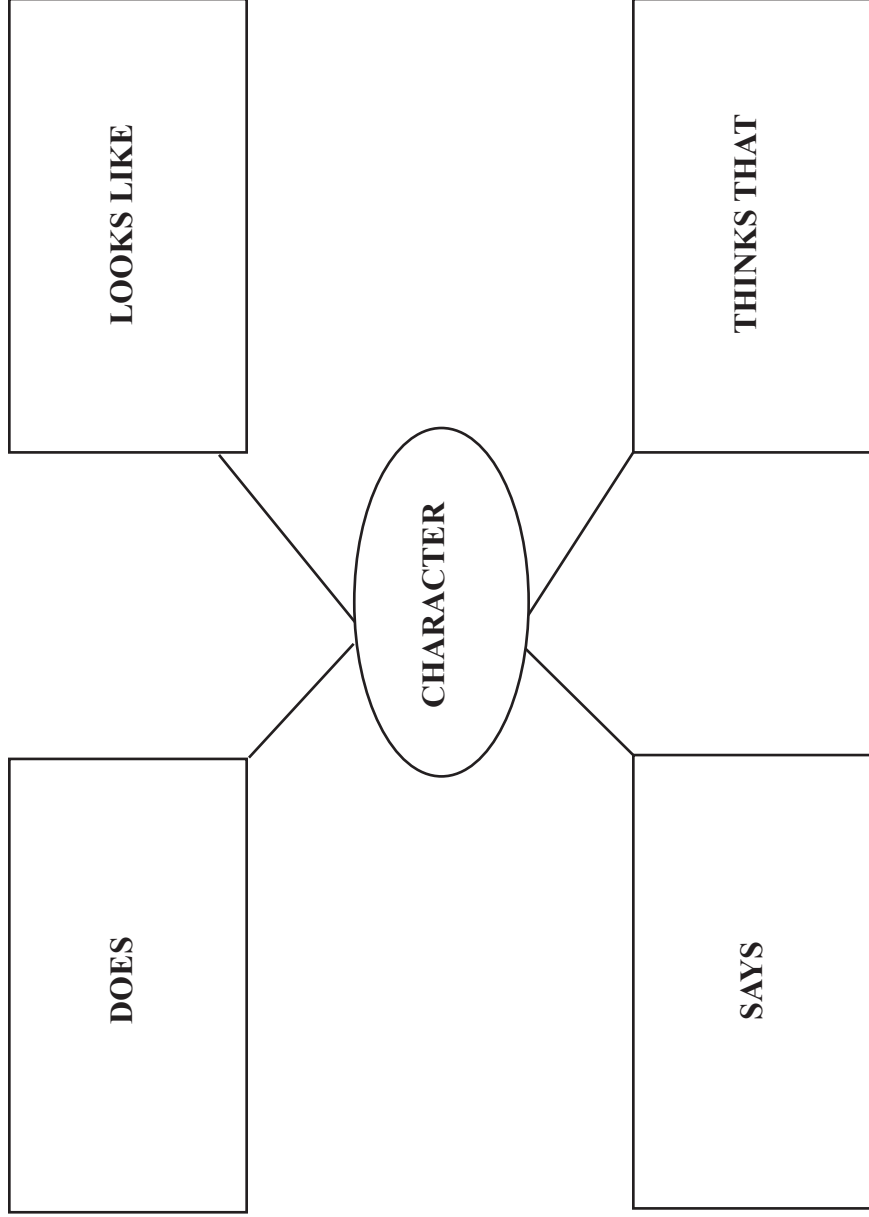
- important
- interesting
- an example of colorful writing
- thought-provoking
- confusing

Right Side

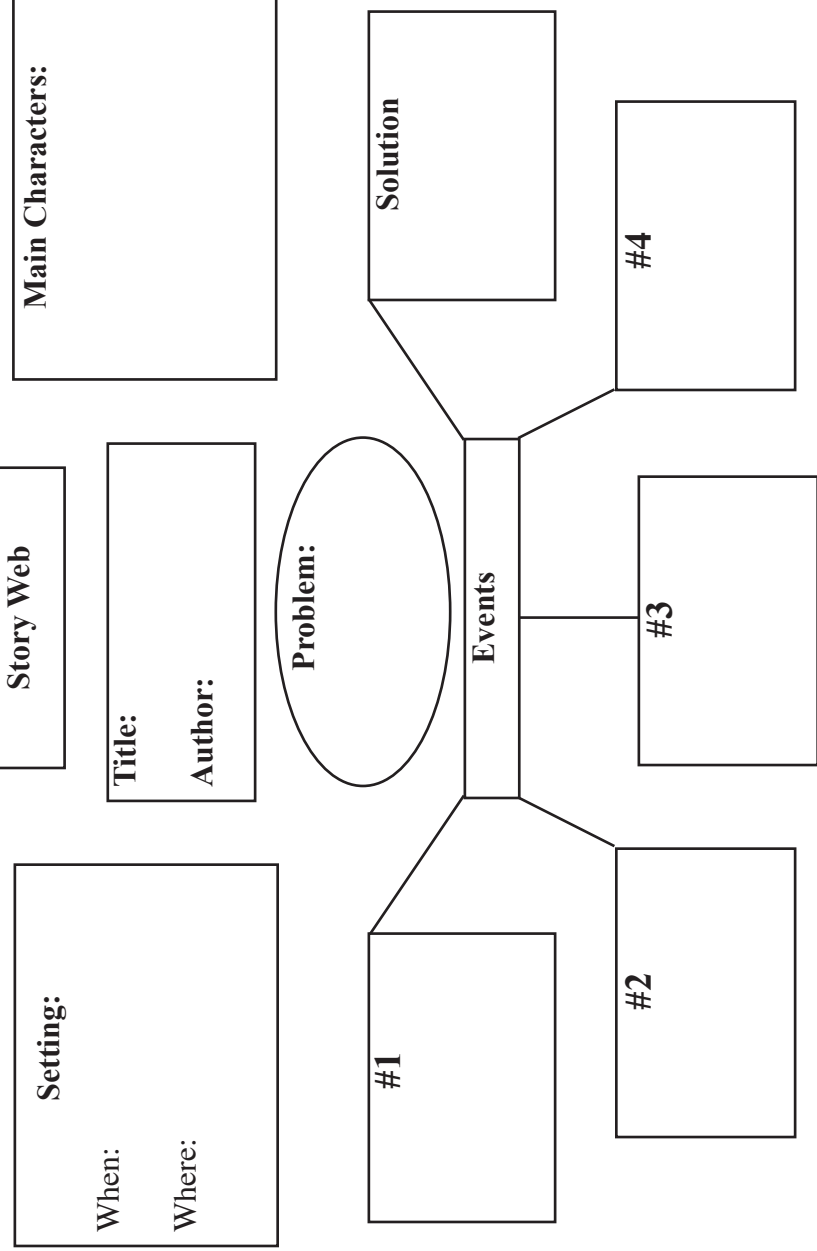
Consider and respond to what you copied on the left side. Responses can be:

- a comment or reflection on the passage
- a connection to a personal experience of yours or what it reminds you of
- a connection to another book
- an explanation of what you think it means
- a prediction of what you think is going to happen next
- an explanation of why this quote is important to the book
- a thought-provoking question based on this quote
- something you learned from this passage
- the picture inside your head looks like...
- An "I wonder how (why, who, when, where, what...)"





Name: _____



*Thank you
to the
West Hartford Public Library
for their continued support
of the
Summer Reading Program.*

