

May 2024

Dear Middle School Parents and Students,

As we approach the summer break, I want to emphasize the tremendous importance of summer reading for Middle School students. Summer is an excellent opportunity for students to explore new worlds, expand their knowledge, and enhance their literacy skills in a relaxed and enjoyable way.

Welcome to the 2024 Summer Reading Guide for 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade. Here you will find a list of book choices for English as well as instructions for the activities/projects we ask each student to complete for the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year. You will also find a link to the Summer Reading Google Classroom.

Please plan to acquire your student's summer reading choices on your own: new or used, borrowed from a friend or the public library. Traditional paperback, ebook, Kindle, or audiobooks are also acceptable. Unless a specific edition or translation is indicated, any copy will suffice. We hope that you are able to choose books that grab your interest and take you on an adventure!

Engaging in regular reading during the summer months has numerous benefits. It helps prevent the "summer slide," where students may lose some of the academic progress they made during the school year. By reading regularly, students can maintain and even improve their reading comprehension, vocabulary, and critical thinking skills.

Moreover, summer reading opens doors to new ideas, cultures, and perspectives. It fosters creativity, empathy, and a love for learning that extends beyond the classroom. Whether it's fiction, non-fiction, or a mix of both, every book read over the summer contributes to intellectual growth and prepares students for success in the upcoming school year.

Let's make this summer a season of discovery through the power of reading!

Warm regards,



Kathryn Boero
Middle School Head and Compass Team Director



2024 SRC Summer Reading Resources

Need to find summer reading books?

SRC Website

<https://www.prairieschoolsrc.com/>

*Access catalog and Sora tutorial videos on the website [here](#)

*Use drop down menus to access summer reading lists for each division.

Destiny Discover Library Catalog (print)



<https://bit.ly/srcdestiny>

**You must be logged in to request holds on books and view your account information.

For Grades 5-12

Username: school email address

Password: 1234

Example

mweaver01@prairieschool.com

1234

*Passwords can be changed and reset by Mckenzie Weaver, Director of the SRC. Please email [Mrs. Weaver](#) to make any password changes.

*Parents/Guardians are welcome to have their own SRC accounts. Please email [Mrs. Weaver](#) to request an account.

WI Schools Digital Library Catalog (WDDL) + Sora app (ebooks and digital audiobooks)



<https://bit.ly/digitalsrc>

*Use your school Google account as login on a phone, iPad, or Chromebook.

You can also link your digital public library catalog with your public library card number and pin to your Sora app.

Summer Reading One Pager

"I think of life as a good book. The further you get into it, the more it begins to make sense."
-- Harold Kushner

Choose any two of the following books to read.

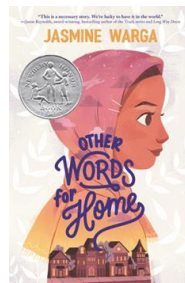
You will complete a ROUGH DRAFT of a one pager for one book.

When we return to school you will finish your final draft of your one pager for your first book and complete a writing assignment in class for your second book. **Google Classroom Code: dl6s7h7**

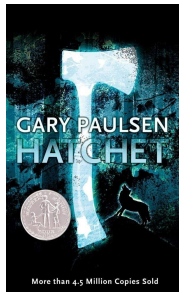
Please note that if you are taking the Summer Reading Class, we are reading *Eleven*. Contact [Mrs. Gasser](#), MS English Teacher with any questions.



Eleven – Alex Douglas always wanted to be a hero. But nothing heroic ever happened to Alex. Nothing, that is, until his eleventh birthday. When Alex rescues a stray dog as a birthday gift to himself, he doesn't think his life can get much better. This is a story about bullies and heroes. About tragedy and hope. This is *Eleven*: the journey of a boy turning eleven on 9/11.



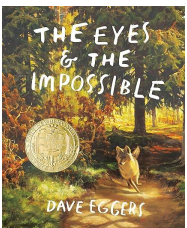
Other Words for Home – Jude never thought she'd be leaving her beloved older brother and father behind, all the way across the ocean in Syria. But when things in her hometown start becoming volatile, Jude and her mother are sent to live in Cincinnati with relatives. At first, everything in America seems too fast and too loud. But this life also brings unexpected surprises—Maybe America, too, is a place where Jude can be seen as she really is.



Hatchet – Thirteen-year-old Brian Robeson, haunted by his secret knowledge of his mother's infidelity, is traveling by single-engine plane to visit his father for the first time since the divorce. When the plane crashes, killing the pilot, the sole survivor is Brian. He is alone in the Canadian wilderness with nothing but his clothing, a tattered windbreaker, and the hatchet his mother had given him as a present.



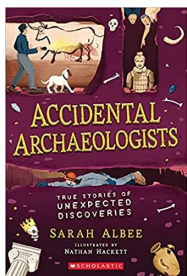
Among the Hidden – Luke has never been to school. He's never had a birthday party, or gone to a friend's house for an overnight. In fact, Luke has never had a friend. Luke is one of the shadow children, a third child forbidden by the Population Police. He's lived his entire life in hiding, and now, he is no longer even allowed to go outside. Then, one day Luke sees a girl's face in the window of a house where he knows two other children already live. Finally, he's met a shadow child like himself. Jen is willing to risk everything to come out of the shadows – does Luke dare to become involved in her dangerous plan?



The Eyes and the Impossible – The story of a dog named Johannes. Johannes is a free dog, a fast dog—such a fast dog! He lives in an urban park by the sea, and every day, he runs through the park, seeing all, missing nothing, and reporting what he sees to the park's three ancient Bison, the Keepers of the Equilibrium. But the Equilibrium has been disrupted.



Front Desk – Mia Tang has a lot of secrets. Number 1: She lives in a motel, not a big house. Every day, while her immigrant parents clean the rooms, ten-year-old Mia manages the front desk of the Calivista Motel and tends to its guests. Number 2: Her parents hide immigrants. And if the mean motel owner, Mr. Yao, finds out they've been letting them stay in the empty rooms for free, the Tangs will be doomed. Number 3: She wants to be a writer. But how can she when her mom thinks she should stick to math because English is not her first language? It will take all of Mia's courage, kindness, and hard work to get through this year. Will she be able to hold on to her job, help the immigrants, escape Mr. Yao, and go for her dreams?



Accidental Archaeologists – Secret treasures are buried all around us – you just have to look for them! *Accidental Archaeologists* takes you on an adventure through time to relive some of the coolest surprise discoveries by totally ordinary people all over the world.



Thirst – Minni lives in the poorest part of Mumbai, where access to water is limited to a few hours a day and the communal taps have long lines. Lately, though, even that access is threatened by severe water shortages and thieves who are stealing this precious commodity—an act that Minni accidentally witnesses one night. How did something as simple as access to water get so complicated?

Assignment:

Summer Reading One Pager Project

This summer you will be reading two summer reading books from the summer reading list. **For one book, you will complete a one-page project. This is your rough draft; we will complete a final draft in school. Please do your best to complete the rough draft so you have your words written down and a sketch of pictures.** Read a second book from the list, and we will complete an activity in class at the beginning of the school year.

Title & Author

Include the following:

- title of your book
- author of the book
- A symbol to represent your book

Setting

Include the following:

- Share when the story took place
- Share where the story took place
- Include a symbol or picture to represent the setting

Conflict & Resolution

Include the following:

- Major conflict in your book
- Include a picture/symbol to represent the conflict
- A resolution to the conflict
- Include a picture/symbol to represent the resolution

Character/Favorite Part of the Book

Include the following:

- Share a favorite character from the story
- Tell me three reasons why they are your favorite character
- Include a picture or symbol to represent your character
- OR
- Share your favorite part of the book
- Tell me three reasons why this part of the book was your favorite
- Include a picture or symbol to represent this part of the book

“Lesson learned from the story”

Include the following

- Share what the character learned from this book.
- Share why this lesson is important
- Include a symbol or picture to go with your writing.

Things to consider:

- Use the provided graphic organizers to help you.

- Please do your best on your drawings; tracing is okay.

Symbols are great if you have a hard time drawing lots of detail.

- Use color. Colored pencils often look better than markers (or a combination of both). Shading in the background of your pennant would look great too!
- Make sure to check for spelling mistakes and capital letters.
- I have included a few extra pennants in your pack, in case you mess up. I also have included this in our Summer Reading Google Classroom if you need more!
- If you are stuck or have questions, always feel free to email me. I check my email regularly throughout the summer and would be happy to help!
- We will assemble these pennants in class when we return in the fall. Feel free to put them back in this folder and return the entire folder to school.
- We will put the pennants together in class, so return your folders with the pennants completed inside.

*****This list can be found in your student's Google Classroom under 6th Grade Summer Reading.*****

