

Talk About It:

Part of growing as a reader is learning how to think while you read. Ask each other questions before, during, and after reading:

- What was most important about what we just read?
- How did the characters change over time?
- What was your favorite part of that section?
- Did you read anything that might impact your life? How?
- Does this text remind you of something you have read, seen, or heard before? How?



Get Caught Reading:

Set an example by reading in public. Let everyone see you reading a newspaper or browsing through a novel on the beach or beside the pool. Live up chore time or meal time by taking turns working while one person reads aloud a favorite book or an exciting new novel. Have fun!

Why should students read during the summer?

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, faculty members Richard Allington and Anne McGill-Franzen have completed a three-year study showing that students lose up to three months of learning every summer—skills they worked hard to acquire during the school year. However, the study showed a significantly higher level of reading achievement in students who took part in summer reading at home.

Allington compares the slide in reading ability to an athlete's fitness. "Just like hockey players lose some of their skills if they stay off their skates and off the ice for three months, children who do not read in the summer lose two to three months of reading development," Allington said.

- from <http://www.sciencedaily.com/>

Read more about it:

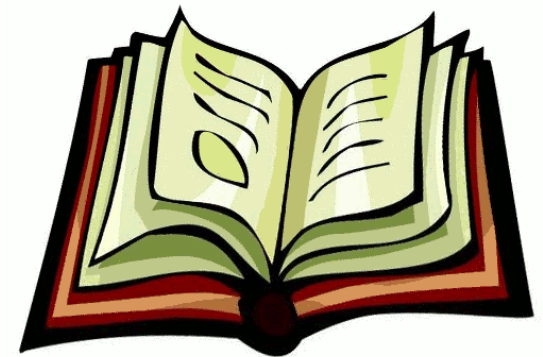
<http://intl.kappanmagazine.org/content/85/1/68.short>

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/article/bridging-summer-reading-gap>

Berkeley County School District

Summer Reading

Rising English I Students



"Isn't it odd how much fatter a book gets when you've read it several times?" Mo had said..."As if something were left between the pages every time you read it. Feelings, thoughts, sounds, smells...and then, when you look at the book again many years later, you find yourself there, too, a slightly younger self, slightly different, as if the book had preserved you like a pressed flower...both strange and familiar."

- Author *Cornelia Funke*

Theme:

Defining Heroism



The Themes

Many of the things students will read and write in English I explore the idea of what it means to be a hero, what actions one might take that define one as an antihero, and what we can learn from the experiences of both. Some of the books on these lists are more challenging than others, but all explore these themes through events (plot), characters, and conflicts.

Summer Reading Project

Consult with teachers and/or teacher librarians to choose one book from each list (fiction and informational) or other titles from each genre that fit the theme. With parent approval of the choices, students will read the two books over the summer.

All rising 8th grade GT (**HONORS** English I) students will read *The Giver* in addition to a second selection with the shared theme of Utopia or dystopia, many of which appear on this brochure. Teachers of **HONORS** English I classes taught on the high school campus will choose one title from the brochure for required summer reading in addition to a second title (chosen by student or teacher) from the brochure or another source, for a total of two selections for **HONORS** classes. Each school will share rewards and expectations for when school starts. Have a great summer and enjoy the magic of books!

Fiction Texts such as:

- *Ender's Game*, Orson Scott Card (E)
- **Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes* or **Whale Talk*, Chris Crutcher (and other titles by this author) (J)
- *Gone*, Michael Grant (and others in this series) (J)
- *I am the Messenger*, Markus Suzak (E, J)
- *The Devil's Paintbox*, Victoria McKernan (E)
- *The Silenced*, James Devita
- *Divergent*, Veronica Roth (and others in this series) (J)
- *The Mortal Instruments*, Cassandra Clare (and others in this series) (J)
- *Code Talker*, Joseph Bruchac
- *Flowers for Algernon*, Daniel Keyes (T, E, J)
- **Sunrise Over Fallujah*, Walter Dean Myers (E)
- **The Fault in Our Stars*, John Greene (E)
- *Diary of a Teenage Superhero*, Darrell Pitt (and others in this series)
- *The Hiding Place*, Corrie Ten Boom (T, J)
- *Hero*, Mike Lupica (E)
- **Lord of the Flies*, William Golding
- *A Tale of Two Cities*, Charles Dickens (T, E)
- *Stuck in Neutral*, Terry Trueman (J)
- *Endangered*, Eliot Schrefer (E)
- *A Day no Pigs Would Die*, Robert Newton Peck (T)
- *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, Betty Smith (T, J)
- *The Call of the Wild*, Jack London (T, J) (and others by this author)
- *Horatio Hornblower*, C.S. Forester (T) (and others by this author)
- *Fellowship of the Ring*, *The Two Towers*, *Return of the King*, J.R.R. Tolkien (and others by this author) (J)

These books and others like them are available not only in school libraries, but also in your public libraries and local book stores.

Informational Texts such as:

- *50 American Heroes Every Kid Should Meet*, Dennis Denenberg
- *Dare to Dream: 25 Extraordinary Lives*, Sarah McLeod Humphrey (E)
- *100 Famous Americans Who Changed American History*, Samuel Crompton (and others in that series)
- *100 Scientists Who Changed the World*, John Tiner
- *Great African Americans*, Allison Keyes
- *Extraordinary Hispanic Americans*, Cesar Alegre
- **Lone Survivor*, Marcus Luttrell (E)
- *Into Thin Air*, Jon Krakauer (J)
- *The Nazi Hunters: How a Team of Spies and Survivors Captured the World's Most Notorious Nazi*, Neal Bascomb (E)
- *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, Rebecca Skloot (J)
- *Soul Surfer: A True Story of Faith, Family, and Fighting to Get Back on the Boards*, Bethany Hamilton, et al
- *This Star Won't Go Out: The Life and Words of Esther Grace Earl*, Esther Grace Earl (J)
- **Ghosts of War*, Ryan Smithson
- *The Real Heroes of Telemark: The True Story of the Mission to Stop Hitler's Atomic Bomb*, Ray Mears
- *Hometown Heroes: Real Stories of Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things All Across America*, ed. American Profiles
- *The Dark Game: True Spy Stories from Invisible Ink to CIA Moles*, Paul B. Janeczko
- *The Monuments Men: Allied Heroes, Nazi Thieves and the Greatest Treasure Hunt in History*, Robert M. Edsen and Brett Witter (E)

T = Traditional Favorites

* = Mature language or topics

(E) = available on the district e-bookshelf

(J) = available on the public library e-bookshelf
via <http://berkeleylibrarysc.org/>