



Westminster Christian Academy

7TH & 8TH GRADE SUMMER READING

THE GOAL

We want our students to develop a love for reading—to see it as a relaxing pastime, a means to understanding and empathy, an opportunity to see Truth in new places, and a time to let their imagination soar.

THE ASSIGNMENT

With that hope, we are asking students to find **at least one book** (*at least two for 8th grade honors English students**) to read and enjoy this summer (before the 1st day of school). These should be books they haven't previously read but are interested in. **With no writing assignment attached, we encourage student to take the time to find a book they'll love!** We've provided an extensive reading list for students to use as a guide, or they are welcome to choose a book on their own (with parent permission, of course). So, enjoy the summer and a few good books. Happy Reading!

*New 8th grade students: Since class placements are in process, you are not required to read an extra book (unless, of course, you want to).

READING LISTS

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Parents, while we have created a reading list full of interesting and well-written stories at appropriate reading levels, **we recommend researching the individual books your son or daughter chooses.** Sites such as CommonSenseMedia.org or Amazon.com will help you to learn more about a book's content so that you may decide what is appropriate for your family. The reading list is organized by category: adventure, biography, fantasy, historical fiction, mystery, poetry, and realistic fiction.

Students, if you'd like to see what books other middle school students have enjoyed, check out this webpage: bit.ly/WCAEnglish7

ADVENTURE

Author	Title
Defoe, Daniel	Robinson Crusoe
George, Jean	My Side of the Mountain
Gipson, Fred	Old Yeller
London, Jack	White Fang
Lord, Walter	A Night to Remember (non-fiction)
Morey, Walt	Gentle Ben; Kavik, the Wolf Dog
O'Dell, Scott	Island of the Blue Dolphins, Sing Down the Moon, The Black Pearl
Paulsen, Gary	Hatchet
Stevenson, R. L.	Treasure Island
Verne, Jules	20,000 Leagues Under the Sea, Around the World in Eighty Days

BIOGRAPHY

Author	Title
Carson, Ben	Gifted Hands
Gibson, Williams	The Miracle Worker
Keller, Helen	The Story of My Life
Lewis, Michael	The Blind Side
Matsuda, Mary	Looking Like the Enemy
Nohl, Frederick	Luther: Biography of a Reformer
Pfetzner & Galvin	Within Reach: My Everest Story
Tebow, Tim	Through My Eyes
Various Authors	Heroes of the Faith Series
Warner, Kurt	All Things Possible

FANTASY

Author	Title
Adams, Richard	Watership Down
Babbit, Natalie	Tuck Everlasting
Barry & Pearson	Peter and the Star Catchers (series)
Dodge, Mary	Hans Brinker and the Silver Skates
DuPrau, Jeanne	The City of Ember; The People of Sparks
Funke, Cornelia	The Thief Lord, Dragon Rider
Jaques, Brian	Redwall (series)
Juster, Norton	The Phantom Tollbooth
L'Engle, Madeleine	A Wrinkle in Time
Levine, Gail Carson	Ella Enchanted
Lewis, C. S.	Chronicles of Narnia series
Lowry, Lois	The Giver
Mull, Brandon	Fablehaven
O'Brien, Robert	Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIHM
Paolini, Christopher	Eragon (series)
Paterson, Katherine	The Bridge to Terabithia
Riordan, Rick	Percy Jackson & the Olympians (series)
Rowling, J.K.	Harry Potter (series)
Stewart, Trenton Lee	The Mysterious Benedict Society (series)
Tolkien, J.R.	The Hobbit, The Lord of the Rings (series)

HISTORICAL FICTION

Author	Title
Alcott, Louisa May	Little Women or Little Men
Armstrong, William H.	Souder
Avi	True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle
Boyne, John	The Boy in the Striped Pajamas
Burnett, Frances	The Secret Garden
Curtis, Christopher	Bud, Not Buddy; The Watsons Go to Birmingham
Forbes, Esther	Johnny Tremain
Keith, Harold	Rifles for Waitie
Marshall, Catherine	Christy
McKissack, Pat	A Picture of Freedom: The Diary of Clotee, A Slave Girl
Montgomery, L.M.	Anne of Green Gables
Morpurgo, Michael	The War Horse
Murphy, Jim	The Great Fire
Myers, Walter Dean	The Journal of Scott Pendelton Collins: A W.W. II Soldier
Nixon, J.L.	The Orphan Train (series)
Paterson, Katherine	Bread and Roses, Too
Peck, Robert Newton	A Day No Pigs Would Die
Rawls, Wilson	Where the Red Fern Grows, Summer of Monkeys
Richter, Conrad	The Light in the Forest
Speare, Elizabeth	The Bronze Bow, The Sign of the Beaver, The Witch of Blackbird Pond
Sterling, Dorothy	Freedom Train: The Story of Harriet Tubman
Sutcliff, Rosemary	The Wanderings of Odysseus, Black Ships Before Troy
Taylor, Mildred	Let the Circle Be Unbroken; Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry

MYSTERY

Author	Title
Avi	Murder at Midnight,
Christie, Agatha	Murder on the Orient Express
Doyle, Arthur C.	The Hound of the Baskervilles, Adventures of Sherlock Holmes
Hamilton, Virginia	House of Dies Drear
Patterson, James	iFunny (series), Middle School (series)
Raskin, Ellen	The Westing Game

POETRY

Author	Title
Engle, Margarita	Enchanted Air
Woodson, Jacquelin	Brown Girl Dreaming

REALISTIC FICTION

Author	Title
Bloor, Edward	Tangerine
Creech, Sharon	Walk Two Moons
Crew, Linda	Children of the River
DiCamillo, Kate	Because of Winn Dixie
Gilbreth & Carey	Cheaper by the Dozen
Hjassen, Carl	Hoot
Magoon, Kekta	The Rock and the River
McDaniel, Lurlene	Six Months to Live
Mirikitani, Jason	Mile Marker 825
Ritter, John	The Boy Who Saved Baseball
Sachar, Louis	Holes
Schmidt, Gary	The Wednesday Wars
Spinelli, Jerry	Stargirl (series), Maniac Magee
Voigt, Cynthia	Homecoming, Dicey's Song