

**SUMMER READING LIST & RUBRIC
STUDENTS ENTERING 8TH GRADE IN THE FALL**

BELOW IS A LIST OF APPROVED BOOK CHOICES. CHOOSE ONE THAT APPEALS TO YOU

Becoming Ben Franklin: How a Candle-Maker's Son Helped Light the Flame of Liberty. Freedman, Russell. illus. Holiday.

Beginning with an independent young man arriving in Philadelphia, this informative and well-paced book shines a light on one of America's most interesting Founding Fathers.

Courage Has No Color: The True Story of the Triple Nickles, America's First Black Paratroopers. Stone, Tanya Lee. illus. Candlewick

Bolden introduces the unsung story of the U.S. Army's first African-American paratroopers unit, moving gracefully among portraits of individual paratroopers, the history of the unit, and the complex social issues of the time. (A YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults Honor Book)

March: Book One. Lewis, John and Aydin, Andrew. Illus. by Nate Powell. Top Shelf

Using the inauguration of President Obama as a framing device, Congressman John Lewis and graphic novelist Powell tell the story of Lewis's life and his participation in America's civil rights movement. (A 2014 Coretta Scott King Author Honor Book)

Paperboy. Vawter, Vince. Delacorte

A sensitive and resilient 11-year-old boy who stutters, ventures beyond the familiar and finds his voice while taking over his best friend's paper route in the Memphis summer of 1959. (A 2014 Newbery Honor Book)

SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

Instructions: Carefully read your book from the approved list. Choose ONE of the following assignments to complete. Projects must be handed in the first day of school. Make sure it is clearly labeled with your first and last name. PROJECT will count as your FIRST Reading grade of the year. Happy Reading!

If done digitally, share to: ddelaney@philasd.org

ASSIGNMENT CHOICES (CHOOSE ONE)

1. Design a flipbook that includes, title, author, story summary, main characters (names, traits, descriptions), setting (detailed discussion of setting and how it influenced the book), and a brief, but detailed book review, and any other important information about the book. (Minimum of 5 pages. Information should not be copied from book or internet).

OR

2. Design a Diary or Journal Book. Write a diary that a main character from the book might have kept before, during, or after the events in the story. Remember that the character's thoughts and feelings are very important in a diary. Draw a picture for each diary entry. (Minimum of 5 detailed diary entries=5 full pages). Pictures must be neat, detailed and in color!

SUMMER READING RUBRIC

NAME: _____

GRADE: 8

A = 90 – 100 points

- An “A project” is neat, (preferably) typed, and has a “professional” quality to it.
 - The written part of the project clearly and skillfully summarizes/analyzes the most significant portions of the text in the student’s own words.
 - The project reflects skillful and effective organization of ideas.
 - Clearly and effectively addresses all parts of the writing project description.
 - Word choice, is skillful, precise and sophisticated, while reflecting the individual student’s writer’s voice.
 - Contains few, if any errors in English grammar, usage, and mechanics.
- Word choice is general and basic, but still reflects the individual student’s writer’s voice.
 - May contain some to many errors in English grammar, usage, and mechanics.

B = 80 – 89 points

- A “B project” is neat, may or may not be typed, and has a finished quality to it.
- The written part of the project adequately summarizes/analyzes the most significant portions of the text in the student’s own words.
- The project reflects an adequate organization of ideas.
- Adequately addresses all or most parts of the writing project description.
- Word choice, is thoughtful and effective, and reflects the individual student’s writer’s voice.
- May contain some errors in English grammar, usage, and mechanics.

D = 60 – 69 points

- A “D project” is messy, may be illegible, and has an unfinished/1st draft quality to it.
- The written part of the project summarizes/analyzes few portions of the text and may have some to substantial copying of main ideas from other sources.
- The project reflects little organization of ideas, and may be somewhat confusing.
- Does not appear to address the writing project description in a meaningful way.
- Word choice is general and basic, but still reflects the individual student’s writer’s voice.
- Contains numerous errors in English grammar, usage, and mechanics.

C = 70 – 79 points

- A “C project” is neat, may or may not be typed, and has a semi-finished quality to it.
- The written part of the project summarizes/analyzes some portions of the text in the student’s own words, but may also have some copying of main ideas from other sources.
- The project reflects an effort to organize ideas, but may be somewhat confusing.
- Attempts to address the writing project description, but may be missing key elements.

F = 59 – 0 points

- Project is illegible
- Project does not follow the writing project description
- Project is written in a language other than English
- Project not turned in = 0