



Welcome to 8th Grade! Lilburn Middle School Summer Reading Assignment

We are looking forward to the up-coming school year. All rising 8th grade students are required to read at least one novel during the summer.

Dear LMS Families,

The 8th grade Language Arts teachers are looking forward to enriching the lives of students through reading and writing. We will begin this journey by having all rising 7th grade students read one novel over the summer vacation. The chosen novel will be discussed and instructionally aligned with activities related to the Language Arts grade level AKS.

This year we will use a book club format to engage and prepare students for Literary AKS items that they will encounter during the school year to enhance critical thinking skills and further develop reading and writing. This will be done through choice reading in a Book Club Format. Students will engage in the text, through teacher and peer led discussions, mini lessons, and written activities.

You can obtain the novel through your public library, local bookstore, online stores such as Amazon.com, Half.com, or even on your electronic reader i.e. Kindle, Nook, or a smartphone. Please secure the book early so that students have plenty of time to read and become familiar with the book.

Let's begin the 2018-19 school year as readers and writers!

RISING 8TH GRADE AND GEAR-UP

Book Title	Genre
Tears of a Tiger by Sharon M. Draper The death of high school basketball star Rob Washington in an automobile accident affects the lives of his close friend Andy, who was driving the car, and many others in the school.	Realistic Fiction
All American Boys by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely When sixteen-year-old Rashad is mistakenly accused of stealing, classmate Quinn witnesses his brutal beating at the hands of a police officer who happens to be the older brother of his best friend. Told through Rashad and Quinn's alternating viewpoints.	Realistic Fiction

Book Title	Genre
<p>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian by Sherman Alexie Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Native American is the school mascot.</p>	Realistic Fiction
<p>Life in Motion: an Unlikely Ballerina by Misty Copeland Misty Copeland describes her life, ballet training, and becoming the only African American soloist at the American Ballet Theatre.</p>	Biography
<p>Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson Jacqueline Woodson's lyrical memoir chronicles the incidents and emotions she experienced as an African-American girl growing up in the 1960s and 1970s.</p>	Biography
<p>Threatened by Eliot Schrefer When he was a boy, Luc's mother would warn him about the "mock men" living in the trees by their home -- chimpanzees whose cries would fill the night. Now, Luc lives in a house of mistreated orphans, barely getting by. Then a man calling himself Prof comes to town with a mysterious mission. When Luc tries to rob him, the man isn't mad. Instead, he offers Luc a job. Together, Luc and Prof head into the rough, dangerous jungle in order to study the elusive chimpanzees. There, Luc finally finds a new family -- and must act when that family comes under attack.</p>	Adventure
<p>The Testing by Joelle Charbonneau Keep your friends close and your enemies closer. Isn't that what they say? The Seven Stages War left much of the planet a charred wasteland. The future belongs to the next generation's chosen few who must rebuild it. But to enter this elite group, candidates must first pass The Testing—their one chance at a college education and a rewarding career. Cia Vale is honored to be chosen as a Testing candidate, but on the eve of her departure, her father's advice hints at a darker side to her upcoming studies--trust no one. To survive, Cia must choose: love without truth or life without trust.</p>	Sci-Fi
<p>Divergent by Veronica Roth In a future Chicago, sixteen-year-old Beatrice Prior must choose among five predetermined factions to define her identity for the rest of her life, a decision made more difficult when she discovers that she is an anomaly who does not fit into any one group, and that the society she lives in is not perfect after all.</p>	Sci-Fi
<p>Skink--No Surrender by Carl Hiaasen Classic Malley—to avoid being shipped off to boarding school, she takes off with some guy she met online. Poor Richard—he knows his cousin's in trouble before she does. Wild Skink—he's a ragged, one-eyed ex-governor of Florida, and enough of a renegade to think he can track Malley down. With Richard riding shotgun, the unlikely pair scour the state, undaunted by blinding storms, crazed pigs, flying bullets, and giant gators.</p>	Humor

Summer Reading Notes and Noticings

Theme

Determine a theme and/or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text. (AKS 2)

Characterization

Analyze how differences in the points of view of the characters and the audience or reader (e.g., created through the use of dramatic irony) create such effects as suspense or humor. (AKS 6)

Word Choice

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts. (AKS 4)

Plot Development

Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character or provoke a decision. (AKS 3)

Tone and Mood

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts. (AKS 4)