



Melvin H. Kreps Required Summer Reading Program 2019

Program Rationale

Summer is a great time to read for young and old alike. The Melvin H. Kreps Middle School encourages all its students to read over the summer months. One of the best predictors of student success both in school and in society is the level of which students' progress in reading and writing. Students need to realize that people read for many reasons including; enjoyment, information, inspiration, and making connections to their lives.

The Melvin H. Kreps Middle School Summer Reading program compliments our reading program at school. The school year emphasizes independent reading of various genres. Books are chosen by the students based on interest and readability level. Students practice skills which good readers apply, study literary techniques, themes, authors and literary elements. Students analyze literature and participate in literature discussions of varying types.

During the summer, students will be given a choice of what they read. Each student is expected to read **two books**. These can be from **any genre**. Students should pick books that challenge them and their ZPD can be a great range to support them in choosing texts.

This document provides a number of links that students can use as a guide when choosing their books. In addition, lists of themes that represent topics the students will be studying next year in Social Studies and Science are included. The school encourages students to go to the public library as well when choosing books since libraries house a vast variety of books.

Part of the school reading program involves students writing about what they are reading. Each student upon their return to school in September might be asked to review a book, participate in a book project from a list of multiple intelligence activities to demonstrate their understanding of their book, or share in reading discussions based on the books they have read. In the first month of the school year, teachers will assess summer reading. Assessment includes a vast array of possibilities and will be at teacher discretion. This is outlined in the student handout. ***ALL summer reading will be assessed in the first month of school and assessments will only amount to a nominal quiz grade.***

While we are only requiring that students read two books, we certainly encourage our students to read several books this summer Keeping a running record of books they have enjoyed throughout the summer will assist the teachers in dialoguing with students about their reading preferences, genre selections, and personal goals. We invite parents and guardians to read young adult literature with their children. Sharing books can lead to great family discussions and build strong family connections!



Melvin H. Kreps Summer Reading Program Overview for Students



Program Selections

You are **required** to read **2 books** this summer. The books may be selected from **any genre** and you may choose books that you borrow from a library or purchase at a bookstore. We hope that you are interested in the books you choose and encourage you to choose books that will challenge you but not prove too difficult. **Above all, choose books that are interesting to you as a reader.**

How Will Summer Reading Be Assessed?

Summer reading assessment will be decided by your ELA teacher. You will be assessed on your summer reading selections in the **first month of school in September**. This may take place in a variety of ways:

- You may take a digital or paper quiz on the books you choose.
- You may be asked to complete journal responses or free-writes.
- You may be provided with a choice board of reading activities to choose from.
- You may be asked to complete a book review or book trailer.
- You may be asked to participate in a class discussion or back channel discussion sharing elements or themes from summer reading.
- You may be asked to complete a book project as assigned by or approved by your middle school language arts teacher.
- Your teacher may also opt to use summer reading texts to conference or set goals for future reading.

Your teachers' chosen assessment methods will be shared in the opening week of instruction and you will be given adequate time to complete tasks or quizzes. *There will not be time granted in class or for homework to complete summer reading during September. All reading should be complete in the summer prior to the first day of school.*

All summer reading will be assessed prior to the last instructional day in September. Summer reading assessments (2) may be counted as grades in the first quarter of school. If your teacher opts to grade summer reading, assignments will be given values no higher than a quiz grade by your language arts teacher. Teachers will share assessment and point values in

the first weeks of instruction.

Can I read any book or will my teacher assign books?

The Melvin H. Kreps Summer Reading Program for 2019 seeks to foster individual choice in the selection of reading material and support students in maintaining skills throughout the summer while simultaneously enjoying texts. You are required to read two texts of appropriate middle school rigor. The following link will enable you to choose books that fall in grade level complexity and interest/topic:

www.arbookfind.com

- Enter the title of the book in the search box.
- The results will display all of the books in the database that contain those words.
- Information about the book's level of difficulty and interest range are also found in this database.

Do I have to read one fiction and one non-fiction title?

No you do not. However, the NJ Learning Standards for English Language Arts place a premium on skills and strategies for successfully interacting with nonfiction text. If this is not a choice for summer, it will be part of your reading requirements in the 2019-2020 school year at Kreps. If you opt to read only fiction, that is perfectly fine but consider challenging yourself with new genre: mystery, sci-fi, poetry, historical fiction.

Suggested Content Reading Lists

If you are interested in reading on topics you will study next year, below is a list of SS and Science topics for each grade level. While this is not required, we have found this supports some students in preparing themselves for new topics.

8th Grade

Social Studies:

- Ancient Civilizations

Science:

- Chemistry
- History of Life on Earth
- Inheritance & Evolution
- Energy and Energy Transfer
- Astronomy
- Engineering Practices

7th Grade

Social Studies:

- Civics and Economics

Science:



- Human Impacts on Earth
- Atmosphere
- Sound/Light
- Cells/ Heredity
- Scientific Reasoning Skills

6th Grade

Social Studies:

- American History to 1867

Science:

- Geological Processes and Earth's History
- Ecology/ Environment
- Force and Motion
- Introduction to Engineering



Places to Access Great Titles

- [Newbery Award Books](#) - The Newbery Medal was named for eighteenth-century British bookseller John Newbery. It is awarded annually by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children.
- [Coretta Scott King Award](#) - The Coretta Scott King Award is presented annually by the Coretta Scott King Task Force of the American Library Association's Social Responsibilities Round Table. Recipients are authors and illustrators of African descent whose distinguished books promote an understanding and appreciation of the "American Dream."
- [The Mildred L. Batchelder Award](#) - This award honors Mildred L. Batchelder, a former executive director of the Association for Library Service to Children, a believer in the importance of good books for children in translation from all parts of the world. This award, established in her honor in 1966, is a citation awarded to an American publisher for a children's book considered to be the most outstanding of those books originally published in a foreign language in a foreign country, and subsequently translated into English and published in the United States.
- [The Pura Belpré Award](#) - The Pura Belpré Award, established in 1996, is presented to a Latino/Latina writer and illustrator whose work best portrays, affirms, and celebrates the Latino cultural experience in an outstanding work of literature for children and youth. It is co-sponsored by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA) and the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-Speaking (REFORMA), an ALA Affiliate.
- [Michael L. Printz Award](#) - The Michael L. Printz Award is an award for a book that exemplifies literary excellence in young adult literature. It is named for a Topeka, Kansas school librarian who was a long-time active member of the Young Adult Library Services Association.
- [The Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Award](#) - The Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Award, established in 2001, is awarded annually to the author of the most

distinguished informational book published during the preceding year. The award is named in honor of Robert F. Sibert, the long-time President of Bound to Stay Bound Books, Inc.

- [Notable Children's Books](#) - A committee from ALA annually selects, annotates, and present for publication a list of notable children's books of the preceding year.
- [100 Favorite Children's Books](#) - Compiled by the New York Public Library.
- [Best Books for Young Adults](#) - A committee from ALA annually compiles a list of titles includes fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and biography recommended for young adults ages 12-18.
- [Booklists and Book Awards for Young Adults](#) - ALA recommended lists for young adults ages 12-18
- [Nerdy Book Club](#) a list serve with teacher reviews
- [Good Reads Top Books for Middle School](#) This is a site which ranks texts and provides reviews. Here is an example list of STEM titles:
 - [STEM Nonfiction Reading Middle Grades](#)
 - [Best Dystopian and Post Apocalyptic Fiction](#)
- [The Mercer County Library Website](#) This site includes links to summer reading programs, databases, reading lists, as well as programs running through the library all summer.

This is a sub link to their summer reading program:

- [A Universe of Stories! 2019](#)



Teacher Recommendations

Finally, your teachers are an excellent resource for book recommendations and suggestions! Each teacher below has shared their **Top Picks** to support you in choosing reading material this summer. You are not required to read books suggested by your teachers but they have shared these based on student recommendations, books they have enjoyed with their class, and books they find students enjoy in class discussions. Happy reading!

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Grade I teach</u>	<u>Top Picks</u>
Ms. Winthrop	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Last Lecture by Randy Pausch ● Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand ● The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton ● Animal Farm by George Orwell ● Travels With Charley by John Steinbeck ● The Bookseller of Kabul by Asne Seierstad ● How to Read Literature Like a Professor: For Kids

		by Thomas C. Foster
Mrs. Lewis	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee ● And Then There Were None by Agatha Christie ● Night by Elie Wiesel ● The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton ● The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time By Mark Haddon ● How to Read Literature Like a Professor: For Kids by Thomas C. Foster
Mrs. Edinger	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Children of Eden: A Novel by Joey Graceffa ● How to Read Literature Like a Professor: For Kids by Thomas C. Foster ● Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury ● Projekt 1065 by Alan Gratz ● The Book Thief by Markus Zusak
Ms. Elgendy	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas ● The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd ● To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee ● All We Have Left by Wendy Mills ● Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen ● How to Read Literature Like a Professor: For Kids by Thomas C. Foster
Ms. Donovan	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● El Deafo by Cece Bell ● I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World by Malala Yousafzai ● The Thing About Jellyfish by Ali Benjamin ● A Long Walk to Water: Based on a True Story by Linda Sue Park ● The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Bayne ● The Fault in Our Stars by John Green ● The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton
Miss Ilinitch	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton ● Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson ● Nine, Ten: A September 11 Story by Nora Raleigh Baskin ● The Crossover by Kwame Alexander ● Counting by 7s Holly Goldberg Sloan

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>House Arrest</i> by K.A. Holt
Mrs. Graga	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Holes</i> by Louis Sachar ● <i>Smile</i> by Raina Telgemeier ● <i>Fourteenth Goldfish</i> by Jennifer L. Holm ● <i>Bud, Not Buddy</i> Christopher Paul Curtis ● <i>Crash</i> by Jerry Spinelli ● <i>Hunger Games</i> by Suzanne Collins ● <i>The Maze Runner</i> by James Dashner ● <i>The Giver</i> by Lois Lowry ● <i>Wonder</i> by RJ Palacios ● <i>The Book Thief</i> by Markus Zusak ● <i>Fudge</i> (series) by Judy Blume ● <i>The Lost Hero (The Heroes of Olympus-series)</i> by Rick Riordan
Ms. Bousanti	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Caraval</i> by Stephanie Garber ● <i>Carve the Mark</i> by Veronica Roth ● <i>Counting by 7s</i> Holly Goldberg Sloan ● <i>Harry Potter Series</i> by J.K. Rowling ● <i>Stargirl</i> by Jerry Spinelli ● <i>The Girl Who Drank the Moon</i> by Kelly Barnhill ● <i>These Shallow Graves</i> by Jennifer Donnelly
Ms. DaSilva	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Fourteenth Goldfish</i> by Jennifer L. Holm ● <i>Holes</i> by Louis Sachar ● <i>The Watsons Go To Birmingham</i> Christopher Paul Curtis ● <i>When You Reach Me</i> by Rebecca Stead ● <i>Among the Hidden</i> by Margaret Peterson Haddix ● <i>One Crazy Summer</i> by Rita Williams-Garcia ● <i>Mango-Shaped Space</i> by Wendy Mass
Miss Kirchmer	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Tuck Everlasting</i> by Natalie Babbitt ● <i>Monster</i> by Walter Dean Myers ● <i>Freak the Mighty</i> by Rodman Philbrick ● <i>Keeping the Moon</i> by Sarah Dessen ● <i>Little Women</i> by Louisa May Alcott ● <i>Stella by Starlight</i> by Sharon Draper ● <i>Surviving the Angel of Death: The Story of a Mengele Twin in Auschwitz</i> by Eva Mozes Kor and Lisa Rojany Buccieri

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>The Call of the Wild</i> by Jack London
Mr. Hoover	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>The Finest Hours (Young Reader's Edition)</i> by Michael Tougias ● <i>Unbroken (Young Adult Adaptation)</i> by Laura Hillenbrand ● <i>Chasing Lincoln's Killer: The Search for John Wilkes Booth</i> by James L. Swanson ● <i>A Young People's History of the United States</i> by Howard Zinn
Mrs. Parry	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>The Book Thief</i> by Markus Zusak ● <i>Cast Two Shadows</i> by Ann Rinaldi ● <i>Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry</i> by Mildred D. Taylor ● <i>The View from Saturday</i> by E. L. Konigsburg
Ms. Sheehan	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Getting Away with Murder: The True Story of the Emmett Till Case</i> Chris Crowe ● <i>The Diary of a Young Girl</i> Anne Frank ● <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> by Harper Lee ● <i>The Outsiders</i> by S.E. Hinton ● <i>Island of the Blue Dolphins</i> Scott O'Dell ● <i>Anne of Green Gables</i> L.M. Montgomery
Ms. Dasti	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Number the Stars</i> by Lois Lowry ● <i>The Hatchet</i> by Gary Paulsen ● <i>Esperanza Rising</i> by Pam Muñoz Ryan ● <i>The Iceberg Hermit</i> by Arthur J. Roth
Mrs. Kidd	6-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH</i> by Robert C. O'Brien ● <i>Ella Enchanted</i> by Gail Carson Levine ● <i>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe(Chronicles of Narnia, #1)</i> by C.S. Lewis ● <i>The Lightning Thief</i> by Rick Riordan ● <i>Tuck Everlasting</i> by Natalie Babbitt ● <i>Wonder</i> by RJ Palacios ● <i>Speak</i> by Laurie Halse Anderson ● <i>The Outsiders</i> by S.E. Hinton
Ms. Krowitz	6/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Ghost Boys</i> by Jewell Parker Rhodes ● <i>Fish in a Tree</i> by Lynda Mullaly Hunt ● <i>Max: Best Friend. Hero. Marine.</i> by Jennifer Li

		<p>Shotz</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ghost by Jason Reynolds ● Restart by Gordon Korman ● Booked by Kwame Alexander ● Fever 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson ● Holes by Louis Sachar
Ms. Oberc	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Watsons Go To Birmingham Christopher Paul Curtis ● Out of My Mind by Sharon M. Draper ● Wonder by RJ Palacios
Mrs. Cooley	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Maximum Ride by James Patterson ● The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan ● Holes by Louis Sachar ● The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee Stewart ● The Bad Beginning by Lemony Snicket ● The Flea: The Amazing Story of Leo Messi by Michael Part
Ms. Meagher	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hatchet by Gary Paulsen ● Out of My Mind by Sharon M. Draper ● Wonder by RJ Palacios ● A Mango-Shaped Space by Wendy Mass ● Echo by Pam Munoz Ryan ● Holes by Louis Sachar ● So B. It by Sarah Weeks ● Harry Potter Series by J.K. Rowling
Mr. Christiano	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman ● Baseball in April and Other Stories by Gary Soto ● Flipped by Wendelin Van Draanen ● Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling ● Auggie and Me by R.J. Palacios ● Holes by Louis Sachar
Miss Kimmelman	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer ● Uglies by Scott Westerfeld ● The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien ● The City of Ember by Jeanne DuPrau ● A Wrinkle In Time by Madeleine L'Engle

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>The Lightning Thief</i> by Rick Riordan ● <i>Hunger Games</i> by Suzanne Collins
Ms. Widdoes	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>The Selection</i> by Kiera Cass ● <i>The Upstairs Room</i> by Johanna Reiss ● <i>Hidden Like Anne Frank</i> by Marcel Prins ● <i>Bloody Jack Series</i> by L.A. Meyers ● <i>The Hobbit</i> by J.R.R. Tolkien ● <i>The Young Royal Series</i> by Carolyn Meyer
Mrs. Byrwa	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Crash</i> by Jerry Spinelli ● <i>Because of Winn-Dixie</i> by Kate DiCamillo ● <i>Flora & Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures</i> by Kate DiCamillo ● <i>Holes</i> by Louis Sachar ● <i>Wonder</i> by RJ Palacios ● <i>The Lightning Thief</i> by Rick Riordan ● <i>Hatchet</i> by Gary Paulsen ● <i>Harry Potter Series</i> by J.K. Rowling
Mrs. Angelini	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>The Giver</i> by Lois Lowry ● <i>Freak the Mighty</i> by Rodman Philbrick ● <i>Night of the Twisters</i> by Ivy Ruckman ● <i>Hatchet</i> by Gary Paulsen ● <i>The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane</i> by Kate DiCamillo ● <i>Hunger Games</i> by Suzanne Collins ● <i>The Maze Runner</i> by James Dashner ● <i>Because of Mr. Terupt</i> by Rob Buyea ● <i>Unbroken</i> by Laura Hillenbrand ● <i>The 5th Wave</i> by Rick Yancey
Ms. King	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>A Young People's History of the United States</i> by Howard Zinn ● <i>Fever 1793</i> by Laurie Halse Anderson ● <i>Soldier's Heart</i> by Gary Paulsen ● <i>Come Juneteenth</i> by Ann Rinaldi ● <i>Number the Stars</i> by Lois Lowry
Ms. Florio	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Wonder</i> by RJ Palacios ● <i>Out of My Mind</i> by Sharon M. Draper ● <i>The Girl who Drank the Moon</i> by Kelly Barnhill ● <i>Uglies</i> by Scott Westerfeld

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Rules</i> by Cynthia Lord ● <i>Counting by 7s</i> Holly Goldberg Sloan
Mr. Strom	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Toliver's Secret</i> by Esther Wood Brady ● <i>Across Five Aprils</i> by Irene Hunt
Ms. Rozansky	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Restart</i> by Gordon Korman ● <i>The Watsons Go To Birmingham</i> Christopher Paul Curtis ● <i>A Mango-Shaped Space</i> by Wendy Mass ● <i>Hatchet</i> by Gary Paulsen ● <i>Wonder</i> by RJ Palacios ● <i>The Lightning Thief</i> by Rick Riordan ● <i>The Thing about Jellyfish</i> by Ali Benjamin
ESL	6-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Esperanza Rising</i> by Pam Muñoz Ryan ● <i>Becoming Naomi Leon</i> by Pam Muñoz Ryan ● <i>The House on Mango Street</i> by Sandra Cisneros ● <i>When I was Puerto Rican</i> by Esmeralda Santiago ● <i>The Circuit</i> by Francisco Jimenez ● <i>Breaking Through</i> by Francisco Jimenez ● <i>The BFG</i> by Roald Dahl ● <i>Fudge</i> (series) by Judy Blume ● <i>Smile</i> by Raina Telgemeier ● <i>Cirque du Freak</i> Series by Darren Shan ● <i>A Series of Unfortunate Events</i> by Lemony Snicket ● <i>Novio Boy</i> by Gary Soto ● <i>Stargirl</i> by Jerry Spinelli ● <i>A Long Walk to Water</i> by Linda Sue Park ● <i>Wonder</i> by RJ Palacios ● <i>Among the Hidden</i> by Margaret Peterson Haddix



