

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Dear Rising 7th Graders,

Reading a book – any book – is important over the summer and is a relaxing summertime activity. Many of you read several books during the months of June and July. We ask that you read at least one book before school starts back.

This handout includes some suggested titles related to the theme of our first unit: The Choices We Make. Look up the books online and see if one sounds interesting to you. Maybe you can check it out from a local library or buy a copy at a used book store or elsewhere. If one of the titles listed below doesn't float your boat, pick another book and complete the assignment with that book. **The most important thing is that you read a book – any book!**

Have a super summer!

Your 7th Grade Language Arts Teachers, McCleskey Middle School

Unit 1: The Choices We Make		
Literature		
Author	Title	Lexile
Alexie, Sherman	<i>War Dances</i>	790L
Anaya, Rudolfo	<i>Bless Me, Ultima</i>	840L
Cooper, Susan	<i>The Dark Is Rising (series)</i>	920L
Graves, Robert	<i>Greek Gods and Heroes</i>	990L
Hamilton, Virginia	<i>The People Could Fly: American Black Folktales</i>	660L
Hesse, Karen	<i>Witness</i>	N/A
Hidier, Tanuja Desai	<i>Born Confused</i>	890L
Hijuelos, Oscar	<i>Dark Dude</i>	980L
Hinds, Gareth	<i>The Odyssey</i>	N/A
Hurston, Zora Neale	<i>Mules and Men</i>	1020L
Jeffrey, Gary	<i>African Myths</i>	N/A

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Lewis, C.S.	<i>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</i>	940L
Myers, Walter Dean	<i>The Greatest: Muhammad Ali</i>	1030L
Park, Linda Sue	<i>Seesaw Girl</i>	810L
Pierce, Tamora	<i>Trickster's Choice (Daughter of the Lioness, Book 1)</i>	790L
Riordan, Rick	<i>The Red Pyramid</i>	650L
Rosenberg, Donna	<i>World Mythology: An Anthology of Great Myths and Epics</i>	1030L
Snzai, N.H.	<i>Shooting Kabul</i>	800L
Soto, Gary	<i>Novio Boy</i>	N/A
Whelan, Gloria	<i>Homeless Bird</i>	800L
Nonfiction/Informational Text		
Author	Title	Lexile
Dumas, Firoozeh	<i>Funny in Farsi: A Memoir of Growing Up Iranian in America</i>	1030L
Hickam, Homer	<i>Rocket Boys/October Sky</i>	900L
Jiang, Ji-Li	<i>Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution</i>	780L
Jimenez, Francisco	<i>Breaking Through</i>	750L
Kehret, Peg	<i>Small Steps: The Year I Got Polio</i>	890L
Keller, Helen	<i>The Story of My Life</i>	1150L
Paulsen, Gary	<i>Eastern Sun, Winter Moon: An Autobiographical Odyssey</i>	1080L
Santiago, Esmeralda	<i>When I Was Puerto Rican</i>	1020L

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Summer Reading Book Project

Title:

Author:

PART 1

Why did you choose this book? (Write your answer in complete sentences.)

PART 2

Circle the most accurate description of the fiction or nonfiction genre listed below.

science fiction fantasy_ historical fiction realistic fiction
Mystery humor biography autobiography
history

Other: _____

PART 3

Choose ONE of the ideas listed below (circle your choice) and complete the task on separate paper that you will submit with this handout.

1. Illustrate the setting of your book. In a short paragraph, describe your illustration and how the setting affects the characters.
2. How could the story have ended differently? Rewrite the ending of the book making sure to keep your ending in the same point of view as the book you read.
3. How would your life be different if you had lived through some of the experiences in the book? Write a fully developed paragraph in which you provide details to support your answer.
4. Make a collage for your book. The collage must consist of 10 pictures, including a written or typed summary of the pictures in your representation. (Why did you choose those pictures when creating your collage?)
5. Draw a detailed plot diagram of the book in which you describe the exposition, rising action, climax, falling action and resolution.