

AHS Summer Literacy 2023

Purpose:

We highly recommend that all of our students read throughout the summer. Reading for at least 30 minutes a day has many proven benefits. Read a book, the news, a magazine (print or digital), or anything else of substance on a topic of interest.

Our Summer Literacy Recommended Reading lists offer a diverse array of books designed to reach our entire school community. While students are free to select their own texts, we've included recommendations to encourage students to engage with next year's grade-level themes of identity, systems, change, and purpose.

Students are encouraged to select texts that align with their specific grade level theme and reflect on that theme by completing an activity from the Project List. All students should read this summer; however, unlike in previous years, students will not be required to submit their summer literacy work to their advisor. The activities herein are enrichment and, therefore, optional; yet participating in these activities will extend your learning, lend insight into the learning to come next year, and reinforce skills you already have.

Notice:

Although the books on the Recommended Reading lists are appropriate for high school students, families should be aware that some books/movies contain adult topics with adult language and/or controversial material. Different families have different perspectives on what is most appropriate for their student so please review these books carefully before deciding which ones are most appropriate for your child.

AHS Summer Literacy: Recommended Reading Lists

9th Grade: Identity	10 Grade: Systems
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All-American Muslim Girl by Nadine Jolie Courtney • American Born Chinese by Gene Luen Yang • Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe by Benjamin Alire Sáenz • The Berlin Boxing Club by Robert Sharenow • The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao by Junot Diaz • Children of Blood and Bone by Tomi Adeyemi • Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng • Far from the Tree by Robin Benway • For Black Girls Like Me by Mariama J. Lockington • The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls • House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer • Marcus Vega Doesn't Speak Spanish by Pablo Cartaya • The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky • The Prince and the Dressmaker by Jen Wang • The Rest of Us Just Live Here by Patrick Ness • Sag Harbor by Colson Whitehead • Sitting Pretty by Rebekah Taussig • Solo by Kwame Alexander & Mary Rand Hess • This Boy's Life by Tobias Wolff • Undeclared: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team by Steve Sheinkin • X by Ilyasah Shabazz & Kekla Magoon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Born a Crime by Trevor Noah • Bury My Heart At Wounded Knee by Dee Brown • The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon • The Doubt Factory by Paolo Bacigalupi • Dreamland Burning by Jennifer Latham • Educated by Tara Westover • Gridiron Genius: A Master Class in Winning Championships and Building Dynasties in the NFL by Michael Lombardi • Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins • The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot • Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson • Legend by Mary Lu • The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles • Maus by Art Spiegelman • Moxie by Jennifer Mathieu • Never Fall Down by Patricia McCormick • The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead • The Omnivore's Dilemma by Michael Pollan • Random Family: Love, Drugs, Trouble, and Coming of Age in the Bronx by Adrian Nicole LeBlanc • Red Queen by Victoria Aveyard • Six Angry Girls by Adrienne Kisner • They Called Us Enemy by George Takei • True Biz by Sara Novic • The United States Constitution: A Graphic Adaptation by Jonathan Hennessey

11th Grade: Change

- [All the Crooked Saints](#) by Maggie Stiefvater
- [American War](#) by Omar El Akkad
- [A Brief History of Nearly Everything](#) by Bill Bryson
- [Call of the Wild](#) by Jack London
- [Dry](#) by Neal Shusterman
- [Life As We Knew It](#) by Susan Beth Pfeffer
- [Make Your Bed](#) by William McRaven
- [March](#) by John Lewis
- [Ms. Marvel](#) by Adrian Alphona and G. Willow Wilson
- [The Overstory](#) by Richard Powers
- [Persepolis](#) by Marjane Satrapi
- [The Radium Girls: The Dark Story of America's Shining Women](#) by Kate Moore
- [Revolutionary Summer](#) by Joseph J. Ellis
- [Rolling Warrior](#) by Judith Heumann
- [Ruins of Gorlan](#) by John Flanagan
- [Salvage the Bones](#) by Jesmyn Ward
- [Siddhartha](#) by Herman Hesse
- [The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference](#) by Malcolm Gladwell
- [What the Future Looks Like: Scientists Predict the Next Great Discoveries—and Reveal How Today's Breakthroughs Are Already Shaping Our World](#) by Jim Al-Khalili
- [Wordy Shipmates](#) by Sarah Vowell

12th Grade: Purpose

- [The Age of Miracles](#) by Karen Thompson Walker
- [Drive: The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us](#) by Daniel Pink
- [Frankenstein](#) by Mary Shelley
- [Group: How One Therapist and a Circle of Strangers Saved My Life](#) by Christie Tate
- [Hope Nation: YA Authors Share Personal Moments of Inspiration](#)
- [Klara and the Sun](#) by Kazuo Ishiguro
- [Lab Girl](#) by Hope Jahren
- [Last Days of Night](#) by Graham Moore
- [A Lesson Before Dying](#) by Ernest J. Gaines
- [The Midnight Library](#) by Matt Haig
- [Purple Hibiscus](#) by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
- [Outliers: The Story of Success](#) by Malcolm Gladwell
- [The Right Stuff](#) by Tom Wolfe
- [Shop Class as Soulcraft: An Inquiry into the Value of Work](#) by Matthew B. Crawford
- [They Both Die at the End](#) by Adam Silvera
- [Thinking in Pictures: My Life with Autism](#) by Temple Grandin
- [Unbroken](#) by Laura Hillenbrand

AHS Summer Literacy: Project List

Journal	Editorial	One-Pager
<p>Keep a daily journal (or other record e.g. blog/vlog) of your experiences. We are living in unprecedented times. By chronicling your experiences, you can capture the unique perspective of your generation.</p> <p>Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative Writing Prompts • How to Start a Gratitude Journal • 30 Day Writing Challenge 	<p>Choose a topic you care about then gather evidence from valid sources and write a concise editorial (450 words or fewer) to convince readers of your view.</p> <p>Alternative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Writing: Student Opinion Question <p>Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to Write an Editorial that Editors Can't Refuse 	<p>Create a "one-pager" that summarizes the major events, conflicts, themes, etc. of your chosen text.</p> <p>Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-Pager Exemplar
Book Review	Book Trailer	Book Club
<p>Write a review of your book and share it with others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider joining Goodreads to share your review with others and/or find new books to read. <p>Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to write a book review. • Book Review Planning Template 	<p>Create a book trailer (i.e. a promotional video similar to a movie trailer) for your chosen text.</p> <p>Alternative: Make a PSA (Public Service Announcement) that informs your peers about an important issue.</p> <p>Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to Make a Book Trailer • Book Trailer Planning Template • PSA Planning Template 	<p>Form a book club with your friends and/or family. Decide upon a book to read and discuss.</p> <p>Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to Host a Book Club • Best Book Club Questions to Spark Discussion
Playlist	Personal Reflection	Art
<p>Create a shareable playlist (of approximately 5-10 songs) for your chosen text OR your own life. Include a written introduction to your playlist explaining your selection process.</p> <p>Alternative: Write an original song/poem centered around your grade level theme.</p> <p>Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playlist for Your Life • The How and Why of Creating a Book Playlist 	<p>Write a reflection that connects your personal experiences to your grade level theme. Summer is a great time to get started on the first draft of your college essay.</p> <p>Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This I Believe Essay <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ This I Believe Planning Template • 2020-2021 Common App Essay Prompts 	<p>Create a drawing, painting, or sculpture that weaves together elements of your chosen summer literacy text with your grade level theme.</p> <p>Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3D Art Project Ideas • The Art Genome Project: The Portrait • Book Nook