

## Summer Reading - middle schools

Reading is a simple and enjoyable way for students to boost their brainpower, so Chesterfield County Public Schools encourages elementary school students to read during summer vacation.

Research shows that what students read is less important than how much they read. A study by Barbara Heyns found that children who read at least six books during the summer maintained or improved their reading skills, while kids who did not read saw their skills slip by as much as an entire grade level.

Summer reading is more about practicing the enjoyable habit of reading than it is about challenging students academically.

Many organizations compile lists of middle grade books, and to make it easy for middle school students and their parents to self-select books for summer reading, check out the links below.

Chesterfield County Public Schools does not endorse any specific titles on the lists. Not all parents may consider all of the books on these sites to be appropriate, so parents are encouraged to review the books to determine which books are appropriate for their children or visit a county library to speak with a librarian.

## Association for Library Service to Children

### [Grades 6-8 Summer Reading List](#)

- *Booked* by Kwame Alexander
- *The War that Saved My Life* by Kimberly Brubaker

## Scholastic

### [Scholastic Reading Challenge](#), [Book Lists \(Spanish\)](#)

- *Refugee* by Alan Gratz
- *This Is Just a Test* by Wendy Wan-Long Shang & Madelyn Rosenberg

## Read Kiddo Read

### [Great Advanced Reads](#)

- *All Shook Up* by Shelley Pearsall
- *Out of the Easy* by Ruta Sepetys

## ThoughtCO

### [Award Winning Historical Fiction for Middle Grade Readers](#)

- *Dead End in Norvelt* by Jack Gantos
- *Breaking Stalin's Nose* by Eugene Yelchin

## TeachersFirst

[Grade 6](#)

[Grade 7](#)

[Grade 8](#)

## School Library Journal

[The Real Deal: Three New Realistic Middle Grade Novels](#)

## Pearson/Prentice Hall

[Suggested Reading for Middle School Students \(Grades 6–8\)](#)

- *Steal Away* by Jennifer Armstrong
- *Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher* by Bruce Coville

To learn more about summer reading and book choices, check out the links below:

- [Reviews — School Library Journal](#)
- [ReadWriteThink After-School Resources](#)
- [Summer Reading Tips From Librarians](#)
- [Get Ready for Summer Reading](#)
- [Summer Reading Activities](#)
- [Consejos Para Padres: Programas de Lectura de Verano](#)
- [Parent Tips: Summer Reading | En Español](#)
- [13 Ideas for how Parents can Encourage Summer Reading](#)
- [Key Facts about Summer Reading](#)
- [Summer Learning Loss Study: Can 'Summer Slide' Be Prevented?](#)
- [Summer Reading and the Rich/Poor Achievement Gap: An Educator Responds to Questions](#)
- [How to Plan for Summer Reading Success](#)