



# Summer reading • high schools

## Chesterfield County Public Schools

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

What students read is less important than how much they read, research shows. 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 didn’t 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 teen books. To make it easy for high school students and their parents to self-select books for summer reading, links to many organizations are provided here.

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

### **Young Adult Library Services Association**

#### Teens’ Top 10 nominees for 2016

- “Alive” by Chandler Baker
- “Six of Crows” by Leigh Bardugo
- “The Darkest Part of the Forest” by Holly Black

Teens’ Top 10 from previous years

[2015](#)      [2014](#)      [2013](#)

### **Scholastic**

#### Summer Reading Challenge

- “American Born Chinese” by Gene Luen Yang
- “Becoming Maria: Love and Chaos in the South Bronx” by Sonia Manzano
- “I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World” by Malala Yousafzai with Patricia McCormick

### **eSchool News**

#### Books for high school summer reading

- “Bluefish” by Pat Schmatz
- “The Color Purple” by Alice Walker
- “Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?” by Philip K. Dick

### **Read Kiddo Read**

#### Great advanced reads

- “The Diviners” by Libba Bray
- “On the Day I Died” by Candace Fleming
- “The Fault in Our Stars” by John Green

#### Great advanced reads about school

- “The Wednesday Wars” by Gary D. Schmidt
- “The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks” by E. Lockhart
- “Blue Lipstick: Concrete Poems” by John Grandits

### **What Kids Can Do**

#### Not-Your-Typical (High School) Summer Reading List

- “The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian” by Sherman Alexie
- “The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao” by Junot Díaz
- “The Circuit” by Francisco Jiménez

### **Pearson Prentice Hall**

#### Summer Reading List

- “Things Fall Apart” by Chinua Achebe
- “How the García Girls Lost Their Accents” by Julia Alvarez
- “Winesburg, Ohio” by Sherwood Anderson

### **More information**

These links can help students and parents learn more about summer reading and book choices:

- [SYNC](#) — free audiobook program for young adults
- [“But Mom, I hate to read!” — Tips for Reluctant Readers](#)
- [Reading Tips and Picks for Tweens and Teens](#)
- [What’s On Your Summer Reading List? Authors Tell All](#)
- [Reviews — School Library Journal](#)
- [ReadWriteThink After-School Resources](#)
- [Text Messages: Recommendations for Adolescent Readers](#)
- [Summer Reading Tips From Librarians](#)
- [Seize the Summer: Keep Kids Active and Engaged in Learning](#)
- [Get Ready for Summer Reading](#)
- [Summer Reading Activities](#)
- [Consejos Para Padres: Programas de Lectura de Verano](#)
- [Summer Reading Tips to Go — En Español](#)
- [Parent Tips: Summer Reading — En Español](#)
- [13 Ideas for How Parents Can Encourage Summer Reading](#)
- [Virginia Reader’s Choice](#)