

Summer Reading Assignment
Elm Middle School
7th & 8th Grade Language Arts

Summer reading is a necessary requirement for all students. It is important because research shows that summer reading plays an important role in reading achievement. Reading is at the center of all we do in both the academic and “real” world. Numerous studies have been done by the world’s most influential researchers and all can conclude that summer reading is a **REQUIREMENT!** A summer reading loss of three months can add up. A major study by the University of Missouri found that by middle school, the gap from the loss of reading can accumulate to two or more years in reading achievement. Stephen Krashen, author of *The Power of Reading*, states that reading is the most powerful tool available for building vocabulary as well as increasing the ability to read, write, spell, and comprehend. There are hundreds of correlational studies that suggest that the more children read, the better their fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

As a middle school student at Elm Middle School, you will be required to read over the summer. You will choose the books that you will be reading, within reason, and must complete a Summer Reading Recommendation for each book. Attached are four Summer Reading Recommendations, as well as a list of highly recommended books for young adult readers provided by the Elmwood Park Public Library. I encourage you to visit and utilize the library, and take advantage of all of the wonderful programs and books they have to offer. You will be responsible for earning the grade of your choice by the number of books you read and the recommendations you complete. **Your completed recommendations will be due the first week of school in your language arts class, and will be part of your QUARTER ONE grade in language arts!**

To earn an “A” - Read 4 books and complete 4 Summer Reading Recommendations

To earn a “B” – Read 3 books and complete 3 Summer Reading Recommendations

To earn a “C” – Read 2 books and complete 2 Summer Reading Recommendations

A “D” OR “F” GRADE IS NOT AN OPTION

