



Waterford High Schools 2017



Summer Reading

Q: Why should I read during my vacation time?

A: Lots of reasons!

- ◇ **Avoid the summer slide.** Research shows that if you read something—anything—over the summer, you can maintain (and in some cases even improve!) your reading skills. But, if you don't read in the summer months, you can lose up to several months of reading skills. Don't waste all the hard work you put in this year by letting your skills slip!
- ◇ **Be a part of a reading community.** Readers make connections and have great conversations. When you return in the fall, you'll have opportunities to celebrate and share your reading with your classmates.

Your schools aren't the only place to get involved in a reading community. The Waterford Public Library has summer reading programs for children, teens, and even adults. Visit [www.waterfordpubliclibrary.org](#) and get your whole family reading, talking, and earning prizes!
- ◇ **Have fun!** A good book can carry you away to other worlds. It can teach you new skills, spark conversations, and let you exercise your imagination muscles.

Q: What should I read?

A: Read whatever interests you. The choice is yours!

- ◇ Maybe there's something you've been meaning to read for a while now. Now's your chance. Maybe you want to read that new bestseller before the movie comes out. Or, maybe you loved a movie and can't wait until the sequel comes out. Read to find out what happens next!
- ◇ If you aren't sure what you want to read, seek advice. Talk with someone you trust. Family, friends, teachers, and librarians are always great resources. So are organizations like the American Library Association (ALA). Each year, the ALA releases updated lists of recommendations and award-winners.
- ◇ See the reverse side of this flyer to get started with some recommendations.

Questions? Contact Megan M. Kortlandt, Secondary Language Arts Consultant
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Q : Where can I find something to read?

A : Good reading material is all around you!


- ◇ **Mott and Kettering:** Thanks to a generous grant from the Waterford Foundation, each school has lots of copies of popular titles available for you to check out. Please contact your ELA teacher with questions about how and when to check these books out. If you check out a book as an 8th grader at your middle school, you can return it as a 9th grader at your high school.
- ◇ **Waterford Public Library:** The Waterford Public Library has an extensive collection of books for middle school readers. And did you know that if you are looking for a title that they don't have in their building, they can order it from another library? You can even check out digital copies of books for e-readers. All for free! Visit them at 5168 Civic Center Drive.
- ◇ **Michigan e-Library:** MeL.org has a wealth of resources for online reading including FREE access to online magazines, audiobooks, and more! Check it out at: 
<http://teens.mel.org/MeLReadingZone>
- ◇ **Online Book Stores:** Websites like amazon.com and thriftbooks.com have a large selection of books available for purchase—often at great prices.


Recommendations From Readers

Each year, the American Library Association keeps lists of recommending reading and award-winners. Check them out below by using a QR reader on your smartphone or by going to the website.

The **YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults** list presents the best fiction titles for ages 12-18 published within the past 16 months. The website has links to the current list, the top 10 winners, and past years' lists. 
<http://www.ala.org/yalsa/best-fiction-young-adults>

The **Michael L. Printz Award** is given each year to a book that "exemplifies literary excellence in young adult literature." The link will take you to this year's winner, honor books, and past winners. 
<http://www.ala.org/yalsa/printz-award>

The **Alex Award** is given each year to 10 excellent adult books with particular appeal to young adult readers. 
<http://www.ala.org/yalsa/alex-awards>

Outstanding Books for the College-Bound is a compilation of lists determined by a committee of librarians and educators. The lists of both fiction and nonfiction are organized by your interest in post-secondary education (Literature, Sciences, Humanities, etc.) 
<http://www.ala.org/yalsa/outstanding-books-college-bound#2014 List>

When selecting a book, it is important to remember that many recommended titles may provoke readers to think about issues that are relevant to teenagers and young adults, which means that they may contain language, violence, or mature situations. If you are concerned about these, it may be helpful to discuss your selection with your family and/or teacher to help you choose a book that is appropriate for you.