



Waterford Schools 2018



Summer Reading

Middle and High School Edition

Q: Why should I read during my vacation time?

A: Lots of reasons!

- ◇ **Avoid the summer slide and keep your vocabulary growing!** Research shows that reading just 10 minutes a day can have dramatic results on your vocabulary and 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. Just a little bit of reading over the summer can have big payoffs during your school year and beyond!
- ◇ **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. [Check out the Sweet Reads truck throughout your neighborhoods all summer!](#) Plus, 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, offer an escape, 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!

- ◇ **Your Waterford School:** Thanks to a generous grant from the Waterford Foundation, each secondary 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.
- ◇ **Your neighborhood:** Check out the Sweet Reads truck that will be traveling throughout Waterford neighborhoods all summer long. Refresh your summer reading life with a \$1 ice cream and free books to check out right in your very own backyard! Check out the website for more information—including a schedule where you can find when the van will visit the neighborhoods closest to where you live!

<http://www.waterford.k12.mi.us/sweetreads>
- ◇ **Waterford Public Library:** The Waterford Public Library has a great collection of books for middle school readers. You can even check out digital copies of books for e-readers.—all for free! Visit them at 5168 Civic Center Drive.

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>



Tween Recommended Reads is a published list of books compiled by the Association of Library Services for Children. http://www.ala.org/alsc/sites/ala.org/alsc/files/content/Tween13_RecReadsList.pdf

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.