

How to Choose a Good Book

1. Find a book that is interesting. Search by genre, subject, reading level, and recommendation. Visit the summer reading website for online search tools.
2. Use the 5 Finger Rule to help identify a good fit! Open your book to any page and read the words on the page. Count the number of words you do not know on your fingers. If you hold up four or five fingers the book might be too difficult.
3. If you found a "just right" book, take it for a test drive and read a few pages or even a chapter.

Where can I find books?

- Worcester Public Library
- Libby and Lily Mobile Libraries
- Borrow and take suggestions from friends!
- Summer Programs
- Bookstores such as Barnes & Noble and Amazon
- Goodwill and Salvation Army
- E-Books
- Digital Books

Summer Reading Requirement for Grades 3 and 4:

- Read at least 3 Books or 800 Pages
- Three Activities

Visit the summer reading website for more information!

<https://sites.google.com/worcesterschools.net/summerreading>

Notice and Note Stop and ask yourself...

Contrasts & Contradictions: When a character says or does something that is opposite (contradicts) what you expect them to do ask yourself, "Why is the character acting this way?" This could help you make a prediction or an inference about the plot and conflict.

Again & Again: When notice a word, phrase, object, or situation mentioned over and over again, ask yourself, "Why does this keep showing up again and again?" This will tell you about the theme and conflict, or it might foreshadow what will happen later.

Memory Moment: When the author interrupts the action with a flashback to the past and tells you a memory, ask yourself, "Why might this memory be important?" This will tell you about the theme, conflict, or it might foreshadow what will happen later.

Aha Moment: When a character realizes, understands, or finally figures something out, ask yourself, "How might this change things?" If the character solved a problem you discovered the conflict; if the character understood a life lesson, you discovered a theme.

Words of the Wiser: When a character takes the main character aside and gives advice, ask yourself, "What's the life lesson, and how might it affect the character?" Whatever the lesson is, you've probably found a theme for the story.

Tough Questions: When a character asks himself a difficult question, ask yourself, "What does this question make me wonder about?" This will help you predict will happen later in the story.

(Adapted from *Notice and Note* by Kylene Beers.)

The Super 7 Effective Reading Habits

Make Connections: When I read I think "That reminds me of..."

Create Images: When I read "I picture in my mind..."

Infer: Even though it isn't said in the text, when I read "I know..." "I think..." or "I am guessing that..." or "I predict..."

Monitor for Meaning: When I get confused when I read "I can..." and "Let me review what I know..."

Determine Importance: When I read "I know the detail I just read is important because..."

Synthesize: When I read I notice things are connected and "I know this is a big idea because..." or "Aha..."

Questioning: When I read I ask myself questions about the book such as "I wonder why..." or "I am curious about..."



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WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Summer Reading



For Students Entering
Grades 3 and 4

2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Summer reading is an exciting opportunity for students to enjoy good books. When children read books with their parents/guardians they build new language skills, knowledge, and experiences. The Worcester Public Schools summer reading program includes a suggested reading list. Please encourage your child to explore different types of books and to read for at least 20 minutes each day. Students should submit their summer reading assignments to their teacher when school opens.

Please visit the WPS summer reading website for additional information! You can also download copies of all summer reading materials. Reading together this summer helps set the stage for future success in schooling. We appreciate your support!

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Happy Reading!

Maureen Binienda
Superintendent of Schools

Visit for more Information:
<https://sites.google.com/worcesterschools.net/summerreading>

Nonfiction (Books and Authors)

Becoming Babe Ruth by Tavares
Dave the Potter: Artist, Poet, Slave by Hill
Daredevil: The Daring Life of Betty Skelton by
McCarthy
Dolores Huerta y Cesar Chavez by Brown
Farmer Will Allen and the Growing Table by Martin
Side by Side/Lado a Lado: La Historia de
Sonia Sotomayor: A Judge Grows in the Bronx by
Winter
Young Jimi Hendrix by Golio
Alike
Cole, Joanna
D'Aulaire, Ingri & Edgar
Fritz, Jean
Gibbons, Gail
Heller, Ruth
Leedy, Loreen
Maestro, Betsy
Macaulay, David
McGovern, Ann
Pinkney, Andrea
Pringle, Laurence
Simon, Seymour

Poetry (Books and Authors)

Guyku: A Year of Haiku for Boys by Raczka
Love to Langston by Medina
Messing Around on the Monkey Bars by Franco
North by Greenfield
Tap Dancing on the Roof: Sijo by Park
The Great Migration: Journey to the North by
Greenfield
Won-Ton: A Cat Tale Told in Haiku by Wardlaw
Adolf, Arnold
Alarcon, Francisco
Fleischman, Sid
Greenfield, Eloise
Herrera, Juan
Hopkins, Lee (compiler)
Kennedy, E.J.
Livingston, Myra Cohn
Moss, Jeff
Prelutsky, Jack
Silverstein, Shel

Mystery (Books and Authors)

Adler, David
Chandler Warner, Gertrude
Giff, Patricia
Hale, Bruce
Hildick, E.W.
Kellogg, Steven
Landon, Lucinda
Ross, Pat
Roy, Ron
Simon, Seymour
Sobel, Donald
Nancy Drew Series,
Carolyn Keene
Hardy Boys Series, Franklin
W. Dixon
Third Grade Detective
Series

Historical Fiction (Books and Authors)

Countdown by Wiles
Dear America (series) by Scholastic
Elijah of Buxton by Curtin
Faith, Hope and Ivy June by Naylor
Jefferson's Sons by Bradley
Keeping Score by Park
Riding Freedom by Ryan
Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes by Coerr
Scraps of Time by McKissack
Sophia's War: A Tale of the Revolution by Avi
Bunting, Eve
Coerr, Eleanor
Cohen, Barbara
Kinsey Warnock, Natalie
Lasky, Kathryn
Lawson, Robert
MacLachlan, Patricia
Polacco, Patricia
Say, Allen
Scieszka, Jon
Wilder, Laura Ingalls
American Girl Series
Dear America Series

Folktales, Fables, & Legends (Books and Authors)

A Pride of African Tales by Washington
Can you Guess My Name? by Sierra
Genies, Meanies, and Magic Rings by Mitchell
Her Stories by Hamilton
Persephone by Clayton
Pig-Boy: A Trickster Tale from Hawaii by McDermott
Tales Our Abuelitas Told by Campoy and Ada
The Beautiful Stories of Life by Rylant
The Magical Monkey King: Mischief in Heaven by Jiang
The Wise Fool: Fables from the Islamic World by Husain
Aardema, Verna
Aesop
Brett, Jan
Climo, Shirley
Demi
Gibbons, Gail
Jaffe, Nina
Kellogg, Steven
Kimmel, Eric
Martin, Rafe
San Souci, Robert
Sierra, Judy
Young, Ed

Fiction (Books and Authors)

A Series of Unfortunate Events (series) by Snicket
A Wrinkle in Time by L'Engle
Big Nate (series) by Peirce
Boom! by Haddon
City of Fire/City of Ice by Yep
Diary of a Wimpy Kid (series) by Kinney
Dragon Castle by Bruchac
Harry Potter (series) by Rowling
Hate That Cat: A Novel by Creech
Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key by Gantos
Junebug (series) by Mead
Room One: A Mystery or Two by Clements
Shiloh by Naylor
The Books of Elsewhere (series) by West
The Dream Stealer by Fleischman
The Homework Machine by Gutman
The Lemonade War (series) by Davies
The Magician's Elephant by DiCamillo
The Road to Paris by Grimes
Tia Lola (series) by Alvarez
Tuesdays at the Castle by George
Warrior (series) by Hunter
Whales on Stilts! by Anderson
Where the Mountain Meets the Moon by Lin
Wonder by Palacio
Young uncle Comes to Town by Singh
Coville, Bruce
Crilley, Mark
Dahl, Roald
Howe, James
King-Smith, Dick
Kinney, Jeff
Levy, Elizabeth
Osborne, Mary
Park, Barbara
Peet, Bill
Pinkwater, Daniel
Rowling, J.K.
Rylant, Cynthia
Sanvoisin, Eric
Scieszka, Jan
Selden, George
Steig, William
Stine, R.L.
VanAllsburg, C.
White, E.B.

Informational Books

Bat Scientists by Carson
Because of Mr. Terupt by Buyea
Bones: Skeletons and How they
Work by Jenkins
Boston Tea Party by Kroll
Citizen Scientists by Burns
Dinosaurs in Your Backyard by
Brewster
Discovering Black America by
Tarrant-Reid
Extreme Animals by Davies
Galaxies, Galaxies! by Gibbons
In the Wild by Elliot
Locomotive by Floca
Next to Mexico by Nails
Peace, Locomotion by Woodson
Polar Bears by Newman
Salsa Stores by Delacre
The Tarantula Scientist by
Montgomery
The Wolves Are Back by George
Volcano Rising by Rusch