

Knox Summer Reading 2017

For incoming 7th graders ☺

In Conroe ISD, we encourage all students to read over the summer in order to enrich learning and provoke thought. Summer reading strengthens reading skills, increases academic achievement, fosters a love for reading, and empowers students to become life-long learners.

Additionally, students who enroll in a Pre AP or AP English course are expected to engage in summer reading as it prepares students for the upcoming school year and creates an initial common framework for classroom discussion and instruction.

To make summer reading a richer experience, we would like you to **choose one book from the selection of four.**

Choose one book from the appropriate language arts class:

Seventh Grade Level Students

	Lexile Level*
<i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i> by: Jaqueline Woodson #segregation #civilrightsmovement #findingyourvoice	990
<i>Freak the Mighty</i> by: Rodman Philbrick #disabilities #unlikelyfriendship #quests	1000
<i>Mockingbird</i> by: Katheryn Erskine #asperger's #loss #closure	630
<i>The Shadow Club</i> by: Neal Shusterman #bullying #revenge #regret	760

Seventh Grade Pre-Advanced Placement Students

<i>Between Shades of Gray</i> by: Ruta Sepetys #Stalin #Siberianworkcamp #art	490
<i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i> by: Jaqueline Woodson #segregation #CivilRightsMovement #findingyourvoice	990
<i>Inside Out and Back Again</i> by: Thanhha Lai #Refuges #Vietnam #hope	800
<i>Prisoner B-3087</i> by: Alan Gratz #concentrationcamps #WWII #escape	760

Seventh Grade Resource Students: A novel of your choice
(It must be fiction, and it must be a minimum of 100 pages.)

*Lexile levels measure how complex a text is to read. Features that affect the score are sentence length, vocabulary, and structure and syntax. Lower scored texts will be more accessible to readers. Please note that a book with a lower Lexile level can still have complex themes and characters.

While you are reading, you will need to keep track of important/interesting parts of the text as well as your thinking. On the back of this sheet are directions for the assignment that accompanies your summer reading.



Two-Column Notes Assignment

Keep track of important parts of the novel as well as your thinking with two-column notes.

- Make two columns on notebook paper – one for quotes and one for your thinking.
- In the Quotes column, copy important lines from the story. Use the author’s last name and the page number to cite where you found the line. These lines can be parts of the story you found interesting, surprising, confusing, etc.
- In the My Thinking column, record your thoughts about this part of the story. This can be questions you have, connections you made to the text, predictions, things you notice about the language, etc.

Here is an example from the book *Brown Girl Dreaming*.

Quotes	My Thinking
<p>no returns “Take her back, we already have one of those.” (Woodson 19)</p> <p>the garden “God gives you what you need,...Best not to ask for more than that.” (Woodson 49)</p> <p>“and stars and tears and hope.” (Woodson 106)</p> <p>because we’re witnesses “No...pretend...never go to...will never...” actually this whole page (Woodson 164)</p> <p>hope onstage “Hope can sing...” (Woodson 232)</p>	<p>How often have I thought about wanting to give back my brother? Wonder how often he thought about sending me back? Luckily, we kept each other...we get along now...most of the time.</p> <p>Yipes! I am always praying for more: help with this or that, take care of this or that...hmm, wonder what God would say to this?</p> <p>This is interesting. I wonder why the author wrote it like this: two words on one line. I like the first and third lines.</p> <p>I wonder what it is like to be a witness. I wonder if the author continued to be a witness.</p> <p>This is personification! I really like this phrase. Personally, I feel better hearing music and I love to sing (even though I don’t sound all that great) because singing and music do make me feel hopeful.</p>

Level Students: Have a minimum of **10 entries** in your two column notes.

Pre-AP Students: Have a minimum of **15 entries** in your two-column notes.

Quotes must be chosen from throughout the novel, not just the beginning chapters.

Book and assignment should be finished over the summer. Teachers will discuss due dates with students during the first week of school.