

Rising 8th Grade Summer Reading 2017

Welcome to Summer, dear readers! For your assigned Summer Reading:

○ ALL incoming 8th graders will read the same **Core Novel**, which will form the basis of the first unit of study for Trimester 1 in August. In addition to reading this **Core Novel**, all students must complete the **Annotation Assignment (see pages 4 and 5)** for the Core Novel.

PLUS

- All students will read one book from the **Choice List**.
- All students will choose and read one book by 2017 Newbery Honor winning author **Adam Gidwitz** from the list below, as he will be our visiting author in September!

****Note:** each middle schooler will read a total of at least three (3) books this summer.

Successfully reading (and ENJOYING) these books will translate into starting the year strong. Please return to school in August ready to discuss all aspects of the core novel, as well as your chosen book(s).

Most books are available in several formats, including paperback, audio (Overdrive, CD, Audible.com, iTunes) and eBook (Overdrive, Kindle, iTunes).

Our NBPS Overdrive Collection can be accessed at <https://northbrowardfl.libraryreserve.com>. Sign in with your student id to check out and download ebooks and audiobooks.

No matter which versions you read or listen to, you must also own a print or digital copy of your core novel to bring to class in August.

Core Novel

Monster by Walter Dean Myers

While on trial as an accomplice to a murder, sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon records his experiences in prison and in the courtroom in the form of a film script as he tries to come to terms with the course his life has taken.

Lexile: 670

Adam Gidwitz List

A Tale Dark & Grimm (A Tale Dark & Grimm series, bk. 1) by Adam Gidwitz
Follows Hansel and Gretel as they walk out of their own story and into eight more tales, encountering such wicked creatures as witches, along with kindly strangers and other helpful folk. An awesome mash-up of a selection of other Grimms' Fairy Tales. Lexile: 690

The Inquisitor's Tale by Adam Gidwitz

Readers are plunged into medieval France to hear the incredible story of three gifted children, a holy greyhound, and the people whose lives they touch. It is a time of miracles and saints, of fiends and dragons, all of which Gidwitz has meticulously teased from legends and histories of the Middle Ages. Lexile: 620

Choice List

All Fall Down (Embassy Row series, bk. 1) by Ally Carter

There are many powerful people along Embassy Row who want Grace to block out all her unpretty thoughts. But Grace will not stop until she finds out who killed her mother and make the killer pay. Lexile: 610

House Arrest by K.A. Holt

Timothy is a good kid who did a bad thing. Now he's under house arrest for a whole year. He has to check in weekly with a probation officer and a therapist, keep a journal, and stay out of trouble. But when he must take drastic measures to help his struggling family, staying out of trouble proves more difficult than Timothy ever thought it would be. A touching and funny novel written in verse. Lexile: 610

Insignia (Insignia series, bk. 1) by S.J. Kincaid

Tom, a fourteen-year-old genius at virtual reality games, is recruited by the US Military to begin training at the Pentagon Spire as a Combatant in World War III, controlling the mechanized drones that do the actual fighting off-planet. Lexile: 750

Fast Break by Mike Lupica

Forced to live on his own after his mom dies, 12-year-old Jayson does whatever it takes to get by. He manages to get away with his deception until the day he gets caught stealing a new pair of basketball sneakers. Game over. Lexile: 840

Since You've Been Gone by Morgan Matson

Before Sloane, Emily didn't go to parties, she barely talked to guys, and she didn't do anything crazy. Enter Sloane, social tornado and the best kind of best friend—someone who yanks you out of your shell. But right before what should have been an epic summer, Sloane just...disappears. There's just a random to-do list with thirteen bizarre tasks that Emily would never try. But what if they can lead her to Sloane? Lexile: 970

Okay For Now by Gary D. Schmidt

In this sequel to *The Wednesday Wars*, fourteen-year-old Doug Swieteck faces many challenges, including an abusive father, a brother traumatized by Vietnam, suspicious teachers and police officers. But when he meets a girl known as Lil Spicer, he develops a close relationship with her and finds a safe place at the local library. Lexile: 850

The Running Dream by Wendelin Van Draanen

When a school bus accident leaves sixteen-year-old Jessica an amputee, she returns to school with a prosthetic limb and her track team finds a wonderful way to help rekindle her dream of running again. Lexile: 650

7th and 8th Grade English Annotation Assignment: Core Novel for Summer Reading

7th grade core novel: *The Giver* by Lois Lowry 8th grade core novel: *Monster* by Walter Dean Myers

Due: the first day of class in August

Annotating keeps the reader engaged with the text. You will annotate your CORE (required) text. Below are strategies of annotations. *Though encouraged, annotations are NOT required for your choice books.* If you prefer, use post-it notes OR if you have an e-copy, use the highlight/ note function.

Requirements for annotations of your core novel:

1. Write at least 2 annotations per chapter (for *Monster*, write 2 annotations for every 10 pages).
2. Circle or highlight at least 10 words from throughout the novel that are new/unfamiliar to you. Make a list of these words at the end of the novel, and then define them.
 - a. If you know every single word in this book, circle 10 words that you find important or interesting for the plot and write why you think the author chose these words.
 - b. the definitions may be listed on the text itself, on an e-note, or on a piece of paper inserted at the end of the novel
3. If you have any questions while reading, record specific questions in the margins. If you discover the answer to that question later in the text, record the answer in the margins.

Strategies for annotation:

- **Label FACT** next to passages that identify the following explicit text information, such as:

- Characters
- Setting
- Conflict
- Elements of plot
- Point of View
- Main ideas

- **Label INFERENCE** next to passages that prompt you to think implicitly about the text, such as:

- What the text says + what you already know
 - Predictions

- Conclusions you draw
- New insights
- **Label AUTHOR'S CRAFT** next to passages that make you consider author's style, such as:
 - Note the type of craft: figurative language, flashback, imagery, use of humor, interesting graphic element, use of vocabulary, the way the words look on the page, etc...
 - Note- How does the language impact the story?
- **Label ANALYSIS** next to passages that you analyze and offer supporting details for, such as:
 - Examine or dig deeper
 - Think about why the author wrote a passage
 - What does something symbolize or represent?
 - Compare or contrast characters, settings, conflicts, etc...
 - Offer connections to other texts, real-life situations, or to yourself
 - Offer solid opinions about the text