



Summer Reading Challenge, 2008

Gadsden District Schools in Partnership with
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.





Educators consider summer reading as a very important strategy in developing life-long reading habits, in maintaining literacy skills and in promoting reading for pleasure. Studies have repeatedly shown that children who continue to read during the summer months perform better when school resumes in the fall. But, when summer vacation starts, many children want to put away their books. They want to be outside, riding bikes, playing softball, or cooling-off in the neighborhood pool. Committing them to reading, even just a little each day, is a struggle especially when outdoor activities and the modern distractions of television, video games, and the Internet may seem more exciting.

Research has also shown that when parents are actively involved in learning at home, their children become more successful in and out of school. To insure that students improve or maintain their reading skills during the summer, this joint effort strives to promote literacy, enhance reading skills and assist with educational development. Parents want to know how to select books that interest children and how to create an atmosphere that encourages reading. Here are six ways to be sure that students become great summer readers:

1. Read every day.
2. Take turns reading out loud with someone.
3. Read books and magazines you enjoy.
4. Take a book everywhere you go.
5. Talk or write about what you've read.
6. Keep track of what you read with a reading log.

The Superintendent, the Gadsden School District and its partners invites each student to make reading a part of their summertime fun. Keep your children's reading skills honed, keep their minds fresh, and introduce them to some great literature this summer. Weekly trips to the library can be very rewarding to families as they select books from the summer reading list.

Every student entering grades K-12 is encouraged to participate in the summer reading challenge by reading the recommended number of books for their grade level. The books on the summer reading lists are available from your child's school media center, the Gadsden County Public Library, the bookmobile and/or bookstores.

-  **Kindergarten – 2nd grade students are asked to read at least 8 books**
-  **3rd - 5th grade students are asked to read at least 7 books**
-  **6th – 8th grade students are asked to read at least 6 books**
-  **9th – 12th grade students are asked to read at least 4 books.**

A **grand prize of \$150, a 2nd place prize of \$100 and a 3rd place prize of \$50** will be given to the students that have read the most books during the summer reading program. Students are to keep a reading log indicating the books read. To ensure that students have actually read the books on the reading log, they are required to complete a book report for books read during the summer reading program. The summer reading logs and book reports are to be returned to the students' homeroom teacher during the first week of school. The reading logs and book reports will be collected by the school media specialist and forwarded to the district media specialist to determine the prize winners.

Keep your kids occupied with a great book—or a few! Our suggested reading lists should keep them busy all summer long. These titles will encourage your kids to love reading, while improving their language arts skills.

Gadsden District Schools
Mr. Reginald C. James
Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. Sonja Bridges, Ed.D.
Asst. Superintendent for Academic Services

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Mrs. Vicki Muse Johnson
Chapter President



Gadsden District School's Middle School Summer Reading List

<i>Title</i>	<i>Author</i>
All American Girl	Meg Cabot
Animal Farm	George Orwell
Anne of Green Gables	L.M. Montgomery
Anybodies	N.E. Bode
Aquamarine	Alice Hoffman
Artemis Fowl: Book 1	Eoin Coifer
Backstage Pass	Gaby triana
Bad Beginning, The	Lemony Snicket
Baseball in April and Other Stories	Gary Soto
Big Nothing, The	Adrian Fogelin
Black Pearl, The	Scott O'Dell
Boggart	Susan Cooper
Book of Three, The	Lloyd Alexander
Born Confused	Tajuna Desai Hidier
Breaking Point	Alex Flinn
Breaking Through	Francisco Jimenez
Bridge to Terabithia	Katherine Patterson
Bud, Not Buddy	Christopher Paul Curtis
Cay, The	Theodore Taylor
Chicken Boy	Frances O'Roark Dowell
Chicken Soup for the Preteen Soul	Jack Canfield
Clique Series	Lisi Harrison
Code Orange	Caroline B. Cooney
Cousins	Virginia Hamilton
Crossing, The	Gary Paulsen
Dark is Rising, The	Susan Cooper
Dacey's Song	Cynthia Voight
Double Dutch	Sharon Draper
Dragonwings	Laurence Yep
Dream Freedom	Sonia Levitin
Drums, Girls & Dangerous Pie	Jordan Sonnenblick
Earthquake Terror	Peg Kehret
Elijah of Buxton	Christopher Paul Curtis
Encyclopedia Brown, Boy Detective	Donald Sobol
Eragon	Christopher Paolini
Esperanza Rising	Pam Munoz Ryan
Farmer Boy	Laura Ingalls Wilder
Feathers	Jacqueline Woodson
Fever 1793	Laurie Halse Anderson
Giver, The	Lois Lowry
Gossamer	Lois Lowry
Gotta Get Some Bish Bash Bosh	M. E. Allen
Granny Torrelli Makes Soup	Sharon Creech
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince	J. K. Rowling
Hatchet	Gary Paulsen
Heat	Mike Lupica
Hidden Staircase, The	Carolyn Keene
Holes	Louis Sachar
Hoot	Carl Hiaasen
House of Dies Drear, The	Virginia Hamilton
House of the Red Fish	Graham Salisbury

House of the Scorpion, The
Hush
I Hadn't Meant to Tell You This
The Invention of Hugo Cabret
Island of the Blue Dolphins
Island, The
Jackie's Wild Seattle
Jacob Have I Loved
Jason's Gold
Kid Who Ran for President
Land, The
Lightning Thief, The
Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, The
Listening for Lions
Matilda Bone
Missing May
Monster
Mozart Season, The
My Brother Sam is Dead
Number the Stars
Old Willis Place
Outsiders
P.S. Longer Letter Later
Peter and the Starcatchers
Prince Caspian
Princess Academy
Princess Diaries: Vol. I and II
Ravenmaster's Secret, The
Razzle
Redwall (Series)
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry
Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes
Second Cousins
Secret of the Old Clock, The
Silverwing
Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants
Skin I'm In, The
Small Steps
Speak
Spider Sapphire Mystery
Stargirl
Surviving Antarctica: Reality TV 2083
Taking Sides
Tears of a Tiger
This Must be Love
Treasure Island
Tree Grows in Brooklyn
True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle, The
Under the Same Sky
Walk to Remember, A
Walk Two Moons
Watsons Go to Birmingham, The
Westing Game
Whale Talk
Witch of Blackbird Pond
Year Down Yonder, A
Zeely

Nancy Farmer
Jacqueline Woodson
Jacqueline Woodson
Brian Selznick
Scott O'Dell
Gary Paulsen
Will Hobbs
Katherine Paterson
Will Hobbs
Dan Gutman
Mildred Taylor
Rick Riordan
C. S. Lewis
Gloria Whelan
Karen Cushman
Cynthia Rylant
Walter Dean Myers
Virginia Euwer Wolff
James Lincoln Collier
Lois Lowry
Mary Downing Hahn
S. E. Hinton
Paula Danziger
Dave Barry
C. S. Lewis
Shannon Hale
Meg Cabot
Elvira Woodruff
Ellen Wittlinger
Brian Jacques
Mildred Taylor
Eleanor Coerr
Virginia Hamilton
Carolyn Keene
Kenneth Oppel
Ann Brashares
Sharon Flake
Louis Sachar
Laurie Halse Anderson
Carolyn Keene
Jerry Spinelli
Andrea White
Gary Soto
Sharon Draper
Tui Sutherland
Robert Louis Stevenson
Betty Smith
Avi
Cynthia DeFelice
Nicholas Sparks
Sharon Creech
Christopher Paul Curtis
Ellen Raskin
Chris Crutcher
Elizabeth Speare
Richard Peck
Virginia Hamilton