

WYOMING AREA SECONDARY CENTER
SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT
2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR
STUDENTS ENTERING TWELFTH GRADE

The more we read the better readers we become. Students who read actively and often increase their fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. They also experience greater success in school by developing literacy skills that support critical reading of all texts, broadening their experience, knowledge, and understanding of the larger world, and cultivating lifelong reading habits that they carry into adulthood.

Students entering twelfth grade must choose one book from those listed. Honors students must read two; AP students must read three.

***As I Lay Dying* by William Faulkner (fiction)**

The story revolves around a grim yet darkly humorous pilgrimage, as Addie Bundren's family sets out to fulfill her last wish: to be buried in her native Jefferson, Mississippi, far from the miserable backwater surroundings of her married life.

***Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* by Jonathan Safran Foer (fiction)**

Nine-year-old Oskar Schell encounters a number of interesting characters in his search for information about his father who died in the World Trade Tower and tries to find the lock that fits the mysterious key his father had.

***Snow Falling on Cedars* by David Guterson (historical fiction)**

A newspaper journalist covering the trial of a Japanese-American accused of murder comes to terms with his own past.

***A Thousand Splendid Sons* by Khaled Hosseini (fiction)**

Mariam and Laila, both married to Rasheed, form an uneasy alliance so that they and their children survive despite horrific circumstances.

***The Last Lecture* by Randy Pausch (nonfiction)**

When Randy Pausch, a computer science professor at Carnegie Mellon, was asked to give a lecture, he didn't have to imagine it as his last, since he had recently been diagnosed with terminal cancer. But the lecture he gave--"Really Achieving Your Childhood Dreams"--wasn't about dying. It was about the importance of overcoming obstacles.

***Black Boy* by Richard Wright (nonfiction)**

This novel describes one African American child's experience growing up in America in the first half of the 20th century.

***The Hobbit* by J.R.R Tolkien (fantasy)**

Bilbo Baggins is a hobbit who enjoys a comfortable, unambitious life, rarely traveling any farther than his pantry or cellar. But his contentment is disturbed when the wizard Gandalf and a company of dwarves arrive on his doorstep one day to whisk him away on an adventure.