

Louis Pasteur Middle School 67Q

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Dear Parents and Students of the Incoming 7th Grade Class of MS67,

We would like to welcome all of you to our Summer Reading Program. The following **two** selections must be read over the summer, as you will be assessed on their content in the beginning of the school year. Your ELA teacher will provide you with the specific date of the assessment.

1. Stealing Home: The Story of Jackie Robinson by Barry Denenberg
2. Chasing Lincoln's Killer by James L. Swanson

In addition, you may choose to strengthen your reading skills and strategies by reading from a variety of other recommended selections. Try to vary your reading selections between fiction and nonfiction.

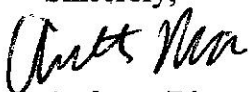
Some suggested titles include:

- *Tangerine* by Edward Bloor
- *Stand Tall* by Joan Bauer
- *Rules* by Cynthia Lord
- *Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli
- *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle
- *Learning to Swim* by Ann Turner
- *Middle School is Worse than Meatloaf* by Jennifer L. Holm
- *Jackie's Nine* by Sharon Robinson
- *My Brother Sam is Dead* by James Lincoln Collier
- *Zlata's Diary* by Zlata Filipovic
- *The House of Dies Drear: Drear House* by Virginia Hamilton
- *The City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau
- *The Watsons Go to Birmingham* by Christopher Paul Curtis
- *Crash* by Jerry Spinelli
- *Inkheart* by Cornelia Funk
- *Dear America- The Diary of Patsy, a Freed Girl- I thought My Soul Would Rise and Fly* by Joyce Hansen

At MS67, we expect students to read 60 minutes a day throughout the school year. Therefore, it is important to start good reading habits early by practicing during the summer.

The teachers and I wish you an enjoyable and safe summer. We look forward to working with you in September.

Sincerely,



Anthony Rizzo
Assistant Principal, ELA

7th Grade

Summer Reading Guide

Students in Grade 6, Grade 7, and Grade 8 will be assessed on the summer reading assignments through an exam and essay. The essay will be assigned in September. Students will be given a few weeks for completion. It is to be completed independently. It is important that the teachers evaluate and analyze authentic writing of students, so that they can best instruct, advise and serve them as readers, writers and life long learners.

7th Grade Summer Texts:

1. Stealing Home: The Story of Jackie Robinson by Barry Denenberg
2. Chasing Lincoln's Killer by James L. Swanson

WHILE READING, IT IS SUGGESTED THAT STUDENTS TAKE NOTES ON:

- ~ Character traits (strengths, weaknesses, motivations, changes)
- ~ Character relationships (how others perceived him, how he viewed others, his response to others)
- ~ Key influences (important characters and their impact/role)
- ~ Major events and decisions in life and their impact
- ~ Author's purpose

FOR THE ESSAY, THINK ABOUT:

The main character: Analyze this person by explaining **how** he has had a great impact and influence in the world. Use text evidence to give examples of **why** that person has been influential.

Make sure your essay is organized into paragraphs with an introduction and conclusion.

Guiding questions:

- ~ What has this person achieved?
- ~ Does this person have a positive or negative effect on others? On society?
- ~ What arguments support your claim?
- ~ What details from the text supports your arguments?