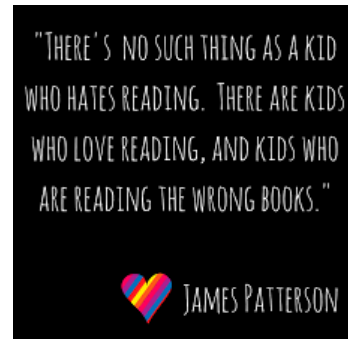


## A Note to Parents from the Middle School ELA Teachers Regarding Summer Reading

First, we'd like to say thank you for everything you have done to help your child stay engaged in the learning process this spring. It has been the most challenging year we've ever had in schools, and the partnership between the school and families has been crucial in each student's success. We also know it hasn't been easy...for anybody.



This is normally the time we'd be distributing required summer reading materials to students with response packets to complete before the start of the next school year. Because our worlds have been so tumultuous, we have decided to make a change for this summer, and instead we are sending out a RECOMMENDED SUMMER READING LIST, in the hopes that kids will choose books they love and read a book (or two!) not because they *have* to, but because they *want* to.

Research tells us that students need to read during the summer to maintain their independent reading levels. In the fall, the impact of a student not having read during the summer months, combined with the fact that many of the student's classmates *did* read over the summer, may result in a reading gap that could widen each year, making it difficult for the student to keep up with grade level expectations.

To that end, the Clarence Middle School ELA teachers and librarian gathered to create a list of great books middle schoolers love. Our hope is that each student will read at least one book over the summer, but we'd love to see them read even more. They are not required to choose from the list attached, but with so many great books listed, it should be easy to find something great to read.

We encourage parents and guardians to be actively involved in the selection and reading process.

- Guide your reader to choose a book of interest.
- Check commonsensedia.org to determine if the book is appropriate for your reader.
- Engage in conversations with your reader about the book.
- Celebrate your reader for the reading completed.
- Encourage your reader to continue reading multiple books over the summer.

You may access books however you wish, but many are available for free using the school library's OverDrive account, and a local business we love, Monkey See, Monkey Do, is offering a 20% discount and contactless service. There is information regarding these things on the last page of the student book list. HAPPY READING!

Sincerely,  
The Middle School ELA/Library Team

For questions, please feel free to email Mrs. Elibol (grade 7 ELA teacher) at [lelibol@clarenceschools.org](mailto:lelibol@clarenceschools.org). The book list is also available on the CMS Website under the ACADEMICS tab - just open *Summer Reading*.

You can find magic  
wherever you look. Sit  
back and relax, all you  
need is a book.

- Dr. Seuss