



West Rocks Middle School
Summer Learning Packet
Incoming Grade 7
2025
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West Rocks Summer Reading and Math 2025

Over the Summer, you will have the opportunity to get lost in books and get ready for math for 10 weeks! Our School theme is, "All Together Now." All of the book choices focus on this theme of belonging to a community and the struggles and accomplishments of being in a community. Here, we are the West Rocks community, and our goal is for everyone to be part of the community while being safe, successful and known.

In addition, students will be jumping into the WRMS Math Community! Over the Summer your learning in Khan Academy and IXL Summer Boost will prepare you for the next School year!

Summer Challenge: For every task completed below, you will earn an incentive to participate in events the first week back at school.

TASK	INCENTIVE
★ Read 1 book and complete 2 Khan Academy Units and 1 wk of IXL	★ WRMS Swag
★ Read 2 books and complete 3 Khan Academy Units and 2 weeks of IXL	★ Extended Recess
★ Read at least 3 books and complete 4 or more Khan Academy units and 3 to 4 weeks of IXL	★ Ice Cream Party

 Come join us for our Summer Check in Event- Thurs July 31st at 1pm @West Rocks 

If you have questions please email Rebecca Sabol sabolr@norwalkps.org or Jayanti SeShan SeShanj@norwalkps.org

ALL Together Now Suggested Reading List:

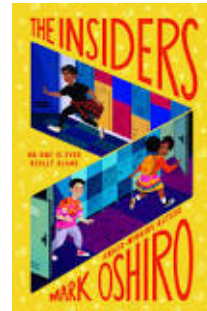
Amina's Voice by Hena Khan



This is a heartfelt story about a Pakistani-American Muslim girl, Amina, who is trying to navigate the complicated tides of middle school friendship.

★Hoopla, Libby, Main Library

The Insiders by Mark Oshiro

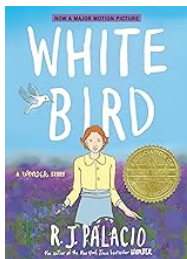


San Francisco and Orangevale may be in the same state, but for Héctor Muñoz, they might as well be a million miles apart. Back home, being gay didn't mean feeling different. At Héctor's new school, he couldn't feel more alone. One day he enters a room

that connects him with two new friends from different corners of the country-and opens the door to a life-changing year full of friendship, adventure, and just a little bit of magic.

★ Main Library

White Bird by R.J. Palacio



In this graphic novel that's a part of Palacio's "Wonder" universe, Sarah's happy life in France changed in the Summer of 1940, under German occupation. One day Nazi Soldiers arrive at school to take the Jewish children; Sara is rescued by a

classmate who leads her to safety. In hiding, she becomes friends with a boy who uses crutches to walk because his legs were affected by polio.

★ Main Library

One Crazy Summer By Rita Williams-Garcia



Three sisters travel to Oakland, California, in 1968 to meet the mother who abandoned them. Their mother is nothing like they imagined and instead of going to Disneyland they go to a day camp. Unexpectedly, the sisters learn much about their family, their country, and themselves during one truly crazy summer.

★Main Library, Sono Library

Save Me a Seat by Gita Varadarajan



Two Boys are in the Same School...one has lived there all his life and one has just moved from India. Joe and Ravi don't think they have anything in common - but Soon enough they have a common enemy (the biggest bully

in their class) and a common mission: to take control of their lives over the course of a single crazy week.

★Libby, Norwalk Library

Posted by John David Anderson



When cell phones are banned at Branton Middle School, Frost and his friends Deedee, Wolf, and Bench come up with a new way to communicate: leaving sticky notes for each other all around the school.

★Libby, Main Library, Sono Library

★ Look Both Ways by Jason Reynolds

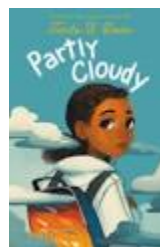


Jason Reynolds tells this story in ten tales (one per block) about what happens after the dismissal bell rings, and brilliantly weaves them into one funny, piercingly poignant look at the detours we face on the

walk home, and in life.

★SORA, Main Library

Partly Cloudy by Tanita Davis



From award-winning author Tanita S. Davis comes a nuanced exploration of the microaggressions of middle school and a young Black girl named Madalyn who learns that being a good friend means dealing with the blue

skies and the rain-and having the tough conversations on days that are partly cloudy.

★Main Library

New Kid by Jerry Craft



New Kid is a graphic novel that tells the story of a 12-year-old African American boy named Jordan Banks who experiences culture shock when he enrolls at a private school.

★SORA, Hoopla, Libby, Main Library

Ghost by Jason Reynolds



Ghost is a heartwarming tale of a young boy who must overcome his memories of a traumatic experience, prejudice and turn his life around before it's too late.

★SORA, Libby, Main Library

Wonder by R.J Palacio

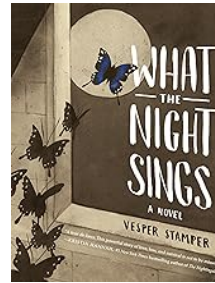


August (Auggie) Pullman was born with a severe facial difference that, up until now, has prevented him from going to a mainstream school. Starting 5th grade at Beecher Prep, Auggie wants nothing more than to be

treated as an ordinary kid-but his new classmates can't get past his extraordinary face

★SORA, PDF, Main and Sono Library, Hoopla

What the Night Sings by Vesper Stamper

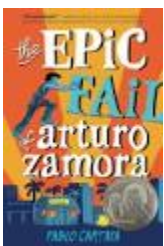


This beautifully illustrated novel tells the story of teen Holocaust survivor Gerta Rausch, who finds out she is Jewish on the day she is taken to a concentration camp with her father. Gerta plays the viola with an orchestra at

the camp and struggles to reconcile her identity and desires in the wake of tragedy.

★Main and Sono Library

Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora By Pablo Cartaya



Save the restaurant. Save the town. Get the girl. Make Abuela proud. Can thirteen-year-old Arturo Zamora do it all or is he in for a BIG, EPIC FAIL?

★Sono Library, Main Library

Falling Short By Ernesto Cisneros



Two best friends must rely on each other in unexpected ways during their first year of middle school. But will their friendship and support for each other be enough to keep the two boys from falling short?

★SORA, Main Library

Norwalk Public Library Cards



All Norwalk Public School students have access to Norwalk Public Library!

[Instructions from Norwalk Public Library website:](#) Your library card number will always start with the library's unique code - 21294. Then you add 00 in front of your 7 digit student ID number. (If you have a 6 digit student ID number, then you will add three zeros in between the 21294 and your student ID #.)

It should look like this: **21294001234567**

Some things to do with your card:

- [Libby/Overdrive](#) - Download ebooks, audiobooks to your device!
- [Homework Help Now](#) - Live tutors can help you with your homework questions, research, and test prep. Available Monday-Sunday, 3pm-10pm EST.
- [Hoopla](#) - Stream audiobooks, movies, and ebooks from home!
- [Catalog to find books, movies and more](#) - place a hold and pick up at the Main Library or the Sono Branch Library.
- [CreativeBug](#) - Experience the joy of making with thousands of award-winning video classes taught by top designers and artists.



1. Get Ready for 7th Grade Khan Academy Summer Review

Please follow this link.

<https://www.khanacademy.org/math/get-ready-for-7th-grade>

You will have 6 units to practice on. Please watch the videos (if you need a refresher!) and complete the assignments.



Get ready for 7th grade math

6 UNITS • 63 SKILLS

UNIT 1

Get ready for negative number operations

UNIT 2

Get ready for fractions, decimals, & percentages

UNIT 3

Get ready for rates & proportional relationships

UNIT 4

Get ready for expressions, equations, & inequalities

UNIT 5

Get ready for geometry

UNIT 6

Get ready for statistics & probability

Get Ready for **Grade 7 Accelerated** Grade Khan Academy **Summer Review**

(note: you are doing Grade 8 Math for the upcoming year)

Please follow this link. You will be going to Grade 8 math.

<https://www.khanacademy.org/math/get-ready-for-8th-grade>

You will have 4 units to practice on. Please watch the videos(if you need a refresher!) and complete the assignments.



Get ready for 8th grade math

4 UNITS • 44 SKILLS

UNIT 1

Get ready for numbers and operations

UNIT 2

Get ready for solving equations and systems of equations

UNIT 3

Get ready for linear equations and functions

UNIT 4

Get ready for geometry

Your teacher will be able to view your progress upon returning to school in August!



IXL Summer Boost skill plan

2. You will also do 4 weeks of Summer boost IXL. This is split up by days (5) where you will work on 1 skill per day. You will have a total of 20 skills.

- a) [Instructions on how to log in](#)
- b) The Summer boost plan for [incoming 7th graders](#) or go [directly to IXL](#)
- c) Summer boost plan for [incoming Accelerated 7th graders](#) (remember, you will do 8th grade Math work!) or go [directly to IXL](#)

3. Additional Math skills: This is a paper-pencil packet!

[WR Summer Packet - Math 6.docx](#)

[WR Summer Packet - Accel Math 6.docx](#)

Summer Reading Log

Name of Book	Amount of Pages	Date Finished	Did you read it to Someone? Initials

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Summer Math Log (Only for Khan Academy , we can See your IXL online!)

Name of Unit	Write the Names of the Lessons Completed

Parent/Guardian Signature:.....

Summer Reading Book Talk

Task	You will create a book talk for your classmates based on your summer reading. The goal is to get your peers hooked, or interested in reading the book you recommend in your book talk. You have an awesome responsibility. Ready to motivate others to read?
Book Talk	A book talk is a 1-3 minute talk about a book you want to motivate others to read. It is similar to a movie trailer but for books. The purpose of a book talk is to "sell" the book. You want to give enough information about the text to interest the listeners but you are not giving a summary of the book. You don't want to give away the important parts of the book. You certainly never want to give away the ending. You want to highlight the interesting points. You may want to read certain passages to your listeners. The main purpose of a book talk is to grab the audience's interest and make them want to read the book. It's always a good idea to end the book talk with a cliffhanger. The book talker presents the book talk orally and usually has the book as a visual prop.
Essential Question	How can I get people in my class hooked on an interesting book?

Product	<p>Your mission is to create an exciting book talk.</p> <p>To begin, you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First, think about what gets you excited about reading. Is it the characters? Or is it the setting, an exciting plot, interesting themes, or a personal connection you have with the story? Do you like to read about our world through nonfiction? ● Second, find a great book to share. ● Third, prepare the attached book talk template to help you prepare for the talk. ● Fourth, prepare an exciting script for your book talk by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Including an interesting hook. ○ Thoroughly and vividly describing the text by using interesting words. ○ Explain how the text can be connected to the listeners in the class. ○ Retelling an exciting part of the text without ○ Restating the title and author at the end of your book talk. ○ Leaving your listeners with a compelling reason for checking out the book you recommended. ● Fifth, deliver your book talk in small groups. Remember to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Speak loudly and clearly. ○ Make frequent eye contact with your audience. ○ Speak with enthusiasm. Remember it's your job to hook your reader.
Assessment	<p>You will be graded using the Book Talk Rubric.</p>

Book Talk Rubric

Grading Criteria	5 Points	3 Points	1 Point
Did I “hook” the audience?	Provided a hook: an amusing fact, a series of questions, a short demonstration, a colorful visual, or a personal connection to the story	Gave a one or two sentence introduction, then starts speech	Did not attempt to gain the audience’s attention - just started speech
Did I tell what happens in the book without saying too much?	Gave overview in several sentences and related an exciting part	Spent too long on summary of book with little mention of a good part of book	Gave summary of book in too much detail
Did I provide the right amount of detail?	Yes, put in enough details to give the listener a sense of time, place, and events	Yes, put in some details, but missed some key details and left audience somewhat confused	No, I didn’t put in enough details, but I did include a few
Did I mention the author and title of the book at the end of my book talk?	Yes, and only at the end!	Yes, but I also mentioned it at start of talk	No, I forgot to mention this
How did I do on my presentation?	Clear, strong, cheerful voice and good eye contact with audience	Little expression in voice and/or little eye contact	Difficult to understand - volume/pacing

Total is _____ out of 25 points

Book Talk Template

Directions: Please respond to the following parts of the Book Talk in complete sentences.

Title of Book

Author

I selected this book because...

Introduce the book with a hook:

Tell about the book, but don't give away the ending!(Fiction or Nonfiction)

Fiction:

Characteristics to describe the main characters:

Setting:

Problem:

A few key events(without giving too much away)

Theme:

Explain how this book connects to our “All Together Now” theme. How does this book illustrate the importance of being a part of a community?

Tell about your favorite part of the book and explain why this event stood out to you.

Give a recommendation (e.g. If you like...you will love this book or I recommend this book to anyone who likes...).