

WELCOME TO SUMMER READING!

We believe that learning is a year-round endeavor, and that summer vacation presents unique opportunities for our students to develop into better readers. With these beliefs as our guide, we have designed a program of summer reading for incoming sixth grade readers that is intended to motivate them to love and enjoy reading independently. Statistics show that children who read during school breaks, particularly the longer summer break, retain their reading skills that might otherwise be lost. It has also been proven that the middle school years are critical in developing lifelong reading habits.

FOR PARENTS

Education is a partnership, and your encouragement, involvement and support are an important component of your child's success. Thank you for your help in promoting a love of reading. We suggest that you set aside some time during the day for the family to read. In this way you can provide an appropriate environment for reading to occur, but most importantly you will provide a good role model for your children. With the right book, the right setting, and a little incentive, the reading habit can be sustained and growth in reading can be maintained during the summer months.

Active Reading Strategies!

PREDICT - Try to figure out what might happen next; then read on to see how accurate your predictions were.

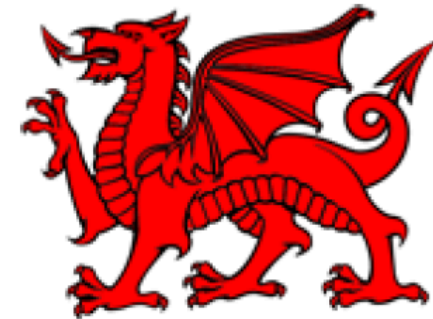
VISUALIZE - Picture in your mind the people, places and events being described to help you understand what is happening.

CONNECT - Connect personally with what you're reading. Think about experiences that you have had, heard about, or read about and how they are similar to or different from what is happening in the book.

QUESTION - Ask questions about what you are reading. What is happening? Why? How? All of these questions will help you feel closer to what you're reading.

CLARIFY - Review your understanding of what you read. Do this by summarizing, identifying the main ideas, making inferences and drawing conclusions. If you need to, reread and use a reference book such as a dictionary.

EVALUATE Form opinions about what you read, both while reading and after you've finished. Develop your own ideas and support them from what you've read.



8TH GRADE SUMMER READING

DERBY MIDDLE SCHOOL

WE LOOK
FORWARD TO
SEEING YOU IN
THE FALL!

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

Each 8th grade Derby Middle School student is required to read *Lord of the Flies* and complete a writing assignment in preparation for the fall semester. This assignment will earn you credit in your language arts class. Completing the first assignment of the school year starts you off on the right foot for the year. You will be maintaining and strengthening your reading and writing skills.

Assignment for Lord of the Flies

This assignment should be typed, organized, and legible. It will serve as an aid to your memory as you complete a culminating in class Writing Assignment. Also, this will be turned in to your teachers for grading.

1. Identify the main character and list 5 adjectives that best describe him/her. (Character Development)
2. Identify where and when the story takes place. (Setting)
3. Identify 3 other characters and their relationship/ interaction with the main character. (Character)
4. Identify the main problem the main character faces. Is the problem resolved? How or why not? (Conflict/s)
5. State the climax or turning point of the story (event that brings about the resolution, the most exciting part of the story). Describe this event in detail, and explain why you believe it to be the climax.
6. Identify the main theme (message).
7. Title your paper with novel name and author.



If you have your own copy of the novel, do not be afraid to mark favorite passages or jot down your thoughts in the margins as many readers do. This way you can review your notes and refresh your memory just prior to discussion. Or, if you prefer, use sticky notes throughout the novel to help you refer back to important information.

Although only one (1) additional novel is required summer reading, you are encouraged to read as many selections as you can during summer vacation. Remember to record all novels read over summer on the Reading Record below. Bring the completed brochure with you the first week of school.

Reading Record

1. Lord of the Flies by W. Golding
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

GALLERY WALK ART AND LITERATURE CONNECTION FOR VISUAL THINKERS

Pre-reading Activity: Before reading *Lord of the Flies*, which of the following pieces of artwork do you think are most interesting and create the most curiosity for you about the story?

In a short, well-written response using complete sentences, describe your choice and at least two reasons why you made this choice.

To view the artwork on a Google Slides presentation, use this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/LOTFgallery>

Post-reading Activity: Now that you have completed reading *Lord of the Flies*, which of the same pieces of artwork (link found above) do you feel now best captures the themes, symbols, and essence of the novel?

On the same document with your pre-writing activity, provide a well-written response using complete sentences to provide an explanation for your choice. Be sure to discuss the elements of the artwork and the connection that exists with the novel.

Both of these written responses should be typed, double spaced with 12 size font. These responses will be collected during the first week of school.