Voorhees Middle School

2026 8th Grade Summer Reading List

Voorhees Middle School is pleased to announce our summer reading initiative. To help support student choice and inspire our students to become lifelong readers, there will be multiple book options for each grade level. Students must read at least one of the books for the grade they will enter in September. In addition, they will complete an activity from the choices below for the book they have chosen. Students may choose to purchase the book (Inkwood Books in Haddonfield is offering our families a 20% discount all summer), use the Camden County Library, or check MackinVia (use Google login for access).

FICTION

Inheritance Games (any book in series) by Jennifer Barnes
Scythe (any book in series) by Neal Shusterman
Allies by Alan Gratz
Dinged by Tommy Greenwald
Crying Laughing by Lance Rubin
Slacker by Gordon Korman
One of Us is Lying (any book in series) by Karen McManus
Miles Morales: Suspended by Jason Reynolds
The Island by Natasha Preston
The Summer I Turned Pretty (any book in series) by Jenny Han
Breakout by Various
The Hunger Games (any book in series) by Suzanne Collins

NON-FICTION

Save the People: Halting Human Extinction by Stacy McAnulty
Impossible Escape: A True Story of Survival and Heroism in Nazi Europe by Steve Sheinkin
The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind by William Kamkwamba
Oppenheimer and the Atomic Bomb: Young Readers Edition by Kai Bird

GRAPHIC NOVEL

Sunshine by Jarrett Krosoczka
Bomb by Steve Sheinkin
Run and Hide: How Jewish Youth Escaped the Holocaust by Don Brown
The Librarian of Auschwitz by Salva Rubio

Summer Reading Assignment Choice Board

Read your book and complete **ONE** of the following 8 choices.

Assignment: Due Date: Thursday, September 10th

Be prepared to share your assignment in Reading Class.

1. Present a Book Talk Show the class the book and include the following features in your talk: **Title, Author, Genre, Reading Difficulty, Plot (without giving too much away.) Pick a short excerpt to read aloud.** **Sell It: Why should people read it?** *__prepare ahead by writing notes__ on an index card that you can refer to while you are talking. **You must be prepared with notes to earn credit.** Be prepared to speak in front of the class with your notes and a copy of your book.	**2. Create a Playlist** Create a written list of 8-10 songs that reflect the events and theme of your novel. List each song and the artist. After each song include a few sentences explaining why you included that song and how it connects to the novel. The songs must in some way reflect the title of the novel, the genre, the characters, plot and/or the theme . Include your name.
3. Audio Podcast Record yourself discussing your book. Include the title and author as well as your opinion of the book. Be creative with your podcast. Give additional information about the characters or setting not revealed in the novel. Create an alternate ending or continue the story. If you read non-fiction, research something from your book and present your findings.	**4. Book Trailer Video** Create a short video 'movie trailer' for your novel. Pretend the novel has been made into a movie. Create a video encouraging others to see the movie. Must include: **Title, characters/actors, Information about the plot (without giving too much away), Sell it: why should people see it?** Look online for sample book trailer videos for ideas. *be prepared to share the video in class on the day it is due.

5. Create a Book Bento	6. Streaming Watch Next List
Market your book to others by gathering a minimum of **5 items** related to your book and arranging them in a visually appealing manner. Take a picture and upload it to Google Slides. Make it interactive by adding links to book trailers, book reviews, author interviews, historical background, and/or text boxes **explaining why you chose the items you did**.	**Create a list** of **8-10 shows or movies** from your favorite streaming service that would be something a character in your book would be interested in watching. **For each show, give textual evidence such as specific character traits or plot details from the novel to show the connection between the show and your book.**
7. Character Analysis	**8. Design a Book Jacket**
Choose a character in your book and answer the following question using textual evidence: "How does the writer use this character to convey a message or lesson?" Use family background, philosophy and values, effect on others, how they would like to be treated, and actions to develop your answer. Your response must be in **RACER** format. It should be at least 10 sentences or more.	Use Google Slides, paper, or another app to design your book cover. Include the title, author, and artwork on the front. Include information on the back about the plot and characters. Include some short reviews about the book saying why others should read it. Make it colorful and visually appealing. Don't forget to include your name.