



2016 Pre-AP Required Summer Reading for Students Entering Grades 6-9

What is the PfISD philosophy behind summer reading?

PfISD encourages all students to read over the summer to

- help students maintain English Language Arts skills over the summer break
- expose students to quality literature that they might not pick up on their own
- promote independent reading, inquiry, and scholarship, which will facilitate students as lifelong learners

PfISD requires students who are enrolled in Pre-AP or AP English to read over the summer to

- allow teachers to begin literary discussions at the level of depth and complexity required in an Advanced Academics course during the first weeks of school
- build a base of literature from which students will draw upon when completing advanced placement assessments

Activities / Grading

All PfISD students are encouraged to read from this list over the summer.

Students in **Pre-AP or AP English** classes are required to read their assigned book(s)

(see page 2) over the summer and will complete oral and written assignments after the second week of school based on their reading. Students are also expected to annotate or take notes to help them process their reading and prepare for the projects/activities they will complete. Projects/activities will be assigned by the teacher and discussion over the novels will begin after the second week of school. Students will receive an **assessment grade** after the second week of school for the work they complete over their chosen summer reading book in order to accommodate transfer students and schedule changes. Any late work or make-up work related to the summer reading book will be completed by the end of the first six-weeks.

How were the books chosen for these lists?

Pre-AP and AP English teachers and administrators meet to discuss and determine the reading list. Books are chosen based on the following criteria:

- Appropriate readability for independent summer reading
- High interest for students at the designated grade level
- Literary merit/promote rich discussion and literary analysis
- Appropriate genres and themes

Please note that some of the books on these lists may contain **mature language or situations**. We strongly encourage parents and/or guardians to preview the books.



6th Grade Choices

Students entering Grade 6 Pre-AP will read any one book from the following list:

Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli

The Lost Years of Merlin by T.A. Barron

Chinese Cinderella by Adeline Yen Mah

The Watsons Go to Birmingham by Christopher Paul Curtis

Escape: The Story of the Great Houdini by Sid Fleischman

Surviving Hitler: A Boy in the Nazi Death Camps by Andrea Warren

Wonder by R.J. Palacios

The False Prince by Jennifer Nielsen

Ripper by Stefan Petrucha

Any book from the **2016 Lone Star Reading list:**
<http://www.txla.org/groups/lone-star>

7th Grade Choices

Students entering Grade 7 Pre-AP will read any one book from the following list:

Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie by Jordan Sonnenblick

Code Talker by Joseph Bruchac

Dark Water Rising by Marian Hale

The Greatest (Muhammed Ali) by Walter Dean Myers

Cesar Chavez (Just the Facts Biographies) by David R. Collins

Any book from the **2016 Lone Star Reading list:**
<http://www.txla.org/groups/lone-star>

8th Grade Choices

Students entering Grade 8 Pre-AP will read any one book from the following list:

Airborn by Kenneth Oppel

The Call of the Wild by Jack London

Hang a Thousand Trees with Ribbons by Ann Rinaldi

Unwind by Neal Shusterman

The Trouble Begins at 8: the Life of Mark Twain in the Wild, Wild, West by Sid Fleischman

The Voice that Challenged a Nation: Marian Anderson and the Struggle for Civil Rights by Russell Freedman

Any book from the **2016 Lone Star Reading list:**
<http://www.txla.org/groups/lone-star>

English I Pre-AP

Students entering English I Pre-AP will read one book from the following list:

The Bean Trees by Barbara Kingsolver

Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd

Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe

Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story by Ben Carson

The Help by Kathryn Stockett

The Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri