

East Meadow Union Free School District



W. TRESPER CLARKE MIDDLE SCHOOL

740 EDGEWOOD DRIVE

WESTBURY, NEW YORK 11590

516-876-7401 FAX 516-876-7407

WEB SITE: <http://eastmeadow.k12.ny.us/clarkems>

STACY BRESLIN, *Principal*

LINDA LYNCH, *Asst. Principal*

May, 2011

Dear Parents,

As we approach our ninth year of the East Meadow Summer Reading Program, we would like to thank you for assisting us in making reading a priority for your child. Students' success in school depends upon their ability to read thoughtfully and critically.

During the summer we ask you to encourage your children to read. Just as athletes need to stay in shape and train during the off season to excel at their sport, students need to stay "intellectually" in shape by reading over the summer. This will ensure a smooth transition back to school in September. In fact, research has shown, that students, who do not read over the summer fall $\frac{1}{4}$ grade behind in their reading level!

Attached is the book list for your child's 2011-2012 grade level. These titles were carefully chosen by teachers in the district and are appropriate for your child. Many of the titles are available at the school library. If your child chooses to borrow a book from the school's library, then it will be his/her responsibility to return the book to school by October 14th. Additionally, the East Meadow Public Library has received the lists, as have the local bookstores. Copies of these books will be made available at any of these venues.

Your child should read at least one book from the list. (Honors students should check the list for their mandatory assignments.) The books lists and assignments can also be found on the school's website.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stacy Breslin".

Stacy Breslin
Principal
Clarke Middle School

**East Meadow School District
Summer Reading List – 2011**

Entering Grade 6

TITLE

A Taste of Blackberries
Brian's Return
Burning Up
Diary of a Wimpy Kid Book 1
Frindle
Hatchet
Hot and Cold Summer
Orphan of Ellis Island
Sixth Grade Secrets
Stone Fox
The 39 Clues: Book One: Maze of Bones
The Ballad of Lucy Whipple
The Castle in the Attic (challenging)
The Watsons go to Birmingham (challenging)
Windcatcher

AUTHOR

Doris B. Smith
Gary Paulsen
Caroline Cooney
Jeff Kinney
Andrew Clements
Gary Paulsen
Johanna Hurwitz
Elvira Woodruff
Louis Sachar
John Reynolds Gardiner
Rick Riordan
Karen Cushman
Elizabeth Winthrop
Christopher Paul Curtis
Avi

East Meadow School District

Middle School

Summer Reading List - 2011

ENTERING GRADE 7	
TITLE	AUTHOR
<i>Absolutely Normal Chaos</i>	Sharon Creech
<i>Al Capone Does My Shirts</i>	Gennifer Choldenko
<i>Bud Not Buddy</i>	Christopher Paul Curtis
<i>Dragon Codex Series</i>	R. D. Henham
<i>Eragon</i>	Christopher Paolini
<i>Fever 1793</i>	Laurie Halse Anderson
<i>Little Women (challenging)</i>	Louisa May Alcott
<i>Out of the Dust</i>	Karen Hesse
<i>Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief</i>	Rick Riordan
<i>Something Wicked this Way Comes</i>	Ray Bradbury
<i>The Girls</i>	Amy Koss
<i>The Wish Giver: Three Tales of Coven Tree (reluctant reader)</i>	Bill Brittain
<i>Tiger Eyes</i>	Judy Blume
<i>Zlata's Diary</i>	Zlata Filipovic
Honors (choose one)	
<i>I am Regina</i>	Sally M. Keehn
<i>Wolf Rider</i>	Avi

ENTERING GRADE 8	
TITLE	AUTHOR
<i>A Boy at War (A Novel of Pearl Harbor)</i>	Harry Mazer
<i>Code Talker</i>	Joseph Bruchar
<i>Contender (challenging)</i>	Robert Lipsyte
<i>Crash (reluctant reader)</i>	Jerry Spinelli
<i>Hurt Go Happy</i>	Ginny Rorby
<i>Inkheart</i>	Cornelia Funke
<i>Lord of the Deep</i>	Graham Salisbury
<i>Martian Chronicles</i>	Ray Bradbury
<i>North</i>	Donna JoNapoli
<i>Rewind</i>	William Sleator
<i>Ryan White: My Own Story</i>	Ann Marie Cunningham.
<i>The Eyes of the Dragon</i>	Stephen King
<i>The Man Who Was Poe</i>	Avi
<i>The Puzzling World of Winston Breen: The Potato Chip Puzzles</i>	Eric Berlin
<i>The Second Summer of the Sisterhood (challenging)</i>	Ann Brashares
Honors	
<i>The Wave (required reading for Honors students)</i>	Todd Strasser

Summer Reading List

Entering 7th Grade

Absolutely Normal Chaos - Creech, Sharon. Thirteen-year-old Mary Lou grows up quickly during the summer while learning about romance, homesickness, death, and her cousin's search for his biological father.

Al Capone Does My Shirts - Choldenko, Gennifer. A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.

Bud Not Buddy - Curtis, Christopher Paul. Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father--the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids.

The Dragon Codex Series: The Red Dragon - Henham, R.D. Mudd is sent on a rescue mission when a red dragon attacks, burning the town and kidnapping Shemnara, the village seer. **Any volume is acceptable to read.**

Eragon - Paolini, Christopher. In Aagaesia, a fifteen-year-old boy of unknown lineage called Eragon finds a mysterious stone that weaves his life into an intricate tapestry of destiny, magic, and power, peopled with dragons, elves, and monsters.

The Girls - Koss, Amy Goldman. Each of the girls in a middle-school clique reveals the strong, manipulative hold one of the group exerts on the others, causing hurt and self-doubt among the girls.

Fever 1793 - Anderson, Laura Halse. Sixteen-year-old Matilda Cook, separated from her sick mother, learns about perseverance and self-reliance when she is forced to cope with the horrors of the yellow fever epidemic in Philadelphia in 1793.

***I Am Regina - Keehn, Sally M.** In 1755, as the French and Indian War begins, ten-year-old Regina is kidnapped by Indians in western Pennsylvania, and she must struggle to hold on to memories of her earlier life as she grows up under the name of Tskinnak and starts to become Indian herself.

The Lightning Thief - Riordan, Rick. Percy, expelled from six schools for being unable to control his temper, learns the truth from his mother that his father is the Greek god Poseidon, and is sent to Camp Half Blood where he is befriended by a satyr and the demigod daughter of Athena who join him in a journey to the Underworld to retrieve Zeus's lightning bolt and prevent a catastrophic war

Little Women - Alcott, Louisa May. This book chronicles the joys and sorrows of the four March sisters as they grow into young ladies in nineteenth-century New England.

Summer Reading List
Entering 7th Grade - page 2

Out Of the Dust - Hesse, Karen. In a series of poems, fifteen-year-old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's wheat farm in Oklahoma during the dust bowl years of the Depression.

Something Wicked This Way Comes - Bradbury, Ray. Two boys, best friends in a small mid-western town, finally come to understand that of all the terrors threatening them from Cooger and Dark's Pandemonium Shadow Show, the greatest menace of all exists within themselves.

Tiger Eyes - Blume, Judy. Resettled in the "Bomb City" with her mother and brother, Davey Wexler recovers from the shock of her father's death during a holdup of his 7-Eleven store in Atlantic City.

The Wish Giver: Three Tales of Coven Tree - Brittain, Bill. When a strange little man comes to the Coven Tree Church Social promising he can give people exactly what they ask for, three young believers-in-magic each make a wish that comes true in the most unexpected way.

***Wolf Rider - Avi.** After receiving what seemed to be a crank call from a man claiming to have committed murder, fifteen-year-old Andy finds his close relationship with his father crumbling as he struggles to make everyone believe that the call is really the precursor to the murder.

Zlata's Diary : A Child's Life In Sarajevo - Zlata Filipovic. The diary of a thirteen-year-old girl living in Sarajevo, begun just before her eleventh birthday when there was still peace in her homeland.

* Honors

Summer Reading List

Entering 8th Grade

A Boy at War (A Novel of Pearl Harbor)- Mazer, Harry. While fishing with his friends off Honolulu on December 7, 1941, teenaged Adam is caught in the midst of the Japanese attack and through the chaos of the subsequent days tries to find his father, a naval officer who was serving on the U.S.S. Arizona when the bombs fell.

Code Talker- Bruchac, Joseph. After being taught in boarding school that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.

Contender- Lypsite, Robert. After a successful start in a boxing career, a Harlem high school dropout decides that competing in the ring isn't enough and resolves to aim for different goals.

Crash- Spinelli, Jerry. Crash Coogan, rising football sensation, and his friend, Mike make a regular practice of tormenting the school nerd, Penn Webb, but when Mike takes a prank too far, Crash finds himself locked in a moral dilemma.

The Eyes of the Dragon- King, Stephen. In the kingdom of Delain, a young prince must struggle against powerful forces to gain his rightful inheritance.

Hurt Go Happy – Rorby, Ginny. Thirteen-year-old Joey Willis has been deaf since age six, but her mother has refused to let her learn sign language, leaving Joey struggling to connect with those around her until she meets Dr. Charles Mansell and his baby chimpanzee, who secretly teach Joey how to sign.

Inkheart – Funke, Cornelia, Caroline. Twelve-year-old Meggie learns that her father Mo, a bookbinder, can "read" fictional characters to life when an evil ruler named Capricorn, freed from the novel "Inkheart" years earlier, tries to force Mo to release an immortal monster from the story.

Lord of the Deep- Salisbury, Graham. Working for his stepfather on a charter fishing boat in Hawaii teaches thirteen-year-old Mikey about fishing, and about taking risks, making sacrifices, and facing some of life's difficult choices.

The Man Who Was Poe- Avi. In Providence, R.I., in 1848, Edgar Allan Poe reluctantly investigates the problems of eleven-year-old Edmund, whose family has mysteriously disappeared and whose story suggests a new Poe tale with a ghastly final twist.

Summer Reading List

Entering 8th Grade - page 2

Martian Chronicles- Bradbury, Ray. This book chronicles a fictional attempt by humans to colonize an already inhabited Mars by transforming the Red planet into a mirror image of the world they left behind.

North - Napoli, Donna Jo. Running away from his problems, twelve year old Alvin decides to follow the path taken by his hero, African American explorer Matthew Henson, and go to the Arctic.

The Potato Chip Puzzles- Berlin, Eric. Winston and his friends enter an all-day puzzle contest to win fifty-thousand dollars for their school, but they must also figure out who is trying to keep them from winning. Puzzles for the reader to solve are included throughout the text.

Rewind- Sleator, William. An unhappy, eleven-year-old Peter is hit by a car after arguing with his adoptive parents and dies. He is then given three chances to alter the events that lead to his death and if successful, rewind and change his ending.

Ryan White: My Own Story - White, Ryan. Teenager Ryan White describes how he got AIDS, engaged in a legal battle to return to school, and became a celebrity and spokesman for issues concerning the deadly disease.

The Second Summer of the Sisterhood - Brashires, Ann. A sequel to “The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants” in which four girls, now sixteen embark on another summer of travels and life lessons charmed by a shared pair of seemingly magical thrift-store jeans.

*The Wave - Strasser, Todd. A dramatization of an actual social studies classroom experiment where the students and their teacher establish a fascist society within their school.

*Honors Book

East Meadow School District
Clarke Middle School
Summer Reading List
2010

ENGLISH – MANDATORY READING

ENTERING GRADE 9 H		Ms. Rizza (505)
TITLE	AUTHOR	
<i>Things Fall Apart</i>	Chinua Achebe	

ENGLISH – VOLUNTARY READING

The following titles are voluntary and can be read for extra credit. Teachers in English and Social Studies will provide a variety of assignments in September.

ENTERING GRADE 9 R	
TITLE	AUTHOR
<i>Anthem</i>	Ayn Rand
<i>The Body of Christopher Creed</i>	Carol Plum-Ucci
<i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time</i>	Mark Haddon

East Meadow School District

ESL

Summer Reading List - 2011

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Students will read books from the designated lists guided by their ESL teacher.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

TITLE

AUTHOR

Baseball Fever

Johanna Hurwitz (advanced and intermediate)

How to Eat Fried Worms

Thomas Rockwell (advanced and intermediate)

Marvin Redpost: Class President

Louis Sachar (beginners)

HIGH SCHOOL

TITLE

AUTHOR

Emma (adapted version)

Jane Austin (beginner)

Seven Stories (adapted version)

H.G. Wells

Frankenstein (adapted version)

Mary Shelley

The House on Mango Street

Sandra Cisneros

Before We Were Free

Julia Alvarez

ESL SUMMER READING LIST

Baseball Fever- Hurwitz, Johanna. Ten-year-old Ezra tries to convince his scholarly father that his baseball fever is not wasting his mind.

How to Eat Fried Worms - Rockwell, Thomas. Two boys set out to prove that worms can make a delicious meal after a bet is made forcing one of the boys to eat some worms.

Marvin Redpost: Class President- Sachar, Louis. Even though they have all come to school in holey clothes, Marvin and his third grade class manage to impress their surprise visitor-the President of the United States.

ADDITIONAL SELECTION FOR SUMMER READING

Diary of a Wimpy Kid; Dog Day - Kinney, Jeff. Greg Heffley recounts his daily experiences during summer vacation as he tries to live out his ultimate fantasy of spending the days indoors playing video games with no responsibilities and no rules, despite his mother's attempts to pack the summer with outdoor activities and family fun.

Fast Company: Winning Season - Wallace, Rich. When sixth-grader Manny Ramos, one of the fastest runners on the youth football team, joins the new track club, he hopes that his light weight will be a benefit in racing against more experienced guys.

Friends Forever: The Complicated Life of Claudia Cristina Cortez - Gallagher, Diana Claudia tries to talk her friend, Monica, out of trying out for cheerleading fearing that she will be let down because only the cool kids make the squad.

Hey Kid, Want to Buy a Bridge?- Scieszka, Jon. Thanks to their magical book, Fred, Sam, and Joe inadvertently travel through time to 1877 New York City, where they and their granddaughters, who have also come from the future, help them find a way back to their own time.

Timewarp Trio: Summer Reading is Killing Me - Scieszka, Jon. At the beginning of summer vacation Joe, Sam, and Fred find themselves trapped inside their summer reading list, involved in a battle between good and evil characters from well-known children's books.

Wanna Buy an Alien?- Bunting, Eve. For his eleventh birthday Ben receives an offer of a ride to the planet Cham with an alien named Iku, and when the appointed meeting time arrives he is not sure if he faces an exciting opportunity or horrible danger.