Upcoming BMS Eighth Graders Summer Reading

Upcoming 8th graders: The goal of summer reading is to READ! Choose **ONE** book from within your Lexile level, read it over the summer, and complete the attached journal entries. Journal entries are due during the first week of school. We have some books to loan out, or you may buy the book or borrow it from a public library. We encourage you to visit the Barberton Public Library or the Akron Summit County Public Library and participate in a summer reading club for rewards and prizes! This assignment will earn you extra credit to start out the year if done in its entirety and turned in by 8/28/2026.

Assignments must be turned in by Friday, August 28, 2026, for full extra credit
Assignments turned in after Friday, August 28, 2026, will receive no credit

Parents/Guardians-Teenage books often include more mature themes and language of interest to young adults. Please understand that no student is required to read any particular book. If you have questions about the content of a specific book, please visit https://www.commonsensemedia.org/ to determine if a book is ok for your child.

Incoming 8th Grade Summer Reading Assignment

Directions: Complete all 5 journal entries for the book you choose to read from your Lexile range. You may keep a paper journal in legible handwriting, or you may wish to use Google Docs and submit electronically. All journal entries must be completed to earn full extra credit.

Summer Reading Journal #1
1. Tell me about the main character in your book. What is he or she like? What age is the character? What job does the character have (school is a job)? What does he or she do (spare time/hobbies)? What is his or her living situation (family)?
2. In what ways are you similar to or different from the main character in your book? Explain.

Summer Reading Journal #2
Overall, do you like the book you're reading? What specifically do you like or dislike about the book? Please provide details about the plot, setting, conflict, and characters to support your answer. Pretend I haven't read the book. Convince me to read it, or not read it.

Summer Reading Journal #3
Compare the book you are reading now to any book you've read before. What similarities are there between that book and your book? What differences are there? (think plot, setting, conflict…obviously they have different characters. Think a little more deeply)

Summer Reading Journal #4
1. What is the title of the book you are reading? How does it relate to the story? If you haven't read that far yet, what do you think the title could possibly mean? Make a prediction.
2. Explain why you chose your book to read. What factors went into your decision (interesting cover, back cover, recommendation)?

Summer Reading Journal #5
Describe the ending of your book. What caused the story to end the way it did: the character's luck, hard work, skill, or a bright idea? Was the main conflict in the book resolved?