

Purpose: The Summer Reading Program encourages students to enjoy, think about, and evaluate what they read.

Reading/Writing Requirements:

Summer reading is worth up to 10% of the first quarter grade.

Choose **one** book from the following list. Read the book closely and be prepared to respond to a long composition prompt during the first full week of school in September. There is an optional journal assignment.

EXTRA CREDIT: You may earn extra credit by reading a second book from this list and/ or keeping a journal using the summer reading journal prompts (see your teacher or the FHS website).

For your second book evaluation, you will be asked to respond in a variety of ways. Keep a journal as you read as you may be able to submit the journal as the second book evaluation. Follow the journal prompts.

Adams, Richard: Watership Down

This allegorical story, which blends myth and epic, follows a warren of rabbits fleeing the destruction of their home by a land developer.

Anaya, Rudolfo: Bless Me Ultima

Winner of the Premio Quinto Sol national Chicano literary award, this novel tells the story of a young Chicano boy growing up in New Mexico in the 1940's.

Angelou, Maya: I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings

The first installment in African-American poet Maya Angelou's five-part autobiography chronicles her childhood in rural Arkansas through her early years in St. Louis and California.

Berg, Elizabeth: Durable Goods

A coming of age tale in which 12-year-old Katie deals with her mother's death from cancer.

Card, Orson Scott: Ender's Game

This science-fiction adventure novel, in which aliens have attacked Earth twice and almost destroyed the human species, places human scientific genius Ender Wiggin in the position of trying to save the planet.

Carson, Rachel: Silent Spring (What's Falmouth Reading book choice for 2011)

In 1960, a woman noticed the birds had stopped singing and their population had severely decreased in her neighborhood. She summoned a friend, biologist/writer Rachel Carson, to investigate this mystery. Subsequently, Carson's discoveries and efforts were brought to the forefront in this book. The overuse of pesticides had poisoned the environment. Carson sparked the environmental movement of today.

Clark, Mary Higgins: Where are the Children?

Clark's suspense thriller about a Cape Cod mother twice accused of masterminding her children's disappearances

Crane, Dede: Poster Boy

At 16, Gray has everything he could ask for: a private bedroom in the basement, freedom, relaxed parents and a hot girlfriend, until his sister is diagnosed with cancer. Gray and his mother are determined to help Maggie recover, and their actions affect the whole family.

Crutcher, Chris: Deadline

Given the medical diagnosis of one year to live, high school senior, Ben Wolf, deciding to tell no one sets out to fulfill his greatest fantasies while pondering his life's purpose and legacy and conversing through dreams with his spiritual guide known as "Hey-Soos."

Doyle, Arthur Conan: The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

This is Doyle's classic tale of the original British super sleuth and his faithful sidekick Watson.

Draper, Sharon: Tears of a Tiger

The story of star high school basketball player Andy Jackson and the event that changes his life into a spiral of confusion.

Edwards, Kim: The Memory Keeper's Daughter

In a tale spanning 25 years, a doctor delivers his newborn twins during a snow storm and rashly deciding to protect his wife from their baby daughter's affliction with Down Syndrome, turns her over to a nurse who secretly raises the child.

Gallo, Don: Ultimate Sports

An anthology of original short stories by top authors, this is a terrific mix of serious and lighthearted stories about people and traditional and nontraditional games.

Grisham, John: The Chamber

- A legal thriller in which young attorney Adam Hall examines the case of his southern grandfather, KKK member Sam Cayhall, who is on death row for killing two men.*
- Haddon, Mark: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time
A teenage boy with Asperger's Syndrome (high functioning autistic) applies his relentless logic to discovering who killed a neighbor's dog
- Katz, Jon: Geeks: How Two Lost Boys Rode the Internet Out of Idaho
Teenage hackers Jesse Daily and Eric Twilegar are super smart, technically savvy misfits. This is the story of their flight from dead-end lives in Idaho Mormon country to brighter possibilities in Chicago.
- Krakauer, Jon: Into Thin Air
A personal account of the deadliest season on Mount Everest, Krakauer recounts the tragic fates of the May 1996 Expedition.
- Lauck, Jennifer: Blackbird: A Childhood Lost and Found
Jennifer Lauck's memoir recounts how her mother and father die within a few years of each other, leaving her to live with an uncaring stepmother.
- Lipsite, Robert: One Fat Summer
Bobby Marks is an overweight fourteen-year old boy who experiences a turning point summer during which he learns to stand up for himself.
- Lutrell, Marcus: Lone Survivor
Four Navy Seals are in Pakistan for a reconnaissance mission documenting the activity of an al Qaeda leader. Five days later, only one of the seals made it out alive.
- Marsden, John: Tomorrow, When the War Began
In this adventure novel, seven Australian teenagers return from a camping trip in the bush to discover that their country has been invaded and they must hide to stay alive.
- Na, An: A Step From Heaven
The story of a Korean family who migrates to America, told from the point of view of Young Jo, from her time as a preschooler through high school – a moving family portrait.
- Nix, Garth: Sabriel
In this Australian fantasy adventure, Sabriel is the heroine, a young girl who has lived outside the walls of the Old Kingdom, away from the power of Free Magic.
- Orwell, George: Animal Farm
Fueled by Orwell's intense disillusionment with Soviet Communism, Animal Farm is a nearly perfect piece of writing, both an engaging story of animals and an allegory about Russia after 1917.
- Peet, Mal: Tamar
Intense and riveting, this is a narrative told by 15 year old Tamar, the granddaughter of a resistance fighter in the Netherlands during World War II. The story goes back and forth between 1945 and 1995 and chronicles Tamar and her friend's loyalty to themselves and to their country.
- Picoult, Jodi: My Sister's Keeper
The story of Anna who is a genetic match for her older sister, Kate. Anna undergoes continual medical treatments to help save her sister, until one day when she decides not to anymore.
- Rebeck, Theresa: Three Girls and Their Brother
This witty satire of show-biz politics told from the perspective of four New York siblings in the eye of a publicity tornado provides an insider's look at the world of the rich and famous.
- Riverbend: Baghdad Burning: Girl Blog From Iraq
Actual postings from a blog by Riverbend, the pseudonym of a young woman in Baghdad, reveal her attempts to live a normal life in a war zone after the invasion of Iraq.
- Rosoff, Meg: How I Live Now
This riveting first novel paints a frighteningly realistic picture of a world war breaking out in the 21st Century. Told from the point of view of a 15-year-old Manhattan native Daisy, the novel follows her arrival and her stay with cousins on a remote farm in England.
- Voigt, Cynthia: Izzy, Willy-Nilly
After a car accident leaves fifteen-year-old Izzy disabled, she's determined not to show how much she's hurting. It takes Rosamunde to forcibly disrupt Izzy's sense of order and help her face her changed life.
- Walls, Jeanette: The Glass Castle
The second child of a scholarly, alcoholic father and an eccentric artist mother discusses her family's nomadic upbringing from the Arizona desert, to Las Vegas, to an Appalachian mining town, during which her siblings and she fended for themselves while their parents outmaneuvered bill collectors and the authorities.