

June 2011



Dear Incoming 7th and 8th Graders,

This year the summer reading assignment for incoming seventh and eighth graders will be **FREE CHOICE**. Students are expected to read a minimum of **TWO** choice books over the summer months and complete a Riverdale Town Library book review for each book read. This handout contains information about the summer reading program to include book selection parameters, directions for completing book reviews, extra credit options, suggested reading lists, and town library summer reading programs for teens.

Kindly review the packet and contact your current language arts teacher before the end of the school year with any questions, comments, or concerns. The summer reading assignment will be posted on the Riverdale School website with copies available in the school's main office and at the Riverdale Town Library.

In closing, it is our hope that students delve into high interest books over the summer and discover the joy reading can bring to life. Best wishes for an exciting and educational break!

Sincerely,

Ms. Maher, Ms. Miller, Mrs. Paldino, and Mrs. Radomski
Riverdale Middle School Language Arts Team



The worth of a book is to be measured by what you can carry away from it. ~James Bryce



SELECTING A BOOK

Select a book of **HIGH INTEREST** set at your **INDEPENDENT READING LEVEL**. This is the hardest level you can read but still enjoy on your own. Students may read **ANY** book on their independent reading level **EXCEPT** books read before, books appearing as movies, and books on the class novel list below. The Riverdale Town Librarian, Mrs. Rosemary Durso, and the Riverdale School Librarian, Mrs. Ploch, have created wonderful lists of suggested books for students. These lists are enclosed. Students can also locate books by seeking support from the town library, accessing the websites below, or referencing Ms. Miller's class webpage.

Class Novels - Off Limits	
Grade Seven <i>Daniel's Story</i> (Matas) <i>The Giver</i> (Lowry) <i>Nothing But the Truth</i> (Avi) <i>The Westing Game</i> (Raskins)	Grade Eight <i>Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl</i> <i>The Hobbit</i> (Tolkien) <i>Night</i> (Wiesel) <i>The Outsiders</i> (Hinton)

BOOK REVIEWS

Book review sheets are enclosed. Simply complete one book review for each book read. Students who plan to participate in the town library's raffle contest must submit their completed reviews to the town library by **August 4th**. Students who do not participate must submit their completed reviews to the town library **before Labor Day Weekend**. In September the town library will forward all reviews to the teachers. Any student who does not complete the **TWO** reviews required will make up the work during first marking period in addition to regularly scheduled assignments.

EXTRA CREDIT

Students will receive extra credit for reading beyond the two book minimum when they submit book reviews for these additional reads. Extra credit will also be earned for participation in the town library's teen reading programs. Be sure to check out the opportunities available at <http://www.riverdalelibrary.org/riverdale-library-teens>. In September the town library will forward extra credit reviews and participation lists to the teachers who will then meet with students to negotiate extra credit points.

QUESTIONS

Please contact Mrs. Rosemary Durso or any of the librarians at the Riverdale Town Library with questions over the summer months. Should a question arise that must be answered by a teacher, please email Ms. Miller mmiller@rpsnj.org or Mrs. Radomski at aradomski@rpsnj.org. The teachers will check emails once per week over the summer.

BOOK SUGGESTIONS



Riverdale Town Library
[http:// /riverdale-library-teens](http://riverdale-library-teens)

NJ Summer Reading Program
<http://www.njsummerreading.org/>

Teen Reads
www.teenreads.com

American Library Association: Best Books for Young Adults
<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/bestbooksya/bbyahome.cfm>

REMINDER: Teen books are written for a diverse group of readers who vary greatly in age, maturity level, and reading ability. Not every book will be suitable for every reader. Parents/ Guardians are asked to review the book choices their children make for content