

Summer Reading Assignment – Junior High

You are requested to complete the following summer reading assignment:

1. Select and read completely and thoroughly a novel from the attached list.
2. Within one week of returning to school next year take an Accelerated Reader quiz over the novel.

This will count toward your first quarter AR requirement of reading 2 ARs. For more information about Junior High AR requirements please visit my web site at <http://arbookreviews.wordpress.com/> . The web site also includes resources to help you acquire the books. There are links to **Local Libraries** that will allow you to reserve copies or download books; and the **Best Sellers and New Releases** page includes links to on-line retailers where you may purchase books.

Enjoy the books. I've selected novels that previous students have enjoyed. And this summer reading assignment will be an excellent introduction to the AR requirements in Junior High.

Sincerely,

Mr. Vicchiarelli

Junior High Summer Book List with Accelerated Reader Descriptions

IL = Interest Level (MG = Middle Grades, UG = Upper Grades)

BL = Book Level (Difficulty) AR Pts = Book Length

Rating = How much students enjoyed the book

1st Book in a Series:

These are highly recommended as students can continue to read from the series as they complete their Junior High Accelerated Reader (AR) requirements next year. These books tend however to be longer and more challenging; and some contain more mature themes. If you have already read any of these and would like to read another book in the series for summer that is fine.

The Maze Runner Dashner, James AR Quiz No. 133240 EN Fiction IL: **UG** - BL: **5.3** - AR Pts: **15.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP, VP** Rating: Sixteen-year-old Thomas wakes up with no memory in the middle of a maze and realizes he must work with the community in which he finds himself if he is to escape. The plot contains violence. Book #1

Legend Lu, Marie AR Quiz No. 148251 EN Fiction IL: **UG** - BL: **4.8** - AR Pts: **11.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP** Rating: In a dark future, when North America has split into two warring nations, 15-year-olds Day, a famous criminal, and prodigy June, the brilliant soldier hired to capture him, discover they have a common enemy. The plot contains graphic violence. Book #1

The Ruins of Gorlan Flanagan, John AR Quiz No. 89662 EN Fiction IL: **MG** - BL: **7.0** - AR Pts: **12.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP, VP** Rating: When fifteen-year-old Will is rejected by battleschool, he becomes the reluctant apprentice to the mysterious Ranger Halt and winds up protecting the kingdom from danger. Book #1

Delirium Oliver, Lauren AR Quiz No. 143097 EN Fiction IL: **UG** - BL: **6.1** - AR Pts: **18.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP** Rating: Lena looks forward to receiving the government-mandated cure that prevents the delirium of love and leads to a safe, happy life, until she falls in love days before her 18th birthday and her treatment. The plot contains violence. Book #1

Matched Condie, Ally AR Quiz No. 140501 EN Fiction IL: **UG** - BL: **4.8** - AR Pts: **13.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP, VP** Rating: Cassia has always had complete trust in the Society to make decisions for her, but when she is being paired with her ideal mate, a second face flashes on the screen, and Cassia begins to doubt the Society's infallibility. Book #1

The Lightning Thief Riordan, Rick AR Quiz No. 89885 EN Fiction IL: **MG** - BL: **4.7** - AR Pts: **13.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP, LS, VP** Rating: Twelve-year-old Percy Jackson learns he is a demigod, the son of a mortal woman and Poseidon, god of the sea. His mother sends him to a summer camp for demigods, where he and his new friends set out on a quest to prevent a war between the gods. Book #1

The Testing Charbonneau, Joelle AR Quiz No. 158911 EN Fiction IL: **MG+** - BL: **5.6** - AR Pts: **15.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP** Rating: Sixteen-year-old Malencia (Cia) Vale is chosen to participate in The Testing to attend the University, but she is fearful when she figures out that her friends who do not pass The Testing disappear. Book #1

The False Prince Nielsen, Jennifer A. AR Quiz No. 150554 EN Fiction IL: **MG** - BL: **5.1** - AR Pts: **12.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP** In the country of Carthya, a devious nobleman engages four orphans in a brutal competition to be selected to impersonate the king's long-missing son in an effort to avoid a civil war. Book #1

Sports Books:

These are recommended for young men who generally avoid reading at all costs. The books are shorter in length, reasonable in terms of difficulty, and obviously sports related. Mike Lupica has authored numerous sports books and many reluctant readers in the past have relied on his books to meet their AR requirements throughout the year. **Any Mike Lupica novel is acceptable!**

Heat Lupica, Mike AR Quiz No. 106285 EN Fiction IL: **MG** - BL: **5.3** - AR Pts: **9.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP, VP** Rating: Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old, and he has no parents to offer them proof.

The Big Field Lupica, Mike AR Quiz No. 120560 EN Fiction IL: **MG** - BL: **5.3** - AR Pts: **8.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP, VP** Rating: Hutch feels threatened when Darryl becomes the shortstop and Hutch is relegated to second base. He tries to work through his insecurities about both Darryl and his remote and silent father, who was once a great ballplayer too.

Million-Dollar Throw Lupica, Mike AR Quiz No. 133416 EN Fiction IL: **MG** - BL: **5.4** - AR Pts: **8.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP, LS, VP** Rating: Eighth-grade star quarterback Nate gets a chance to win a million dollars if he can complete a pass during the halftime of a New England Patriot's game, and he is nearly overwhelmed by the pressure to succeed.

The Only Game Lupica, Mike AR Quiz No. 171979 EN Fiction IL: **MG** - BL: **5.0** - AR Pts: **9.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP** Rating: Sixth grade is supposed to be the year that Jack would lead his team to the Little League World Series, but after the death of his brother, he loses interest in baseball, and only Cassie, star of the girls' softball team, seems to understand. **Book #1**

Strike Three, You're Dead Berk, Josh AR Quiz No. 157686 EN Fiction IL: **MG** - BL: **4.1** - AR Pts: **7.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP** Rating: Lenny Norbeck and his friends the Mikes set out to investigate the suspicious death of a young pitcher at a Phillies game. The plot contains violence. **Book #1**

Nonfiction:

Common Core Standards include an increased emphasis on nonfiction reading. The following are highly recommended:

Bomb: The Race to Build--and Steal--the World's Most Dangerous Weapon Sheinkin, Steve AR Quiz No. 153499 EN Nonfiction IL: **UG** - BL: **6.9** - AR Pts: **10.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP** Rating: This book about the history of the atomic bomb discusses

the discovery of the behavior of uranium when placed next to radioactive material, the race to build a bomb, and the impact of the weapon on societies around the world.

Courage Has No Color, The True Story of the Triple Nickles: America's First Black Paratroopers Stone, Tanya Lee AR Quiz No. 156351 EN Nonfiction IL: **MG** - BL: **8.0** - AR Pts: **5.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP** Rating: During World War II as thousands of American soldiers are fighting overseas against the injustices brought on by Hitler, the Triple Nickles, America's first black paratroopers, train to fight against discrimination at home and abroad.

The Sacred Acre: The Ed Thomas Story Tabb, Mark AR Quiz No. 152719 EN Nonfiction IL: **MG+** - BL: **5.9** - AR Pts: **11.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP** Rating: This biography chronicles the life of Ed Thomas, focusing on his years as a high-school football coach whose faith and dedication to his students inspired those who knew him.

Also Recommended:

The Book Thief Zusak, Markus AR Quiz No. 106101 EN Fiction IL: **UG** - BL: **5.1** - AR Pts: **18.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP, VP** Rating: Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel, a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding.

The First Phone Call from Heaven Albom, Mitch AR Quiz No. 163738 EN Fiction IL: **MG+** - BL: **4.7** - AR Pts: **10.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP** Rating: A small town on Lake Michigan gets worldwide attention when its citizens start receiving phone calls from the afterlife. Is it the greatest miracle ever or a massive hoax?

Cryptid Hunters Smith, Roland AR Quiz No. 84012 EN Fiction IL: **MG** - BL: **4.9** - AR Pts: **11.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP, VP** Rating: Twins Grace and Marty are whisked away to live with their Uncle Wolfe, an uncle that they didn't even know they had. The intimidating Uncle Wolfe is an anthropologist who has dedicated his life to finding cryptids. **Book #1**

The Darkest Path Hirsch, Jeff AR Quiz No. 161792 EN Fiction IL: **MG+** - BL: **5.0** - AR Pts: **13.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP** Rating: Since he was captured by the Glorious Path, a militant religion, fifteen-year-old Cal has served the Path in its brutal war with the remains of the U.S. government and tries to survive and protect his younger brother. The plot contains violence.

After Ever After Sonnenblick, Jordan AR Quiz No. 135012 EN Fiction IL: **MG** - BL: **5.2** - AR Pts: **7.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP** Rating: Although Jeff and Tad make a deal to help one another overcome aftereffects of their cancer treatments in preparation for eighth-grade graduation, Jeff still craves advice from his older brother Stephen, who is studying drums in Africa.

The Young Elites Lu, Marie AR Quiz No. 168928 EN Fiction IL: **UG** – BL: **5.3** – AR
Pts: **14.0** AR Quiz Types: **RP** Rating: Some survivors of the blood fever are rumored to
have impossible powers. Scorned and hunted, Adelina is one of these, but do her
compatriots seek justice or revenge? The plot contains violence.