



South Mecklenburg High School

#WeAreSouth...Elevating Excellence, Success Nothing Less!

SOUTH MECK HIGH SCHOOL Suggested Summer Reading Titles 2020-2021

We believe our students enrolled at South Mecklenburg High School should continue to read over the summer months, despite school not being in session. While no formal assignment is due and this is not a requirement, students should challenge themselves to read as much as possible to help increase their vocabulary and reading comprehension.

A list of suggested titles, organized by grade level, is below. (Descriptions are taken from amazon.com)

We encourage students to be critical and global thinkers. The titles selected for summer reading explore social justice issues, which will help support our equity, diversity, and inclusion discussions as we proceed with our 2020-21 school year. South Meck maintains its commitment to establishing a learning environment which is inclusive of our diverse student population.

Each novel title has a lexile number next to it. A lexile measure of a book refers only to its text difficulty; it does not address the content or quality of the book. A lexile measure is based on two strong predictors of how difficult a text is to comprehend: word frequency and sentence length. Many other factors affect the relationship between a reader and a book, including its content, the age and interests of the reader, and the design of the actual book. The lexile measure is a good starting point while choosing a title, but these other factors should be considered when making a decision about which book to choose.

To access books, please refer to the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library's One Access and Hoopla sites, which allows you to check out traditional books as well as e-books at no cost.

One Access: https://cmlibrary.org/oneaccess?utm_source=website&utm_medium=one-access-high-school-page&utm_campaign=one-access&utm_term=mc&utm_content=link-to-one-access-main-page

Hoopla: https://cmlibrary.org/resource/hoopla?utm_source=website&utm_medium=one-access-high-school-page&utm_campaign=digital-resources&utm_term=mc&utm_content=link-to-hoopla



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Suggested 10th Grade Summer Reading Titles 2020-2021

Title	Author	Lexile	Description
The Joy Luck Club	Amy Tan	930L	Four mothers, four daughters, four families whose histories shift with the four winds depending on who's "saying" the stories. In 1949 four Chinese women, recent immigrants to San Francisco, begin meeting to eat dim sum, play mahjong, and talk. United in shared unspeakable loss and hope, they call themselves the Joy Luck Club. Rather than sink into tragedy, they choose to gather to raise their spirits and money. "To despair was to wish back for something already lost. Or to prolong what was already unbearable." Forty years later the stories and history continue.
Enrique's Journey	Sonia Nazario	770L	<p>Based on the Los Angeles Times newspaper series that won two Pulitzer Prizes, one for feature writing and another for feature photography, this page-turner about the power of family is a popular text in classrooms and a touchstone for communities across the country to engage in meaningful discussions about this essential American subject.</p> <p>Enrique's Journey recounts the unforgettable quest of a Honduran boy looking for his mother, eleven years after she is forced to leave her starving family to find work in the United States. Braving unimaginable peril, often clinging to the sides and tops of freight trains, Enrique travels through hostile worlds full of thugs, bandits, and corrupt cops. But he pushes forward, relying on his wit, courage, hope, and the kindness of strangers. As Isabel Allende writes: "This is a twenty-first-century Odyssey. If you are going to read only one nonfiction book this year, it has to be this one."</p>

<p>Beyond Courage: The Untold Stories of Jewish Resistance during the Holocaust</p>	<p>Doreen Rappaport</p>	<p>1030L</p>	<p>Through meticulously researched accounts — some chronicled in book form for the first time — Doreen Rappaport illuminates the defiance of tens of thousands of Jews across eleven Nazi-occupied countries during World War II. In answer to the genocidal madness that was Hitler’s Holocaust, the only response they could abide was resistance, and their greatest weapons were courage, ingenuity, the will to survive, and the resolve to save others or to die trying.</p>
<p>Brown Girl Dreaming</p>	<p>Jacqueline Woodson</p>	<p>920L</p>	<p>Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child’s soul as she searches for her place in the world. Woodson’s eloquent poetry also reflects the joy of finding her voice through writing stories, despite the fact that she struggled with reading as a child. Her love of stories inspired her and stayed with her, creating the first sparks of the gifted writer she was to become.</p>
<p>Warriors Don’t Cry</p>	<p>Melba Pattillo Beals</p>	<p>1000L</p>	<p>In 1957, well before Martin Luther King’s “I Have a Dream” speech, Melba Pattillo Beals and eight other teenagers became iconic symbols for the Civil Rights Movement and the dismantling of Jim Crow in the American South as they integrated Little Rock’s Central High School in the wake of the landmark 1954 Supreme Court ruling, <i>Brown v. Board of Education</i>.</p> <p>Throughout her harrowing ordeal, Melba was taunted by her schoolmates and their parents, threatened by a lynch mob’s rope, attacked with lighted sticks of dynamite, and injured by acid sprayed in her eyes. But through it all, she acted with dignity and courage, and refused to back down.</p> <p><i>Warriors Don’t Cry</i> is, at times, a difficult but necessary reminder of the valuable lessons we can learn from our nation’s past. It is a story of courage and the bravery of a handful of young, black students who used their voices to influence change during a turbulent time.</p>