



# Roxbury Public Schools

## 2010 Suggested Summer Reading

For Students  
Entering 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Consider these two powerful statements...

- When children become good readers in the early grades, they are more likely to become better learners throughout their school years and beyond.
- Research indicates that readers do better on standardized testing, such as the SATs, than do nonreaders.

Given this...  
make summer a time to invite your child into the world of books!



### Motivate your Tween to... READ!

(Obtained from: J. O'Donnell @ About.com)

When she was little she begged for a story every night. When she learned to read on her own she read book after book, eager to use her new ability. Now that she's a tween, however, reading has taken a back seat. Encouraging your tween to take an interest in reading may not be easy. Don't throw in the towel yet, there are ways to help motivate your tween to read. The suggestions below can help you accomplish just that.

#### 1. Read What's Popular

Motivating your tween to read is so important. The good news is your child doesn't have to read the classics in order to benefit from reading. Tweens may take an interest in a book if they're familiar with the story. If your child recently saw a great movie, see if you can find the book from which the movie was based. How many tweens rediscovered the love of reading after watching the *Harry Potter* movies or *The Chronicles of Narnia* series?

#### 2. Consider Magazines

If books don't interest your son or daughter, subscribe to a magazine that might cater to his/her interest. If your child loves crafts, consider offering a few issues of a crafting magazine. If your child is into sports, see if *Sports Illustrated* or another sports focused publication catches his/her interest.

#### 3. Start a Club

Tween book clubs are popping up at libraries across the country. The clubs give tweens the chance to read a book together and share their observations and comments about the story. If a club isn't offered in your area, consider starting one with your child and his/her friends.

#### 4. Enlist Their Help

Ask your child if (s)he's willing to read to younger siblings or neighbors in order to help them improve their reading skills. The chance to share a story may be enough to encourage your child to keep reading for fun.

#### 5. Prioritize

Encouraging your tween to take an interest in reading may not be easy. Tweens are often times overscheduled, and when they do have free time they're more likely to watch television, play with their Wii, or text their friends. Set aside an hour every week just for reading. Make television and other distractions off limits during reading time.

#### 6. Set an Example

Set a good example by taking an interest in reading yourself. Also, consider reading a book together with your child. Parent/child book clubs are becoming popular but you really don't need a club to sit down with your son or daughter to share a great story.

Get ready to read! Shop for summer reading materials and gifts for the whole family at...

**BARNES and NOBLE** in Ledgewood, NJ on  
**THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2010, 9 AM to 9 PM.**

By making a purchase on this date, you will not only be ready to read for the summer, but you will also help support the Roxbury Public Schools. A portion of the proceeds from that day will go towards the purchase of reading materials for the district's schools.

When checking out, all you need to do is proudly wear your Roxbury gear, tell the cashier that you are supporting our schools, or submit the certificate on the back of this newsletter! Shopping for more than summer reading? Great idea... get your graduation and Father's Day gifts on June 10<sup>th</sup>. RHS Key Club members will even wrap your gift(s) for FREE!  
(See the back of this newsletter for more information)



### What Do Tweens Read?

First, you may be wondering what does this term "tween" mean... Tweens are children between middle childhood and adolescence, usually between 8 and 12 years old. Finding literature that "hooks" tweens is a tricky task. Tweens are too grown up for little chapter books, but aren't quite ready for the teen section in the library or bookstore... so what literature is just right for them?

First and foremost, find out what your child likes to read... does she prefer science fiction, does he prefer fantasy? Then, visit Miss Liz at Roxbury Public Library and/or Mrs. Dubos at Barnes and Noble. These two individuals are outstanding resources when it comes to making recommendations on children's literature. In addition to them, you can search the WWW (world wide web). While there are many sites that offer recommendations on tween literature, one of my personal favorites is...

<http://tweendom.blogspot.com/>



### Literature and Math: Perfect Together!

Offered by: Mrs. Phyllis Prestamo,  
Supervisor of Applied Sciences, PreK-6

Research has shown that children learn mathematical concepts best through language and the manipulation of concrete objects. The books below are but a few that can be presented to young children that spark excitement and create opportunities to learn about math.

Spaghetti and Meatballs for All – Marilyn Burns

Gator Pie – Louise Mathews

The Grapes of Math – Greg Tang & Harry Briggs

Math Curse – Joe Scieszka & Lane Smith

Sir Cumference and the First Round Table –  
Cindy Neuschwander & Wayne Geehan

Sir Cumference and the Sword in the Cone –  
Cindy Neuschwander & Wayne Geehan

One Hundred Ways to Get to 100 – Jerry Pallotta

I Hate Mathematics! Book –  
L. Allison, M. Burns & D. Weitzman

A Remainder of One – Elinor J Pinczes and Bonnie MacKain

Math for Smarty Pants – Marilyn Burns

Anno's Mysterious Multiplying Jar – Masaichiro Anno

### A Good Place to Start

The following list is a good place to start your summer reading (fiction and non-fiction), but it is only a beginning. Other titles by these authors or other authors offer enjoyable reading.

The Red Pyramid, Rick Riordan, 2010.

Tales from the Odyssey I and II,  
Mary Pope Osborne (series).

Where the Mountain Meets the Moon,  
Grace Lin, 2009

One Minute Mysteries: Solve'em with Science, Eric Yoder, 2008.

Lawn Boy Returns, Gary Paulsen, 2010.

The Tail of Emily Windsnap, Liz Kessler (series).

Things Not Seen, Andrew Clements, 2002.



Looking for reading materials on your child's reading level?  
Visit...[www.scholastic.com/bookwizard/](http://www.scholastic.com/bookwizard/) or  
<http://home.comcast.net/~ngiansante/index.html>

A Website Worth Visiting...[www.bookadventure.org](http://www.bookadventure.org)

At this site, children create their own book lists from over 6,000 recommended titles, take multiple choice quizzes on the books they've read offline & earn points and prizes for their literary success. Best part... it is all FREE!

### Did I Hear Someone Say, "Free Book!"?

*Barnes and Noble* is once again sponsoring a summer reading program. Read any eight books and record them on the *Barnes and Noble* Summer Reading Journal, bring the completed Journal to *B&N* by September 7, 2010 and have the opportunity to choose a FREE book from the list designated by *B&N*. Get your Summer Reading Journal from *B&N* when you visit on the 10<sup>th</sup>!

### Summer Reading Ideas Are Growing Everywhere

This suggested summer reading publication was developed at the district level to further support families in their reading initiatives. Families may receive additional ideas from their respective schools and should view all information as a collection of ideas/tools to support their growing readers.

*Make reading a part of your family's summer... not only will you help your child to develop as a reader, you will also create memories that will last a lifetime!*  
Happy Reading!