



HADDAM-KILLINGWORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grade 6 Summer Reading

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

June 3, 2021

This summer all middle school students will read at least four books as part of our summer reading program. Research indicates that over the summer, the average student falls 2 months behind in reading skills. Studies suggest that children who read as few as 6 books over the summer maintain the level of reading skills achieved during the preceding school year. RSD17's summer reading program is designed to give students both choice in their book selection and an opportunity to share their thinking with their peers and grow their own understanding through conversation. This program is intended to help support academic performance, promote a lifelong enthusiasm for reading, and foster a feeling of community in our school. One of these books will be selected from a list compiled by the teachers, aligned to our curriculum. In the fall, students will participate in book club conversations about the text they chose. Students will complete the [book club conversation guide](#) in preparation for this activity and bring it with them on the first day of school.

Choose 1 of the following recommended books for your grade level from the list below. Summaries and book trailers for the books are located on the [RSD17 Summer Learning Website](#). Please visit the site for all resources and materials related to summer learning.

No Talking by Andrew Clements-Level R

Out of My Mind by Sharon Draper-Level S

Ban This Book by Alan Gratz-Level S

The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate-Level T

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson-Level U

Wonder by R.J. Palacio-Level V

Stella by Starlight by Sharon Draper-Level W

New Kid by Jerry Craft-Level W

Rising Above: How 11 Athletes Overcame Challenges in Their Youth to Become Stars by Gregory and Elijah Zuckerman-no level

Choose additional books to read: Students can refer to these lists for additional summer reading suggestions and record the titles they read on the [Summer Reading Book Log](#).

RSD17's summer reading program is an essential component of our school literacy plan, which will allow students to choose from a wide variety of books, while maintaining their reading skills during the summer months. It is our hope that this program will encourage our students to experience the joy of reading this summer. If you have any questions about the summer reading program, please do not hesitate to contact Jennifer Beermuender at jbeermuender@rsd17.org.

Sincerely,

Grade 6 ELA Teachers and Reading Staff