

Name: _____

7th and 8th Grade Summer Reading Assignment

Student 1: Why do we haaaaaaaave to read over the summer Ms. Teeeeeeeeeee? What if I just want to play video games, watch Netflix, and hang out with my friends?

Ms. T: Science and research actually have PROVEN that reading over the summer and keeping your brain active helps you do better in the next school year by avoiding the summer slide.

Student 2: Slide? But I like slides! That sounds fun!

Ms. T: No! The summer slide is when you lose a lot of key information you learned over the summer, and you actually come back to school at a lower level than you started out with.

Student 3: Ohhhhh. That's not good.

Ms. T: Exactly!

Student 4: So how do we avoid this slidey thing?

Ms. T: Well a good place to start would be summer reading!

Whole class: GROANS LOUDLY

Student 5: Is it lunchtime yet?

Ms. T: No!

Student 6: But you're going to make us read something long and hard and then write an essay and Ms. T that just sounds terrible!

Ms. T: Actually, it's going to look a little different this year.

Whole Class: Tell us more!

Ms. T: I want you reading, all summer. Constantly. At least a few times a week. BUT! I want you to read something that is a good fit for you.

Student 7: What the heck does that mean?

Ms. T: *I want you to read books that interest you, and that are on your right level. I am not assigning everyone the same book, or even a small sample of books. I want you to choose something that works for you. It can be a graphic novel, it can be on the shorter side, it can be on the longer side, it can be about sports or anything you choose. You can read online articles, you can read with younger siblings, you can read reports about athletes, or even stay up to date on current events! I just want you to read constantly!*

Student 8: But there's some sort of catch, isn't there? Like some sort of big assignment?

Ms. T: Not really! There's just one small thing you have to do! You are going to **write me a letter.**

Student 9: A letter?

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Student 10: Like, “you’ve got mail?”

Ms. T: Yes, a letter. You are going to choose ONE of the many things that you read over the summer and you are going to write me a letter about it. Your letter will need to include:

- *The date!*
- *A greeting (Dear Ms. T)*
- *A paragraph that tells me about your summer.*
- *A paragraph that tells me about the book that you read. Think about including: Characters, plot, conflict, resolution, main idea, setting, etc.*
- *If you are a NEW STUDENT, you will also write a paragraph that tells me a bit about yourself!*
- *A closing signature, and your name.*

Student 11: Does it need to be handwritten or typed?

Ms. T: Handwritten!

Student 12: But I can’t like type it and email it to you?

Ms. T: No! Write it by hand! It’s good for your brain, I promise!

Student 13: So how do we get the letter to you? Are we going to find your house Ms. T?

Ms. T: There are several options! You can mail it to me here at school, you can drop it off here at school over the summer, or you can just hand it to me on the first day of next year!

Student 14: But what if we’re not coming back next year?

Ms. T: You should still read all summer, but you obviously won’t have to do this assignment. However, you will probably have some sort of summer reading for your new school, so be on the lookout for that!

Student 15: So what if I don’t know what I want to read? Like, I have NO IDEA.

Ms. T: Excellent question! We will be looking on a website to help us find some possible “good fit” books for us! Let’s get started!

To find a book:

1. Go onto <https://fab.lexile.com/>
2. On the right hand side of the screen, click on the drop down menu to select your current grade, and answer the question that follows. Then click submit.
3. Then, under the heading “Step 2: Categories,” choose any of the categories that interest you, and then click submit. Once you’re done, browse through all of the awesome book selections and choose a few that interest you! Write their titles and authors below!

Titles and Authors:

I don't know my Lexile measure..

My current grade is:

I find the books I read for school difficult.

I find the books I read for school just right.

I find the books I read for school easy.