

Somerville School District Summer Reading

"The books transported her into new worlds and introduced her to amazing people who lived exciting lives."

Matilda by Roald Dahl

When summertime hits, our students cannot help but think of pools, beaches, popsicles, camps, and fun. After all, it is in the summer that kids continue to grow while enjoying a more relaxed pace of life. This also makes summer a great time for students to develop a love of reading and gain new knowledge without the school year pressure of homework and grades. It is this lifelong learning potential that informs our summer reading program for Somerville School District.

This summer, like summers past, each building has developed summer reading opportunities linked to the students' developmental ages and interests. In elementary school, students are either assigned a specific text that will help them transition to their classroom in the fall and/or given a choice of books with assignments that invite students to use their creativity. In the middle school students are encouraged to read as much as possible and get to complete fun choices that culminate in a celebration of reading when they return in September. In the High School Students will have the opportunity to either do the New York Times Summer Reading Contest that was done in years past or choose a novel of their choice and share their thoughts as a book review that will be used in the high school library.

While most of the summer reading opportunities have a project or writing sample attached to the books, the real focus is on students finding literature and authors that they love, and giving students a chance to share that discovery in a meaningful way. We want kids to have shared experiences and find reading materials that expand their horizons and speak to who they are as individuals. Reading increases our knowledge and makes us more open to learning, and our hope is that this will simultaneously prepare students for the school year to come.

We will make every effort to help students find books in June and we encourage you to go to your local library or read the books from the Libby app which is free if you have a Somerville library card. Have a glorious summer! Please visit our [district website](#) for information regarding each grade's summer reading.