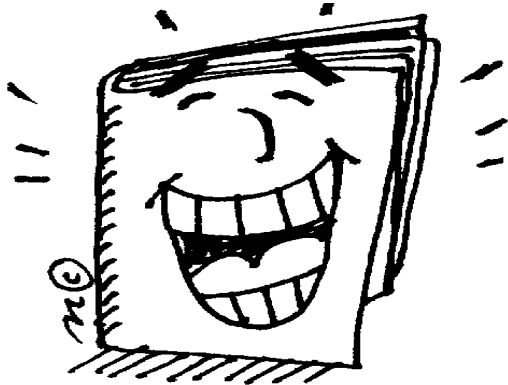


Williamsville South High School

List of Suggested Summer Reads...

and More!



Summer is a great time to do some reading for pleasure. If you want to pick some books but aren't sure where to start, take a look at this list compiled by the Arrowhead Library System in Northeastern Minnesota. These great titles are grouped by genre and are available at your local libraries and bookstores.

In addition to reading, how about taking advantage of the mix of cultural activities available in our area this summer? There's Shakespeare in Delaware Park, the Shaw festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake, and performances at Artpark. And don't forget area art galleries such as the Albright Knox, CEPA, Hallwalls, and the Burchfield Penny Art Center. Or how about an architectural walking tour of Buffalo? Check out the web for information on events and places to visit like these in the area.

American Literature

Anderson, Sherwood
Winesburg, Ohio
A collection of short stories lays bare the life of a small town in the Midwest.

Baldwin, James
Go Tell It on the Mountain
Semi-autobiographical novel about a 14-year-old black youth's religious conversion.

Bellow, Saul
Seize the Day
A son grapples with his love and hate for an unworthy father.

Bradbury, Ray
Fahrenheit 451
Reading is a crime and firemen burn books in this futuristic society.

Cather, Willa
My Antonia
Immigrant pioneers strive to adapt to the Nebraska prairies.

Clark, Walter Van Tilburg
The Ox-Bow Incident
When a group of citizens discovers one of their members has been murdered by cattle rustlers, they form an illegal posse, pursue the murderers, and lynch them.

Cormier, Robert
The Chocolate War
Jerry Renault challenges the power structure of his school when he refuses to sell chocolates for the annual fundraiser.

Crane, Stephen
The Red Badge of Courage
During the Civil War, Henry Fleming joins the army full of romantic visions of battle which are shattered by combat.

Dorris, Michael
A Yellow Raft in Blue Water
Three generations of Native American women recount their searches for identity and love.

Ellison, Ralph
Invisible Man
A black man's search for himself as an individual and as a member of his race and his society.

Faulkner, William
As I Lay Dying
The Bundren family takes the ripening corpse of Addie, wife and mother, on a gruesomely comic journey.

Gaines, Ernest
The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman
In her 100 years, Miss Jane Pittman experiences it all, from slavery to the civil rights movement.

Hawthorne, Nathaniel
The Scarlet Letter
An adulterous Puritan woman keeps secret the identity of the father of her illegitimate child.

Heller, Joseph
Catch-22
A broad comedy about a WWII bombardier based in Italy and his efforts to avoid bombing missions.

Hemingway, Ernest
A Farewell to Arms
During World War I, an American lieutenant runs away with the woman who nurses him back to health.

Hurston, Zora Neale
Their Eyes Were Watching God
Janie repudiates many roles in her quest for self-fulfillment.

London, Jack
Call of the Wild
Buck is a loyal pet dog until cruel men make him a pawn in their search for Klondike gold.

McCullers, Carson
The Member of the Wedding
A young southern girl is determined to be the third party on a honeymoon, despite advice against it from friends and family.

Morrison, Toni
Sula
The lifelong friendship of two women becomes strained when one causes the other's husband to abandon her.

O'Connor, Flannery

A Good Man is Hard to Find

Social awareness, the grotesque, and the need for faith characterize these stories of the contemporary South.

Parks, Gordon

The Learning Tree

A fictional study of a black family in a small Kansas town in the 1920s.

Plath, Sylvia

The Bell Jar

The heartbreaking story of a talented young woman's descent into madness.

Poe, Edgar Allan

Great Tales and Poems

Poe is considered the father of detective stories and a master of supernatural tales.

Potok, Chaim

The Chosen

Friendship between two Jewish boys, one Hasidic and the other Orthodox, begins at a baseball game and flourishes despite their different backgrounds and beliefs.

Salinger, J.D.

The Catcher in the Rye

A prep school dropout rejects the "phoniness" he sees all about him.

Sinclair, Upton

The Jungle

The deplorable conditions of the Chicago stockyards are exposed in this turn-of-the-century novel.

Steinbeck, John

The Grapes of Wrath

The desperate flight of tenant farmers from Oklahoma during the Depression.

Stowe, Harriet Beecher

Uncle Tom's Cabin

The classic tale that awakened a nation about the slave system.

Vonnegut, Kurt

Slaughterhouse-Five

Billy Pilgrim, an optometrist from Ilium, New York, shuttles between World War II Dresden and a luxurious zoo on the planet Tralfamadore.

Wells, H.G.

The Time Machine

Scientist invents machine that transports him into the future.

Welty, Eudora

Thirteen Stories

A collection of short stories about people and life in the South.

Wolfe, Thomas

Look Homeward, Angel

A novel depicting the coming of age of Eugene Gant and his passion to experience life.

Wright, Richard

Native Son

Bigger Thomas, a young man from the Chicago slums, lashes out against a hostile society by committing two murders.

World Literature

Achebe, Chinua

Things Fall Apart

Okonkwo, a proud village leader, is driven to murder and suicide by European changes to his traditional Ibo society.

Allende, Isabel

House of the Spirits

The story of the Trueba family in Chile, from the turn of the century to the violent days of the overthrow of the Salvador Allende government in 1973.

Austen, Jane

Pride and Prejudice

Love and marriage among the English country gentry of Austen's day.

Borges, Jorge Luis

Labyrinths

Anthology of literary fireworks based on Borges' favorite symbol.

Bronte, Charlotte

Jane Eyre

An intelligent and passionate governess falls in love with a strange, moody man tormented by dark secrets.

Bronte, Emily

Wuthering Heights

One of the masterpieces of English Romanticism, this is a novel of Heathcliff and Catherine, love and revenge.

Camus, Albert

The Stranger

A man who is virtually unknown to both himself and others commits a pointless murder for which he has no explanation.

Carroll, Lewis

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

A fantasy in which Alice follows the White Rabbit to a dream world.

Cervantes, Miguel de

Don Quixote

An eccentric old gentleman sets out as a knight "tilting at windmills" to right the wrongs of the world.

Defoe, Daniel

Robinson Crusoe

The adventures of a man who spends 24 years on an isolated island.

Dickens, Charles

Great Expectations

The moving story of the rise, fall, and rise again of a humbly-born young orphan.

Dostoevski, Feodor

Crime and Punishment

A psychological novel about a poor student who murders an old woman pawnbroker and her sister.

Esquivel, Laura

Like Water for Chocolate

As the youngest of three daughters in a turn-of-the-century Mexican family, Tita may not marry but must remain at home to care for her mother.

Flaubert, Gustave

Madame Bovary

In her extramarital affairs, a bored young wife seeks unsuccessfully to find the emotional experiences she craves.

Forster, E.M.

A Passage to India

A young English woman in British-ruled India accuses an Indian doctor of sexual assault.

Fuentes, Carlos

The Death of Artemio Cruz

A powerful Mexican newspaper publisher recalls his life as he lies dying at age 71.

Grass, Gunter

The Tin Drum

Oskar describes the amoral conditions through which he has lived in Germany, both during and after the Hitler regime.

Hardy, Thomas

Tess of the D'Urbervilles

The happiness of Tess and her husband is destroyed when she confesses that she bore a child as the result of a forced sexual relationship with her employer's son.

Hesse, Hermann

Siddhartha

Emerging from a kaleidoscope of experiences and pleasures, a young Brahmin ascends to a state of peace and mystic holiness.

Joyce, James

A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man

A novel about a young man growing up in Ireland and rebelling against family, country, and religion.

Kafka, Franz

The Trial

A man is tried for a crime he knows nothing about, yet for which he feels guilt.

Lawrence, D.H.

Sons and Lovers

An autobiographical novel about a youth torn between a dominant working-class father and a possessive genteel mother.

Pasternak, Boris

Doctor Zhivago

An epic novel of Russia before and after the Bolshevik revolution.

Paton, Alan

Cry, the Beloved Country

A country Zulu pastor searches for his sick sister in Johannesburg, and discovers that she has become a prostitute and his son a murderer.

Remarque, Erich Maria

All Quiet on the Western Front

A young German soldier in World War I experiences pounding shellfire, hunger, sickness, and death.

Scott, Sir Walter

Ivanhoe

Tale of Ivanhoe, the disinherited knight, Lady Rowena, Richard the Lion-Hearted, and Robin Hood at the time of the Crusades.

Solzhenitsyn, Aleksander

One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich

Denisovich endures one more day in a Siberian prison camp and finds joy in survival.

Swift, Jonathan

Gulliver's Travels

Gulliver encounters dwarfs and giants and has other strange adventures when his ship is wrecked in distant lands.

Tan, Amy

The Joy Luck Club

After her mother's death, a young Chinese-American woman learns of her mother's tragic early life in China.

Tolstoy, Leo

Anna Karenina

Anna forsakes her husband for the dashing Count Vronsky and brief happiness.

Biography/History

Angelou, Maya

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings

An African-American writer traces her coming of age.

Ashe, Arthur and Arnold Rampersad.

Days of Grace

Biography of a highly respected tennis star and citizen of the world who dies of AIDS.

Baker, Russell

Growing Up

A columnist with a sense of humor takes a gentle look at his childhood in Baltimore during the Depression.

Berenbaum, Michael

The World Must Know: The History of the Holocaust as told in the United States

Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Brown, Dee

Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee

A narrative of the white man's conquest of the American land as the Indian victims experienced it.

Cooke, Alistair

Alistair Cooke's America

A history of the continent, with anecdotes and insight into what makes America work.

Criddle, Jan. D. and Teeda Butt Mam

To Destroy You Is No Loss: The Odyssey of a Cambodian Family

After the 1975 Communist takeover of Cambodia, Teeda's upper-class life is reduced to surviving impossible conditions.

Crow Dog, Mary and Richard Erdoes

Lakota Woman

Mary Crow Dog stands with 2,000 other Native Americans at the site of the Wounded Knee massacre, demonstrating for Native American rights.

Delany, Sara and A. Elizabeth with Amy Hill Hearth

Having Our Say: The Delany Sisters' First 100 Years

Two daughters of former slaves tell their stories of fighting racial and gender prejudice during the 20th century.

Epstein, Norrie

Friendly Shakespeare: A Thoroughly Painless Guide to the Best of the Bard.

Gain a perspective on Shakespeare's works through these sidelights, interpretations, anecdotes, and historical insights.

Franklin, Benjamin

The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin

Considered one of the most interesting autobiographies in English.

Haley, Alex

Roots

The history of Haley's family, from Africa through the era of slavery to the 20th century.

Karlsen, Carol

The Devil in the Shape of a Woman: Witchcraft in Colonial New England

The status of women in colonial society affects the Salem witch accusations.

Kovic, Ron

Born on the Fourth of July

Paralyzed in the Vietnam War, 21-year-old Ron Kovic received little support from his country and its government.

Malcom X, with Alex Haley

The Autobiography of Malcom X

Traces the transformation of a controversial Black Muslim figure from street hustler to religious and national leader.

Mathabane, Mark

Kaffir Boy: The True Story of a Black Youth's Coming of Age in Apartheid South Africa

A tennis player breaks down racial barriers and escape to a better life in America.

Maybury-Lewis, David

Millenium: Tribal Wisdom and the Modern World

Profiles members of several tribal cultures.

McPherson, James

Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era

From the Mexican War to Appomattox, aspects of the Civil War are examined.

Mills, Kay

This Little Light of Mine: The Life of Fannie Lou Hamer

Fannie Lou Hamer, a sharecropper's daughter, uses her considerable courage and singing talent to become a leader in the civil rights movement.

Plato

The Republic

Plato creates an ideal society where justice is equated with health and happiness in the state and the individual.

Rogosin, Donn

Invisible Men: Life in Baseball's Negro Leagues

Negro League players finally gain recognition for their contributions to baseball.

Tuchman, Barbara

A Distant Mirror: The Calamitous Fourteenth Century

Tuchman uses the example of a single feudal lord to trace the history of the 14th century.

Williams, Juan

Eyes on the Prize: America's Civil Rights Years, 1954-65

From Brown vs. the Board of Education to the Voting Rights Act, Williams outlines the social and political gains of African-Americans

Yolen, Jane

Favorite Folktales From Around the World

Yolen frames these powerful tales with explanations of historical and literary significance.

Science

Attenborough, David

The Living Planet: A Portrait of the Earth

Various habitats expand the vision of Earth.

Bronowski, Jacob

The Ascent of Man

A scientist's history of the human mind and the human condition.

Carson, Rachel

Silent Spring

Carson's original clarion call to environmental action sets the stage for saving our planet.

Darwin, Charles

The Origin of Species

The classic exposition of the theory of evolution by natural selection.

Hawking, Stephen

A Brief History of Time: From the Big Bang to Black Holes

Cosmology becomes understandable as the author discusses the origin, evolution, and fate of our universe.

Leopold, Aldo

A Sand County Almanac: And Sketches Here and There

Leopold shares his visions of a natural world.

Social Science

Campbell, Joseph

The Power of Myth

Explores themes and symbols from world religions and their relevance to humankind's spiritual journey today.

Hamilton, Edith

Mythology

Gods and heroes, their clashes and adventures, come alive in this splendid retelling of the Greek, Roman and Norse myths.

Kotlowitz, Alex

There Are No Children Here: The Story of Two Boys Growing Up in Urban America

Lafayette and Pharoah Rivers and their family struggle to survive in one of Chicago's worst housing projects.

Terkel, Studs

Race: How Blacks and Whites Think and Feel About the American Obsession

Covers the full range of America's views on racial issues.

Poetry

Brooks, Gwendolyn

Selected Poems

Poetry focusing on the lives of African American residents of Northern urban ghettos, particularly women.

Cummings, E.E.

Complete Poems, 1904-1962

Prepared directly from the original manuscripts, preserving the original typography and format.

Dickinson, Emily

The Complete Poems of Emily Dickinson

A chronological arrangement of all known Dickinson poems and fragments.

Donne, John

The Complete Poetry of John Donne

Poems distinguished by wit, profundity of thought, passion and subtlety.

Frost, Robert

The Poetry of Robert Frost

Collected works reflecting both flashing insight and practical wisdom.

Ginsberg, Allen

Howl and Other Poems

The leading poet of the "beat generation."

Giovanni, Nikki

My House

The poems in this collection deal with love, family, nature, friends, music, aloneness, blackness, and Africa.

Hughes, Langston

Selected Poems

Poems selected by Hughes shortly before his death in 1967, representing work from his entire career.

Keats, John

Complete Poems

Among the greatest odes in English, written by a genius who died young.

Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth

The Poetical Works of Longfellow

Includes "The Song of Hiawatha" and "The Courtship of Miles Standish."

Sandburg, Carl

Complete Poems

Sandburg celebrates industrial and agricultural America and the common people.

Thomas, Dylan

Poems of Dylan Thomas

Poetry by a "word magician" with a powerful imagination.

Williams, William Carlos

Selected Poems

Williams' poetry is firmly rooted in the commonplace details of American life.

Yeats, William Butler

The Poems

Leading poet of the Irish Renaissance.