

MORTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
SUMMER READING LIST
GRADE 7 - 2017
Mustangs Who Read Succeed!

All Morton Middle School students are required to read two books over the summer from the approved list and take an Accelerated reader (AR) test upon their return to school. Students may earn extra credit for language arts class for reading a third book from the list and passing an AR test. Our diverse summer reading list consists of books from a variety of genres and reading levels, as well as a middle grades interest level. Below, please find the list of approved books and the AR point value by each title. Happy reading!

1. ***Babysitting is a Dangerous Job*** (6 points) - Roberts, Wilo Davis. This thrilling suspenseful novel keeps the reader entertained with a story about an ordinary babysitting job that turns into a nightmare for the main character, Darcy. The three children she sits for are "bratty," but that is nothing compared to the kidnapppers who invaded the house and carry off the children.

2. ***The Horse Road*** (13 points) - Harrison, Troon. Equestrian lovers will want to read this historical fiction book set in central Asia in the year 102 BC. Kallisto, an outstanding equestrian, is faced with the challenge of saving her family, friends, and horses when she sees the Chinese army preparing to invade her city.

3. ***The Lightning Catcher*** (13 points) - Cameron, Anne. Angus uncovers that his parents have been kidnapped because they're famous lightning catchers, and that he and his friends have the ability to control the weather. Join Angus and his friends on their action-packed humorous adventure to stop the villains from achieving world domination.

4. ***The Lions of Little Rock*** (10 Points) - Levine, Kristin. Marlee, an unbearably shy math whiz, narrates this historical fiction book about the struggle to integrate Little Rock, Arkansas schools in 1958. When Lizzie, Marlee's new friend, is kicked out of school because local leaders refuse to follow the federal integration order, Marlee finds her voice.

5. ***The Mother-Daughter Book Club Series*** (AR points vary based on each book in the series.) - Frederick, Heather Vogel. Read any of the seven books in this delightful series about a few mothers who force their daughters to join a book club to the dismay of their daughters who aren't even friends. The humorous twists and turns, pranks, and struggles in the lives of the book club daughters are highly entertaining! The club members mature from middle school to the end of high school throughout the series, and each book focuses on a different Classic novel as the topic of book club.

6. ***C.C. Payne Collection of Stories: *Lula Bell on Geekdom, Freakdom, and the Challenges of Bad Hair* (7 points), *The Thing About Leftovers* (10 points); *Something to Sing About* (4 points)*** - Read any of the three touching and humorous novels by local novelist and former Morton student, C.C. Payne. Through a cast of quirky characters, readers explore many themes such as friendship, family, and forgiveness.

7. **Rush for Gold: Mystery at the Olympics** (11 Points) - Feinstein, John. This sports mystery novel is set in London during the summer Olympics. The mystery unfolds as a teen reporter becomes concerned about the safety of his friend, an Olympic swimmer.
8. **Soldier Athletes** (3 points) - Stout, Glenn. A book filled with human interest stories that spotlight the bravery and self-sacrifice of professional athletes who also served in the United States military.
9. **Theodore Boone Series** (AR points vary based on each book in the series) - Grisham, John. Read **any of the first four** books in this series about a thirteen-year-old kid lawyer extraordinaire who has a knack for uncovering clues and solving high profile cases involving crimes in his hometown.
10. **Terrible Typhoid Mary: A True Story of the Deadliest Cook in America** (5 points) - Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. This nonfiction book reads like a crime drama as it details, through pictures and other primary sources, the biography of Mary Mallon, the woman associated with the deadly Typhoid disease.
11. **My Thirteenth Winter: A Memoir** (9 points) - Abeel, Samantha. This memoir recounts Samantha's difficult school years due to her struggles with a learning disability called dyscalculia. Readers will be amazed by her ability to succeed despite her obstacles.
12. **Through My Eyes** (16 points) - Tebow, Tim. This autobiography of Tim Tebow, Heisman Trophy winner and star Florida quarterback, details his childhood, personal family accounts, and many interesting football stories.
13. **Titanic: Voices from the Disaster** (7 points) - Hopkinson, Deborah. A nonfiction book that movingly shares real voices of Titanic survivors and actual witnesses to the tragic disaster.
14. **Twelve Rounds to Glory: The Story of Muhammad Ali** (1 point) - Smith Jr., Charles R. This book details the amazing life of the heavyweight champ through a rap-inspired verse.
15. **Where the Red Fern Grows** (11 points) - Rawls, Wilson. A tearjerker adventure about a boy, Billy, and his beloved two red-bone hunting hounds growing up in Cherokee country. As Billy strives to train his dogs to be a champion hunting team, he learns many life lessons.
16. **Yes! We are Latinos** (2 points) - Ada, Alma Flor. A nonfiction collection of beautifully written stories celebrating Latino culture and includes details of important events in the history of the Latino American people.