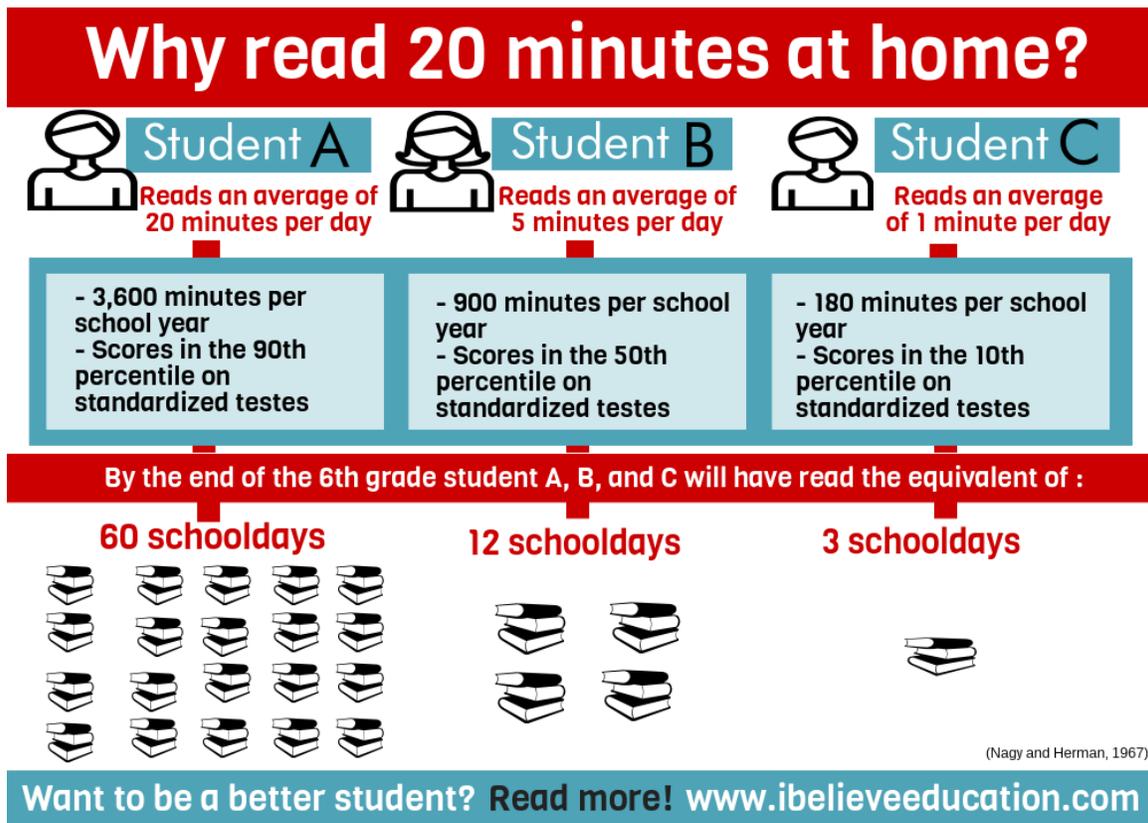


Grade 8 Summer Reading

Summer is a time for students to relax, rejuvenate and but it is also extremely important that they read. If your child hasn't been reading regularly this summer, they may be in danger of the "summer slide" — a decline in their reading ability. Numerous studies indicate that students who don't read or read infrequently during their summer vacation see their reading abilities stagnate or decline. This effect becomes more pronounced as students get older and advance through the school system.

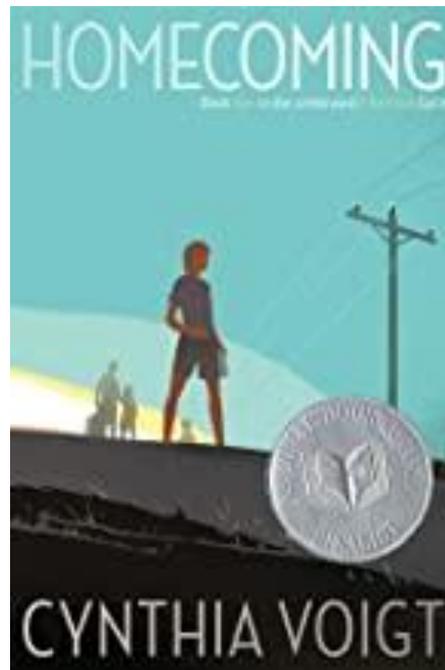
Why is it important to read every day?



The following is a list of the summer reading books. Attached you will find activities to go with each of the books. These activities are due the first day of school.

Happy Reading!

Homecoming by Cynthia Voigt



Story: Homecoming

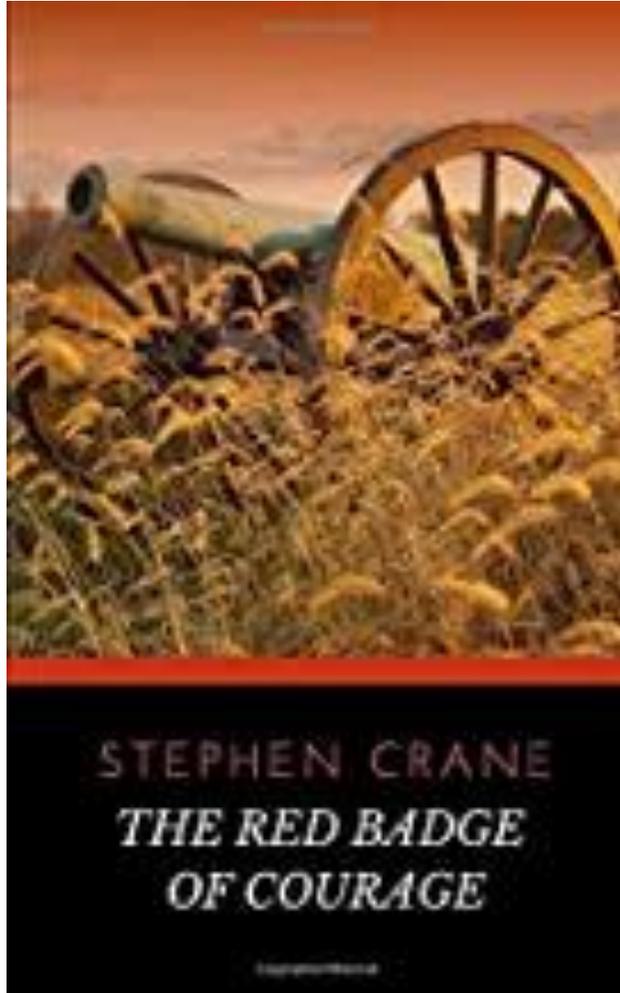
Author: Cynthia Voigt

Activity: Please see attached Activity Options

Amazon.com: \$10.79 paperback

Barnesandnoble.com: \$11.99

The Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane



Story: The Red Badge of Courage

Author: Stephen Crane

Activity: Please see attached Activity Options.

Amazon.com: \$6.75 paperback

Barnesandnoble.com: \$6.99

Summer Reading Activity Options

Option 1: Create a map for the setting of the book. Include key locations from the story. Next to each location, write a brief annotation of what happened there. Include at least five annotations, all of which must reflect the parts of the book you found most interesting. The theme of the map should match the themes of the book. Maps should be created on 11" x 13" poster board. Neatness and presentation count.

Option 2: Create a newspaper front page about the book. Include at least four "stories" of events from the book, as well as, pictures or illustrations that reflect the parts there were most interesting to you. The newspaper should be created on 11" x 13" poster board. Neatness and presentation count.