

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Every summer Hill Middle School has issued a required summer reading list. Why required summer reading? Studies have proven that there is on average, a loss between 25 – 30 percent of their school year learning over the summer. In order to help combat this summer learning loss, Hill has made it a requirement to read *at least* one book over the summer. A successful summer reading program can be effective at raising your child's test scores and saving teachers' time on having to "re-teach" curriculum that was taught the previous year.

The goal for your child over the summer is to read *at least one* of the required books listed on the back of this letter and pass a quiz. Quiz links and QR codes are located on the flyer. Your child's reading (6th grade) or language arts (7th & 8th grade) teacher will be entering a grade for summer reading. If your child reads all summer reading books and passes the quizzes with a 70% or higher, they will be invited to a reading celebration for all their hard work.

The summer reading books can be found at a variety of places. Some places are listed under the book summaries. Through the public library's HAAL Pass, students can access all books in different formats. The user ID is their student number and PIN 4321. To access books through the school districts Axis 360, select library HCPS Hill Middle and ID is student number.

If you have any questions about summer reading or issues with accessing the books, please contact Mrs. Bhoolai, media specialist, at annastasia.bhoolai@hcps.net or the Main Office, 813-975-7325.

Thank you and Happy Reading!

Mrs. Anastasia Bhoolai
Media Specialist
Hill Middle School

2023 Hill Middle School Summer Reading

All students are required to read at least one book and take a quiz.

Read 4 books and pass the quizzes with a 70% or higher and you will be invited to a reading celebration. All quizzes will be available starting May 30th and closing on August 20th.

- **New Kid by Jerry Craft (Graphic Novel)**

Summary: Seventh grader Jordan Banks loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade.

As he makes the daily trip from his Washington Heights apartment to the upscale Riverdale Academy Day School, Jordan soon finds himself torn between two worlds—and not really fitting into either one. Can Jordan learn to navigate his new school culture while keeping his neighborhood friends and staying true to himself?

Quiz link: <https://forms.office.com/r/ds0TsB3DzJ>

Public Library: Book; eBook **School District axis 360:** eBook **Amazon:** Paperback \$8.64; Kindle \$11.49

- **Focused by Alyson Gerber**

Summary: Twelve-year-old Clea wants to do her homework, follow instructions, pay attention in school, and play chess on the school team, but somehow she cannot focus on whatever is in front of her, and the other kids at school are starting to notice and make fun of her; when her worried parents take her to be tested she finds out that she has ADHD (only without the hyperactivity)--and with help from the psychiatrist who seems to really understand her she is determined to learn how to focus.

Quiz link: <https://forms.office.com/r/Vt3vgeBhwV>

Public Library: Book; eBook; Audiobook **Amazon:** Paperback \$6.99; Kindle \$10.99

- **Ground Zero by Alan Gatz**

Summary: Brandon is visiting his dad on the 107th floor of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001 when the attack comes; Reshmina is a girl in Afghanistan who has grown up in the aftermath of that attack but dreams of peace, becoming a teacher and escaping her village and the narrow role that the Taliban believes is appropriate for women--both are struggling to survive, both changed forever by the events of 9/11.

Quiz link: <https://forms.office.com/r/8m9pb4rfmm>

Public Library: Book; eBook; Audiobook **School District axis 360:** eBook; Audiobook **Amazon:** Hardcover \$12.99; Kindle \$10.99

- **The Elephant Whisperer (Young Readers Adaptation) by Thea Feldman**

Summary: When Lawrence Anthony was asked to accept a rogue herd of elephants in his reserve in South Africa, it was the last chance for these elephants. If Anthony didn't take them, they would be shot. But he had no experience with elephants at all. What was he to do? Take them on, of course! What follows is an exciting and heartwarming series of adventures, in which Anthony learns about elephants and becomes part of their family. Full of both triumph and tragedy, this fascinating account of living with the majestic elephant is unforgettable.

Quiz link: <https://forms.office.com/r/LLsDi8imFr>

Public Library: Book; eBook; Audiobook **Amazon:** Hardcover \$18.29; Kindle \$11.99

