

Sam rode lightly on top of a book and he balanced happily among ideas the way a man rides a white rapids in a canoe. But Tom got into a book, crawled and groveled between the covers, tunneled like a mole among the thoughts and came up with the book all over his face and hands.

*-East of Eden-
John Steinbeck*

Dear Parent/Guardian:

One of the goals of our school district is to create lifelong readers of each of our students, and summer provides the perfect time to reinforce this effort. As summer approaches, we encourage students to take advantage of the opportunity to sit back and relax with a good book.

On this link, you will find the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public School District Summer Reading List for middle school students arranged according to grades. Students are encouraged but not required to read from the list of titles. This means that teachers will not formally assess students for summer reading this year. However, it is important to note that starting in the summer of 2009 all middle students will be required to read titles from the lists. Therefore, it would be advantageous to start developing positive reading habits during the upcoming summer months.

Our town libraries are most supportive of our summer reading initiative. Each library creates a display of their available books from the summer reading lists and posts the reading lists.

As families plan for the two months out of school, we hope you will create some time for daily reading in your summer schedule. Visit your town library or local bookstore to find those authors whose books will add another layer of enjoyment to your child's summer activities.

If you have any questions regarding the summer reading requirement, please contact me at 908.889.8600 Ext. 328.

Sincerely,

Carol Senff

Language Arts Supervisor (Grades K-12)