

TLC 9/10 Summer Reading Challenge

Welcome to [The Learning Collaborative](#)! We are so excited to meet you in the Fall.

One of the many things we love about summer is that it gives us a chance to read, and we love that reading gives us the chance to experience lives and worlds beyond our own. Plus, students can automatically practice their reading fluency and comprehension skills without even trying.

Research suggests that independent reading is crucial in the areas of language acquisition, reading comprehension, and the development of lifelong reading habits (National Council of Teachers of English, 2014). We believe that independent reading can be the cornerstone of a student's development in the classroom.

To create a successful independent reading initiative, students must have the freedom to choose books in which they have a high level of interest while exploring a variety of authors and reading material. In order to align with the Common Core Standards, we are asking students to consider books from a range of genres.

With that in mind, we invite you to our reading challenge this summer! We challenge you to read one book by the end of the summer. You are free to choose the book you want to read. If choosing your own book feels overwhelming, ask your family and friends what books they love. Walk through the shelves of a bookstore or a library and talk to the people who work there. Your teachers have also shared some of their summer reading ideas below with descriptions and reviews (Amazon) attached. We highly recommend them.

Please return to school in August with a letter that introduces you as a reader to your classmates and your teachers. Include in the letter:

- ***Why did you choose that book?***
- ***What was it like reading it?***
- ***What did you think of it and why?***
- ***Did it make you see or think about anything in a different way?***

Happy reading!

Sheila Bennett-Newton recommends [A Tree Grows in Brooklyn](#) by Betty Smith.

Chizzie Brown recommends [The Glass Castle](#) by Jeannette Walls

Kay Cavan recommends [The Road](#) by Cormac McCarthy.

Cooper Clark recommends [Hot Zone](#) by Richard Preston.

Marli Fay recommends [The Old Man and the Sea](#) by Ernest Hemingway.

Dan Freeman recommends [Between the World and Me](#) by Ta-Nehisi Coates.

John Hayden recommends [Everyone Brave is Forgiven](#) by Chris Cleave.

RaeLynn Kaiser recommends [The Long Way to a Small Angry Planet](#) by Becky Chambers

Jen Mall recommends [Station Eleven](#) by Emily St. John Mandel

Kathleen McCormick recommends [Born a Crime](#) by Trevor Noah.

Alan Nealley recommends [Animal, Vegetable, Miracle](#) by Barbara Kingsolver

Raquel Nelson recommends [Things Fall Apart](#) by Chinua Achebe.

LoRayne Ortega recommends [Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe](#) by Benjamin Alire Sáenz.