

Dear Bedford and Coleytown Students,



We hope you're all looking forward to summer relaxation and finally getting to read all of those books that have been on your personal "must read" list. We teachers look forward to our summer reading and hope that you do, too. Upon your return to school, in your Language Arts classes, you will have opportunities to share your summer reading experience. Our only requirement is that you read **at least two books**, *but as always, the more you read, the better*. You can read whatever genre(s) you like, (realistic fiction, historical fiction, fantasy, dystopian, memoir, biography, informational or narrative nonfiction, etc.).

In order to better process and think about what you read as well as to be prepared for some class activities when you come back in the fall, we would like you to keep a **basic** writer's notebook/journal. We recommend that you begin a new reader's/writer's notebook (a composition or spiral notebook - nothing fancy), and then you can bring that notebook with you to Language Arts in the fall.

In your notebook, feel free to use bullet points, post-its, visuals / drawings to get your ideas down - it's up to you how you take notes. We would love for you to use some of the strategies you have learned in your previous LA class.

Below are some suggestions for the kinds of information you might want to jot about:

- **For fiction & narrative texts:**

- Character information
- Setting (time, place, situation / context)
- Problems / conflicts
- Main events
- Themes

- **For informational texts:**

- Main topic of book
- Significant facts, numbers, statistics, or quotes that stood out to you
- Connections you made
- Author's purpose (why did the author write this book?)

We have collected resources for finding great books on your school's Summer Reading Website:

[BMS Summer Reading Website](#)

[CMS Summer Reading Website](#)

But remember, reading is a social activity, so ask your friends, relatives, and teachers for suggestions. And read with them! Create a mini-book club experience. We promise, you will enjoy it!

We look forward to meeting each and every one of you next fall. So, rest up, have fun, and savor the time you have over the summer to read, read, read!

Sincerely,

The 7th, and 8th grade Language Arts Teachers