

# Freshman Summer Reading List

***King of the Mild Frontier: An Ill-Advised Autobiography (NF)* by Chris Crutcher**

Chris Crutcher shares his outrageous tales of being a little brother, a young scholar, a doomed outdoorsman, and an athlete of questionable repute, which will have readers convulsing with laughter. He gives readers a look at his path to becoming a writer. Level: E101/102

***The Truth About Forever (F)* by Sarah Dessen**

Sixteen-year-old Macy Queen is looking forward to a long, boring summer. But everything changes when she attends her mother's open house event and meets the chaotic Wish Catering crew. Between landing a new job in catering and hanging out with her dreamy co-worker Wes, Macy starts to get a new outlook. Level: E102/108

***Bleachers (F)* by John Grisham**

Neely Crenshaw, a legendary quarterback for the Messina Spartans, returns home to memorialize his controversial high school football coach. The athletes reminisce about their glory days and how their coach made them great under his demanding regime. Level: E101/102

***13 Little Blue Envelopes (F)* by Maureen Johnson**

Ginny's adored Aunt Peg, a free-spirited artist, has died, and her legacy to her niece is a plane ticket to London and a series of letters that will guide Ginny throughout Europe on the adventure of a lifetime. Level: E101/102

**F** (fiction) **NF** (nonfiction)

***Twilight (F)* by Stephanie Meyer**

When 17-year-old Bella Swan reluctantly moves to Forks, Washington, she meets Edward Cullen, a beautiful pale-faced boy, at her new high school. She learns that his family is a group of vampires that has given up human prey. Edward is constantly protecting Bella from dangerous situations, and one day he is up against one of his own who fixates on Bella as prey. Level: E102/108

***Touching Spirit Bear (F)* by Ben Mikaelson**

After his anger erupts into violence, Cole, in order to avoid going to prison, agrees to participate in a sentencing alternative based on the Native American Circle Justice. He is sent to a remote Alaskan Island where an encounter with a huge Spirit Bear changes his life. Level: E101/102

***Cherub: The Recruit (F)* by Robert Muchamore**

Although Cherub agents look like regular kids, they're trained professionals sent on missions to spy on terrorists and international drug dealers. James, who was recently orphaned, is the latest recruit. This is the first book in the series and documents James' hellish boot camp experience through his first mission and its shocking aftermath. Level: E102

***Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment (F)* by James Patterson**

A group of genetically engineered children, part human and part bird, flee the lab where they were created, and the brutal Erasers, wolf-like predators, are sent to eliminate them so their existence will never be discovered. Level: E102/108

## What do I do?

Read as many books as you like, but be sure to choose at least one to read this summer. When school starts, your English teacher will require you to write an in-class paper about your book.

## What is a level?

Check your class schedule to identify which class you will take next year. Books are identified by these course levels.

## Where can I find these books?

These books are available at the following places:

► **Local libraries**

- ◆ Arlington Heights
- ◆ Barrington
- ◆ Palatine
- ◆ Rolling Meadows
- ◆ Schaumburg

► **Local bookstores**

**Barnes and Noble**

- ◆ Arlington Heights
- ◆ Deer Park
- ◆ Schaumburg

**Borders**

- ◆ Mount Prospect
- ◆ Schaumburg

**Top Shelf Books**

- ◆ Palatine

# Reading Strategies

Many people write notes in their books to help them understand what they're reading on a deeper level.

Jot down notes on post-its to help you remember what you've read. You will be able to use these notes and your books when you do the in-class writing assignment.

Here is one active reading strategy you can use to take notes in your book:

**! = Wow**

**? = I don't get it**

**:) = I can relate to this personally**

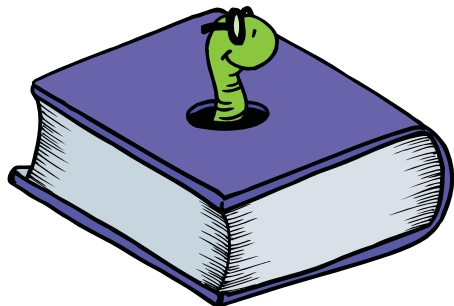
**\* = Important idea**

**+ = I agree**

**- = I disagree**

**B = Boring**

Consider summarizing each chapter in a few sentences to help remind you of what you read.



# Other Active Reading Strategies

## Ask questions:

Active readers question anything they wonder about or don't understand. Then they are on the lookout for clues that would answer those questions.

## Make predictions:

Active readers predict what might happen based on the information in the story.

## Clarify:

Active readers look for answers to their questions and predictions. Once their questions and predictions are clarified, active readers gain a better understanding of the text.

## Make connections:

Active readers relate what they are reading to their own knowledge and experience, as well as to other texts.

## Evaluate:

Active readers draw conclusions about what they have read. By evaluating a selection, active readers are able to form their own opinions about characters, actions, and the selection as a whole.

## Determine the meanings of new words:

Active readers try to figure out what new words mean. They may look in a dictionary, examine the different parts of the word, or read the surrounding text for clues.

## React personally:

Active readers comment on different aspects of the text according to their own beliefs and attitudes.



Summer  
Reading

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Palatine, Illinois  
Township High School District 211  
[www.fhs.d211.org](http://www.fhs.d211.org)