



Middletown Township Public School
Summer Reading Assignment
For Students Entering 1st – 5th Grades
Summer 2016



- All students should record the names and authors of the books they read during the summer in their *Summer Reading Log*. (This may be downloaded from the district website.)
- Students should bring their *Summer Reading Logs* to school with them in September.
- Students should consult with their parent or guardian to decide which book they will present to their new class by giving a *book talk*.
- Classroom teachers will schedule book talks during the first few week of school.



What is a book talk?

A **book talk** is a short spoken presentation that offers the audience enough information to make them want to read a book. Students should select books that they enjoyed and let their audience learn enough about the story or topic to decide if they would also like to read book. Basically, it is an *enthusiastic* presentation of a book for an audience. A book talk is a performance, designed to entice people to read a chosen book. It is like a movie trailer, in that it never contains spoilers, and always leaves the audience interested and hoping for more.

A book talk is *not* a book report, it is *not* a book review and it is *not* an analysis of the book.

A book talk will provide a *glimpse* of:

- Setting
- Characters
- Major or general storyline
- It should inspire others to want to read the book.

A book talk can be anywhere from one to five minutes long and should never provide information about the climax, the resolution or any other details that would *spoil* the experience for a reader if they chose to read the book.

Book talks give students the opportunity to present *and* hear recommendations from peers. Hopefully this will help to build a *reading community* in your child's classroom and engage students in the habit of sharing information about books they love.

Students may want to prepare notecards as they plan their book talk, but they are not required. Students should speak about what they know – it would be a good idea to practice giving a book talk at home for family and friends. **HAVE FUN!**