



July Literacy Calendar

7th and 8th Grades



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Obtain a copy of a newspaper and cut out the titles. Make up fictitious stories that might be labeled with that title.	2 Challenge yourself to keep a summer writing journal. Use it to record your activities, your goals, and your achievements.
3 Celebrate Independence Day by writing a list of all the things you love about the U.S.A.	4 OR—cut out newspaper stories and design new, creative, catchy headlines.	5 Write the lyrics to a song that describes the perfect summer. Set it to the tune of your favorite song.	6 Head to a local convenience store and locate the bags of potato chips (or another snack item). Examine all of the different descriptive adjectives used to advertise the product. Which words are used most frequently?	7 Create a top-ten list of things you want to do this summer. After, create a top-ten list of things you definitely <i>don't</i> want to do this summer.	8 Challenge a friend to write a Fractured Fairytale. Share a few of the most popular (like The Three Little Pigs or Little Red Riding Hood) and write your own version together.	9 Act out your fractured fairytale in front of a small audience (try pets or stuffed animals if no one is available) OR Rewrite and act out a scene from your favorite book or movie and record your performance.
10 Start a book group with a friend or group of friends. Choose a title or series to read and discuss as a group. Give your book group a name and make celebratory T-shirts.	11 Find some family photos to turn into a humorous cartoon strip. Add captions. See if you can get other family members involved.	12 Visit your local library to find out about summer events AND/OR download an audio book to your iPod or mp3 player by logging onto your local library's website.	13 Be a reporter! Research local community events and write a front page news story. Get friends involved! Take pictures!	14 Watch an informational program on the History Channel and tell someone about what you learned.	15 Host a book exchange with friends or neighbors. Everyone can bring one, two or more books that they are willing to part with and then swap for a new gently-used book that someone else has brought.	16 Choose a board game to play with siblings or friends. Try <i>Scrabble</i> or <i>Pictionary!</i>
17 As a family, prepare for a picnic in a scenic location and bring along some good books to read.	18 Make a list of ways to save electricity during the summer. Share it with your parents.	19 Look through magazines to find pictures representing your favorite book. Make a collage and frame it. Or try out a character collage (using pictures that represent things about your favorite character).	20 Build a miniature stage setting for a scene from your favorite story. Use a cereal or shoe box as the stage.	21 Create an advice column for middle school students. Give good advice for common problems.	22 Challenge friends to read a selection together (short story, novel, nonfiction piece, etc.), and throw a party to celebrate the content. Dress as characters, name foods after interesting facts, design scenery that reflects the location or setting.	23 Imagine that you have been given the task of conducting a tour of the town in which the book you read is set. Make a tape describing the homes of your characters and the places where important events in the book took place. Be creative!
24 Consider a piece of historical fiction that you have read in school. What would a character from that book be doing in 2015? Write a list of things he/she might do for fun.	25 Make a passport which belongs to one of the characters. Be sure that the document contains all of the information found on an authentic passport.	26 Set a reading goal for the summer. Simply 15 minutes a day would total 930 minutes. Are you up for the challenge?	27 Look up the word "swelter" and use it in a story. Merriam-Webster Dictionary	28 Watch a baseball game and look for the newspaper article about the game on the next day. Was the report accurate?	29 Make a video of a scene from your favorite book. Invite friends to get involved. Create a script and assign parts.	30/31



August Literacy Calendar

7th and 8th Grades



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Find an audio book to download. Visit your local library's website to find free downloadable titles.	2 Write down three new things you've learned this month. Consider making a list of three things you would like to learn in the future	3 Turn off the TV today and read a book instead	4 Start a collection of something of interest. Check out a book from the library to help you get started. Look up information online.	5 What does the word 'speculate' mean? Look it up in the dictionary. Try to use it in a conversation.	6 Think about maintaining a pen-pal for the month of August using the traditional mail. You can research pen-pal organizations or write to a friend or relative.
7 Challenge yourself to a Sunday newspaper crossword puzzle. Use a dictionary or thesaurus as necessary.	8 Collect flowers and leaves from outside. Look up what kinds they are and label them.	9 Host a neighborhood scavenger hunt . Invite friends to participate. Each person can be responsible for hiding a different item and writing clues.	10 Did you know that it is winter in Australia? Learn more interesting facts about the country "down under."	11 Where did "August" get its name? Look that up and note your research in your journal.	12 Ask your mom or dad or neighbor what they liked to read when they were your age. See if you can obtain a copy of something the read and check it out.	13 Invite friends over and tell ghost stories tonight. Vote on which one was spookiest and decide why.
14 Today is Book Lover's Day . Celebrate by reading with your family this evening.	15 Create a secret code and use it to write a short message. Challenge a friend to "crack the code."	16 Read with a parent or grandparent today. Talk about what you read.	17 Research the origin of your favorite nursery rhyme. Did you find anything surprising? Does it have any hidden meaning?	18 Write a letter to an author or illustrator. Consider including your own writing or illustration. Mail it!	19 Invent your own game. Write the instructions and invite your friends to play.	20 Hold an open "mic" night with your family. Ask everyone to read a poem.
21 Revisit the Sunday paper to read the comics. Find one that is hilarious to share with someone.	22 Make a collage illustrating a scene from a book you've read this summer.	23 Locate three different online versions of local newspapers. Find a common issue or event that each of them reported on. See if you can find any differences .	24 Go on a nature walk today. Write about the different types of flowers you see.	25 Write a story that begins with the line, "If I had a time machine, I would...."	26 Visit a museum (in person or online). Write about what you saw. Was there anything you would like to find out more information about?	27 Count how many different types of birds you see today. Did you see any unusual kinds? How would you describe them if you wanted to remember them for next time?
28 Plan an end-of-the summer celebration and then make a scrapbook of pictures or items that represent the best events or experiences of the summer.	29 Look out the window. Write a list of fifteen things you can see.	30 School is starting soon. Write a list of all the supplies you'll need.	31 Write a letter about your summer activities to a relative who lives in another town.			