



Union School Resource Center

Dear Parents,

All students are required to read at least one book during the summer vacation. Students will be held accountable for their reading the first week of school. Students will be tested or asked to prepare projects on the books read.

Please check your child's lexile measure on the NWEA Map . All the book choices from the suggested reading list given (see attached) have been chosen with the students' individual Lexile score in mind.

What is Lexile?

A Lexile is a measure of a student's reading ability. Lexiles do not address age-appropriateness, an individual's interest, or text quality. The Lexile measure is a good starting point in picking a book.

Have an Enjoyable Vacation filled with Wonderful Adventure!



Resource Center

Summer Reading List

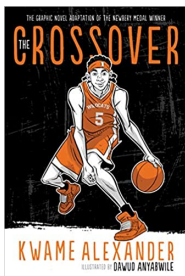
All secondary students at Union School are required to complete the summer reading assignment. Each student is responsible to read **ONE (1)** book using their Lexile range from the list provided. English teachers will be discussing these books during the first week of school. Students should come prepared to discuss their chosen novel. Students are also expected to complete the attached book report/review and bring it with them on their first week back to school.

High School

The Contender by Robert Lipsyte (Lexile 690L)

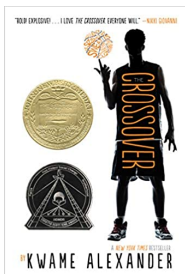


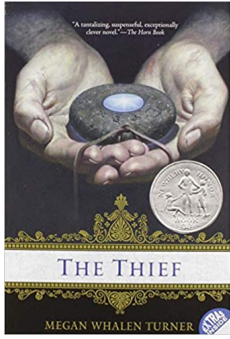
The story of a young boxer in Harlem who overcomes hardships and finds hope in the ring on his path to becoming a contender. Alfred Brooks is scared. He's a high-school dropout, and his grocery store job is leading nowhere. His best friend is sinking further and further into drug addiction. Some street kids are after him for something he didn't even do. So Alfred begins going to Donatelli's Gym, a boxing club in Harlem that has trained champions. There he learns it's the effort, not the win, that makes the boxer—that before you can be a champion, you have to be a contender.



The Crossover by Kwame Alexander (Graphic Novel: GN670L - Regular Novel: 750L)

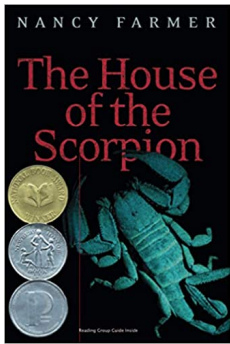
"With a bolt of lightning on my kicks . . . The court is SIZZLING. My sweat is DRIZZLING. Stop all that quivering. Cuz tonight I'm delivering," announces dread-locked, 12-year old Josh Bell. He and his twin brother Jordan are awesome on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood, he's got mad beats, too, that tell his family's story in verse, in this fast and furious novel of family and brotherhood from Kwame Alexander. Josh and Jordan must come to grips with growing up on and off the court to realize breaking the rules comes at a terrible price, as their story's heart-stopping climax proves a game-changer for the entire family.





The Thief by Meagan Whalen Turner (Lexile 920L)

This first book in series introduces one of the most charismatic and incorrigible characters of fiction, Eugenides the thief. The Queen's Thief novels are rich with political machinations and intrigue, battles lost and won, dangerous journeys, divine intervention, power, passion, revenge, and deception. Eugenides, the queen's thief, can steal anything—or so he says. When his boasting lands him in prison and the king's magus invites him on a quest to steal a legendary object, he's in no position to refuse. The magus thinks he has the right tool for the job, but Gen has plans of his own.



The House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer (Lexile: 660L)

Matteo Alacrán was not born; he was harvested. His DNA came from El Patrón, lord of a country called Opium--a strip of poppy fields lying between the United States and what was once called Mexico. Matt's first cell split and divided inside a petri dish. Then he was placed in the womb of a cow, where he continued the miraculous journey from embryo to fetus to baby. He is a boy now, but most consider him a monster--except for El Patrón. El Patrón loves Matt as he loves himself, because Matt is himself. As Matt struggles to understand his existence, he is threatened by a sinister cast of characters, including El Patrón's power-hungry family, and he is surrounded by a dangerous army of bodyguards. Escape is the only chance Matt has to survive. But escape from the Alacrán Estate is no guarantee of freedom, because Matt is marked by his difference in ways he doesn't even suspect.

Fiction Book Report Assignment

1. Choose a chapter book that is on your reading level.
2. Make sure you read a couple of chapters EVERY DAY.
3. Read the book and enjoy it.
4. After you have read the book, reflect on it. Think about what parts jumped out at you, what parts had you confused, what questions you had, what you struggled to visualize, what touched your emotions, etc.
5. Using the book report requirements attached, as a guide, jot down the information required in a list. (Title, author, plot, setting, characters, etc.) You may have to refer back to the book and take notes. This is your pre-writing or planning sheet.
6. Once you have your list, build your written report using the information you gathered to write about your book and your experience reading it. This is your rough draft.
7. Read through your rough draft and ask yourself these questions:
Does it meet the book report requirements?
Does it engage the reader?
Does it have a good beginning, middle, and ending?
Does it flow well? Are ideas and thoughts connected?
Is there evidence to support my opinions?
8. Make any revisions as necessary. Then have someone read over your rough draft and revisions to edit for grammar and punctuation.
9. Write your final draft.
10. Turn in to your teacher on the date due with the Grade Requirements sheet attached to the front. Make sure you have put your name on both the grade sheet and your paper, in case they get separated.

DATE DUE First Week back to School

FICTION Book Report Requirements

Book Title:			
RATING (out of 5 stars): ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆	Author		
<i>Please record your name, class time, and book title and attach this rubric to the top of your report.</i>			
	Check	Comments	Score
Introduction Total points for this section	10		
Open with a strong attention-grabber, using one of the suggested strategies	5		
Identify title of book and underline it	2		
Identify author of book	1		
Identify publication date	1		
Identify publisher	1		
Characters Total points for this section	14		
<i>Protagonist</i>			
Identify the protagonist using the term "protagonist"	1		
Describe the protagonist with 3 character traits	3		
Use examples from the book to illustrate those traits	3		
<i>Antagonist</i>			
Identify the antagonist using the term "antagonist"	1		
Describe the antagonist with 3 character traits	3		
Use examples from the book to illustrate those traits	3		
Plot Total points for this section	10		
<i>A minimum of five sentences is necessary</i>			
Describe the problem in the story	2		
List and describe three main events from the story	6		
Explain the resolution of the story	2		
Setting Total points for this section	5		
<i>Identify and describe where the story takes place</i>	1		
<i>Identify and describe when the story takes place</i>	1		
Explain why or how the setting is important	3		
Theme Total points for this section	10		
State the main idea or theme of the story	2		
Give two examples of the theme	4		
Explain how the examples show the theme	4		
Conclusion Total points for this section	6		
Wrap up the main points of your book report	2		
Explain a result of reading this book	2		
End with a clincher that really sums up your book	2		
Composition Structure Total points for this section	25		
Proper use of grammar (nouns, verbs, adverbs, etc.)	10		
Proper use of spelling	5		
Proper use of punctuation/capitalization	5		
Proper use of paragraphs- indentations, order of rubric	5		
Paper Format Total points for this section	20		
Typed or written in blue or black ink, one side only	5		
Double-spaced in 12-point, Arial or Times New Roman	5		
Completed self-check	5		
Cover page with underlined title, author's name			
Your name, date, and hour	5		