

# Alhuda Academy

## 2016-2017

### Summer Reading



#### For Students Entering SIXTH GRADE

Asalaamu Alaikum from Alhuda Academy. This is our Summer Reading Program. We have used the Worcester Public School system as a guide to create this program for students at Alhuda Academy.

Our intent is to nurture both the habits of good reading and the love of reading for the sake of reading. **Summer reading is required** of our students. The choice of what to read is up to parents and students. Please check to see if the book is Islamically appropriate. Ask a librarian for help in locating the books.

#### **Summer Reading is a requirement:**

- Choose to read any five books
- Complete an activity for each of the five books
- Counts for 10% of first quarter Language Arts grade

#### **You can find books in Worcester!**

##### **Borrow a book:**

Go to the Worcester Public Library  
3 Salem Street Worcester, MA 01608  
(508) 799-1655  
[www.worcpubliclib.org](http://www.worcpubliclib.org)

Frances Perkins Branch Library  
470 W. Boylston Street  
Worcester, MA 01606  
(508) 799-1687  
Bus route 30N

Great Brook Valley Branch  
89 Tacoma Street  
Worcester, MA 01605  
(508) 799-1729  
Bus Route 26N

***Make sure you return borrowed books on time and undamaged!!***

##### **Buy a new book:**

- Amazon.com
- Barnes and Nobles Bookstore, 541 Lincoln St.
- Benjamin Franklin Bookstore, Salem St.
- Sam's Warehouse or BJs
- Walmart, Target, or Kmart

##### **Islamic Books**

- [www.astrolabe.com](http://www.astrolabe.com)
- [www.islamicity.com/bazar](http://www.islamicity.com/bazar)
- [www.dar-us-salam.com](http://www.dar-us-salam.com)
- [www.goodwordbooks.com](http://www.goodwordbooks.com)

##### **Buy a used book:**

- Friends of the Library Bookstore, Salem St
- Goodwill, 25 Park Ave
- Salvation Army, 72 Cambridge St

When choosing a book, consider these excellent authors. If you need help, ask your teacher, your librarians, your parents, or your friends.

**Islamic Books and Authors**

**The Junior Encyclopedia of Islam** by Saniyasnain Khan

**Devotion among Animals** by Harun Yahya

**The Book of Ibns-The Amazing Sons of Islam** by Luqman Nagy

**Cheng Ho: Admiral of the East** by Julia Marshall

**IQ-Islamic Quiz Book 1, 2, and 3** by Jamal UnNisa

**Missing Out on Rewards** by Shazia Narlee

**Parent's Love** by Ishrat J. Rummy

**The Muslim Way of Speaking** by Harun Yahya

**A Muslim Girl's Guide to Life's Big Changes** by Rayhana Khan

**Jannah's New Friends: A Story of What True Friendship is All About** by Suzy Ismail

**Forgiveness & Other Matters** by Muhammad Sharif

### Summer Reading List

<b>Author</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Overview</b>
Aiken, Joan	Dido and Pa	Dido is an enterprising, brave girl who does her best to be a dutiful daughter while not aiding her rascally Pa. Set in London during the time of good King Richard, Dido helps thwart the plan, of which her pa is a part, to assassinate the king.
Alexander, Lloyd	The First Two Lives of Lukas-Kasha	A fun loving, never-do-well young man gets transported to a different world and learns to be a responsible help to others when he is proclaimed king.
Alexander, Lloyd	The Jedera Adventure	This exciting adventure of an 18-yr old heroine takes place during the 1850s in the country of Jedera, which is a thinly disguised Mali. Timely remarks by the heroine's guardian tell the reader that there are good things and bad things, good people and bad in both Jedera and the heroine's home in Philadelphia. Her destination in Mali is the famous library (of real Timbuktu) where she returns a valuable copy of a book of medicinal herbs by Ibn Sina.
Ayres, Katherine	Silver Dollar Girl	Valentine runs away from her aunt's house in Pittsburgh to find her father in the silver mines of Colorado in 1885. She gets, and appreciates, help from various people along the way.
Ayres, Katherine	Stealing South: A Story of the Underground Railroad	Will leaves his family, who are Underground Railroad workers in a small town in Ohio, to make his way as a peddler. While traveling in Kentucky, Will deals with moral issues about slavery, family duty, and friendship. The book shows how a person can be good to some while doing evil to others.
Creech, Sharon	The Wanderer	13 year old Sophie goes with her three uncles and two cousins to sail across the Atlantic. Sophie's struggle to reclaim who she is inspires similar exploration from those around her as they discover the joys and trials of belonging to a family.
Crutcher, Chris	Whale Talk	TJ, a gifted student and athlete, decides to form a swimming team and recruits some of the school's least popular students. A wonderful book, but please note its dark threads of child abuse.
Franklin, Kristine L.	Lone Wolf	Perry lives in isolation with his divorced dad, a silent man who doesn't know how to communicate with his son. At first, Perry was a loner like his dad, but he is drawn to the warmth of a large family that moves in nearby.
Funke, Cornelia	Dragon Rider	A fantasy about a boy who makes friends with a dragon and helps to find a safe place for dragons to hide from humans. The boy is an orphan, but he meets with and becomes attached to a good family.

Garcia, Laura Gallego	The Legend of the Wandering King	The novel is based on the few facts known about the famous pre-Islamic poet Imru' l Qays. At the court of his father, the ruler of Kinda (in Arabia), he was known as the best poet, but then in one competition he is bested by an old man. Imru' l's jealousy gets the better of him, and his cruel revenge ends in the death of the old man. Grief stricken, he becomes the wandering king until he redeems himself.
Grove, Vicki	The Fastest Friend in the West	One overweight girl longs for acceptance at school, and a new student turns out to be homeless, living with her family in a station wagon. They both have caring families although the one mother pushes desserts and the father in the other family yells and acts out because he cannot support his family.
Grover, Wayne	Ali and the Golden Eagle	A wonderful, true story about the author and Ali, a Saudi boy he befriends. The story focuses on Ali's golden eagle that they train to hunt. Ali's eagle is special because it is the only eagle known to have been tamed and taught to hunt.
Hamilton, Virginia	The House of Dies Drear	Thomas and his family go to live in the house that the abolitionist Dies Drear made into an important station on the Underground Railroad.
		Excellent historical fiction, and the boy's parents are supportive of him.
Ismail, Suzy	The BFF Sisters: Jennah's New Friends	Muslim girls make a new friend and learn about friendship.
Sebesstyen, Ouida	Words By Heart	Lena's family is new and the only black family in town. She struggles to make her father proud by winning a Bible quoting contest. But she learns by the end of the book that it is true Christian belief and action – helping and forgiving the one who shot her father – that makes him proud. A good book for Muslims to learn about Christianity and the values that we share.
Yep, Laurence	Dragonwings	In this historical fiction, an 8-yr old boy goes to live with his father in San Francisco Chinatown in about 1900, when the Chinese were greatly discriminated against. An excellent book to use in the classroom for discussion about living under adverse conditions, the importance of family, and the importance of character.

## Summer Reading Activities

For each of the books you read this summer, choose a different assignment from the choices listed below.

### Dear Author

Write a letter to the author telling him/her about your reaction to the story. Tell the author what you thought of the book. You should include text selections from your favorite and/or least favorite parts.

### In the News

Create the front page of a newspaper that tells about events, characters and setting of the book you just read. The title, articles, and illustrations of the newspaper should be appropriate to the time when the story took place. You could include weather reports, editorials, cartoons etc.

### What a Character!

Draw a portrait of character from the book you read. Would you choose this character as a friend? Why or why not? Explain how this character is similar and different from you.

### Be a set designer

Select an interesting setting from your book. Make a sketch of the setting and create a model of the setting using a shoebox. Design the shoe box as if it is a room from the story. Write a paragraph that tells WHY you chose this setting. You may include characters from the story in your shoebox setting.

### Be a star

Using a video camera or webcam, create a script for your favorite part of the book and then, using a video camera or webcam, record yourself and/or others, acting out your favorite part. Be sure you are dressed as your character and try to make the setting similar to the book. At the end, summarize the book and tell why the scene you acted out is your favorite. You may do this with the camera or you may write it on paper.

### Parents can help!

It is very important to help your child understand summer reading can be both fun and beneficial. Children who have a habit of reading not only learn to be better readers but they also perform better in school and receive higher grades. Summer reading keeps your child's brain working over the summer. With the right attitude, it can be enjoyable and relaxing.

### Tips to help your child enjoy reading:

#### Set the PACE!

Lead by example. Let your child see YOU reading each day.

#### Find a PLACE!

Provide a space in your home with lots of different reading materials like books, newspapers, magazines, travel brochures, a dictionary, and/or a thesaurus.

#### Don't make it HARD!

Find time to read. Share a book with your children. Keep one with you in the car or your purse so that you can read and discuss while you are "out and about".

#### Get a Library Card!

The library is full of FREE reading opportunities and offers a quiet, air conditioned place to share a book!