

Alhuda Academy 2016-2017 Summer Reading



For Students Entering SEVENTH & EIGHTH GRADES

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.worcpublib.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

Islamic Books

- www.astrolabe.com
- www.islamicity.com/bazar
- www.dar-us-salam.com
- 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

Author	Title	Overview
Tahan, Malba	The Man Who Counted: a collection of mathematical adventures	Beremiz Samir, the man who counted, summons his extraordinary mathematical powers to settle disputes, give wise advice, and overcome dangerous enemies on the way to Damascus in the 10th century. Unfortunately the only mathematicians who are praised are the Greeks.
Ouida Sebesstyen	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.
Ibtisam Barakat	Tasting the Sky	This is the memoir of a Palestinian who recalls her terrifying and humiliating experiences as a child growing up in occupied Palestine, including having to leave her family home and visiting friends in a refugee camp. Her love of reading and writing give her hope and a future.
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
Baillie, Allan	Little Brother	Vithy's older brother rescues him from the vicious Khmer Rouge soldiers, but then they lose each other in the wild jungle. Vithy survives by remembering what he has learned from his father and from his brother, and learning who he can trust as he struggles to find his brother and the border in order to make it out of Cambodia.
Laurence Yep	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.

Myers, Walter Dean	Now is Your Time!: The African-American Struggle for Freedom	A nonfiction account from Muslim empires in Africa to slavery in America up to the modern Civil Rights Movement, told through the biographies of real African Americans. The several references to Muslims and/or Islam are positive, and the first personal story is told of Abd al-Rahman Ibrahim, the Muslim prince who was a slave in Mississippi
Kamkwamba, William and Bryan Mealer	The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind	This is an autobiography of a teenage boy In Malawi who teaches himself about electricity and builds a windmill out of scraps that provides electricity for lights in his village home. It is an inspiring story of what someone can do even if he has little education and absolutely no money.
Wilson, Eva	Islamic Designs for Artists and Craftspeople	This is both a book of Islamic designs Identified by country of origin and century and a pattern book that illustrates the geometric shapes used in particular designs.
Ruelle, Karen Gray	The Grand Mosque of Paris: A Story of How Muslims Rescued Jews during the Holocaust	It is unfortunate that this factual and important event is put into a picture book that looks like it is for young children. Every Muslim and non Muslim should read this book, and it should be discussed in school. The Muslims of Paris helped the Jews, as good Muslims should, when their lives were threatened by the Nazis. It is told as a documentary, using what the few accounts that survived reveal about what was done and how the Muslims were able to help so many Jews.

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!