

Summer Program Overview Entering Middle School Monday – Friday

1. Bridge Book (approx. 15 min. daily)

- Complete 2 pages daily (front & back) Available at bookstores or through amazon.com

2. Read/write daily (20-30 min. daily)

- Take a break from AR books and allow students to read what interests them. Reading is a great opportunity to spend quality time with your child. Take turns reading pages and having conversations about what your child is reading.
- If you can't make it to the library, axis 360 is a great resource, similar to Epic. If you have a library card, you can access it at <https://www.broward.org/Library/Pages/eBooks.aspx>.
- If you don't have a library card, apply online at <https://www.broward.org/Library/Services/Pages/LibraryCard.aspx>.
- Don't know which books to read? The ACE program below lists some great options.

3. Math (approx. 20 min. daily)

- Time 4 Math Facts (3 days a week) Grade 6. Students should complete the circle at the top right-hand corner of the screen at each sitting (3 times a week). It does have a cost of \$39.95 annually, but it is a great game that truly improves math fluency. Students who are entering 6th grade should select the multiplication/division option. It is a fun, engaging game. It is available at <https://www.time4mathfacts.com>.
- iReady. (2 days a week) Grades K5-8th. Students should complete one lesson twice weekly. Your students already have their iReady login information. Your students took an assessment while they were at school and based on the results of that assessment, the software delivers tailored instruction and practice for each student to accelerate growth.

A.C.E. Summer Program Entering Middle School

Welcome to Potential Christian Academy's Academic Challenge for Excellence. Google "summer learning loss" or "summer brain drain", and you will come across thousands of articles and websites discussing how students can lose 2-3 months of learning if they are not mentally engaged over the summer months! Not only is there a loss of learning; but when students return to school, they often take 4-5 weeks to re-engage and get up to speed with concepts they have mastered previously.

Our desire at PCA is to partner with your family during the summer months in order to prepare students for a quick start to a strong academic year at each grade level. "Academic Challenge for Excellence" (ACE) is a program that our team has developed to guide you and your child through a summer of fun and learning. ACE will provide fun learning activities on a daily basis

throughout the summer, in the areas of Bible, Math, English, Science, Social Studies and Reading. Students that complete and return their ACE materials in the first week of school will receive a 100% grade for each applicable subject area! We strongly encourage full participation in this program by all children entering K5 through Middle School. Children that do not fully engage in this program may find themselves struggling to keep up with the academic pace.

PCA's ACE program instructions: **REQUIRED FOR EXTRA CREDIT!

- ****Summer Bridge Activities Book from Carson-Dellosa Publishing.** (This book is available at local bookstores or online at summerlearningactivities.com.) Help your kids maintain the skills they learned during the school year. Order the summer workbook and get free membership to the site, including online games and activities. Summer Bridge contains fun exercises to complete Monday through Friday of each week during the summer. These exercises serve as a review of the previous year's material, in order to build the foundation for the approaching grade level. A student who completes and returns this book will receive an extra credit grade of 100% in language arts, science, math, and social studies. They will only get credit in the subject(s) which are completed. If the section is not complete, no partial credit will be given.
- ****Suggested Reading/Book List:** The reading list has been compiled to prepare your child with samples of literature that will be used throughout the year in the approaching grade. Students must read at least 3 of the books listed in the Grade Level Reading List and complete 3 extension activities in order to receive a 100% EXTRA CREDIT grade in language. Reading books on the suggested list will prove helpful in strengthening reading during the summer break.
- **Weekly scripture and devotional:** Developing the discipline of regular devotions and Bible study is critical to our growth in character and faith. Complete summer devotions/readings. Take time throughout the week to read the bible together and discuss how it relates to your family. You may even pick a verse together to memorize for the week. Jump in and see where God leads your family! Google "Focus on the Family" or "Keys for Kids" to find many online daily devotions for families.
- **Websites and resources for creative learning activities:** Our teachers have put together a collection of useful websites that contain information and activities that can add to the fun of learning throughout the summer. Many sites even have suggestions for activities the entire family can enjoy together.
- **Summer Reading Log:** Summer Reading Log is an optional, personal reading challenge. Read, visit the library and track your activity. PCA rewards our summer readers, so have some fun!

Dear Middle School Parents and Students,

Reading is important for all students and practicing their skills throughout the summer is important to their success in fifth grade and beyond. Students should begin to enjoy the pleasure of reading by this age as well as understand its necessity for living life to the fullest! Skill practice is important in many areas and reading is no exception. Students should be reading a minimum of 20-30 minutes a day in the summer. Here is a list of popular books for middle school students. Be sure your child chooses books on their skill level – not too easy, not too difficult. (See AR lists on arbookfind.com if needed) Choose books you love to read and you will enjoy your summer reading challenge. We look forward to seeing you in our classrooms soon.

Reading is a very important skill for student and practicing their skills through the summer is important to their success in middle school. Students should begin to enjoy pleasure reading and understand the necessity of living life to the absolute fullest. Skill practice is important in many areas and reading is no exception. Students should be reading a minimum of 20-30 minutes a day during the summer. Below is a list of popular books for middle school age students. Be sure your child chooses a book on their skill level; you can consult arbookfind.com if needed. Choose books you love to read and will enjoy reading for the summer reading challenge. We look forward to seeing you in the fall!

Summer Reading Extension Activities: Students must read at least 3 of the books listed in the Grade Level Reading List and complete 3 reading extension activities (1 for each book) in order to receive Language Arts extra credit. Choose from the activities listed below:

Required for extra credit (choose a different activity for each of the 3 books you read)

- Create a timeline for the events in the story.
- Complete a comprehension worksheet.
- Complete a character analysis: write a character description of someone in the novel.
- Write a letter to the author of the book.
- Write a diary page that the main character in the story may have written.
- Prepare a list of interview questions to ask the main character.
- Design a comic strip representing the book.
- Make a scrapbook page of a major character in the book.
- Write a promotion for a movie about the novel.
- Create a book cover/jacket for the book you read.
- Keep a chapter by chapter journal. With each chapter, write a summary, an opinion, and creatively write a reflection on the events of each chapter.
- Write a three paragraph summary for the book you read. Paragraph 1- Introduction with title, author and main characters. Paragraph 2- a summary of the plot. Paragraph 3- conclusion- tell

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whether you would recommend this book and explain why. Tell whether you would have changed the ending to the book and why.

- Complete a story map
- Complete a book report

**Attached you will find:

- We have also attached a sample character analysis chart, summer reading comprehension work- sheet and a story map that you may use to complete your book assignments.
- You may use another format for these forms if you wish.

**PCA Summer ACE Website Resource List
Through – Middle School**

- www.funbrain.com
- www.bensguide.gpo.gov
- www.softschools.com
- www.aplusmath.com
- www.learningplanet.com

General Sites:

- www.kaboose.com
- www.bestedsites.com
- www.busyteacherscafe.com
- www.rif/readingplanet.com
- www.bookadventure.com
- www.kidsknowit.com

Bible and Devotional Sites:

- www.biblegateway.com
- www.crosswalk.com
- www.devos.kids4truth.com
- www.akidsheart.com
- www.heavensinspirations.com
- www.cbhministries.org

PCA Summer ACE Middle School Recommended Reading List and Extension Activities (Read at least 3 and complete 3 extension activities to earn 100% extra credit grade)

Suggested Reading List Sixth Grade

- A Wrinkle in Time by Madeline L'Engle
- The Monkey's Paw by W.W Jacobs
- A Series of Unfortunate Events Series by Lemony Snicket
- All Creatures Great and Small by James Herriot
- Anne of Green Gables Series by Lucy Montgomery
- Banner in the Sky by James Ramsey Ullman
- Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech
- Tuck Everlasting By Natalie Babbitt
- Baseball's Biggest Bloopers by Dan Gulman
- By the Shores of Silver Lake by Laura Ingalls Wilder
- Eleven by Giff
- Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick
- Freedom Crossing by Clark
- Frindle by Andrew Clements
- Middle School: The Worst Years of my Life by James Patterson
- The Cay by Theodore Taylor
- Granny Torrelli Makes Soup by Sharon Creech
- Hannah West in the Belltown Towers by Linda Johns
- Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
- House with a Clock in its Walls by John Bellairs
- Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell
- Julie of the Wolves by Jean C. George
- Lily's Crossing by Patricia R. Giff
- Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli
- Listening for Lions by Whelan
- Little Women by Louisa May Alcott
- To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
- The Mailbox by Shafer
- The Summer of the Swans by Betsy Byars
- The Wanderer by Sharon Creech

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- The Yearling by Rawlings
- The Young Underground Series by Robert Elmer
- Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt
- Voyages of Dr. Dolittle Hugh Lofting
- We are the Ship by Kadir Nelson

Suggested Reading List Seventh Grade

- A Dream to Follow by Snelling
- A Year of Impossible Goodbyes by S.N Choi
- A Wrinkle in Time by Madelaine L'Engle
- Billy Creekmore by Porter Tracey
- Brian's Winter by Gary Paulsen
- Chosen by Chaim Potok
- Divergent by Veronica Roth
- Ella Enchanted by Gail Levine
- Giants in the Earth by O.E Rolvaag
- Gifted Hands by Ben Carson
- Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse
- Heat by Mike Lupica
- Touching Spirit Bear by Ben Mikaelson
- Here's Lily by Nancy Rue
- Isle of Swords by Batson
- Jacob Have I Loved by Katherine Paterson
- Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key by Jack Gantos
- A Long Walk To Water: Based on a True Story by Linda Park
- Little Women by Louisa May Alcott
- Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred Taylor
- My Brother Sam is Dead by Collier
- My Louisiana Sky by Holt
- The Mousehunter by Alex Millway
- The Sea of Trolls by Farmer
- The Star of Light by Patrica St. John
- Rikki-Tikki-Tavi by Rudyard Kipling
- The Swiss Family Robinson by Johann Wyss
- The Twenty-One Balloons
- The Yearling by William Pene du Bois
- The Watsons Go to Birmingham by Christopher Paul Curtis
- The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne
- The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin

Suggested Reading List Eighth Grade

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- Chosen by Chaim Potok
- God's Smuggler by Brother Andrew
- The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins
- Harris and Me by Gary Paulsen
- How Green Was My Valley by Virginia Hamilton
- Inside the Walls of Troy by Celestine McLaren
- Jar of Dreams by Yoshiko Uchida
- Maze Runner by James Dashner
- Mama's Bank Account by Forbes
- Messenger by Lois Lowry
- Out of Darkness by Russell Freedman
- Rascal by North
- Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe
- Shakespeare's Scribe by Gary Blackwood
- Showdown by Tedd Dekker
- Space Trilogy by Mark Pftzer
- The Hiding Place by Corrie Ten Boom
- The Hobbit by J.R.R Tolkien
- The Hound of the Baskervilles by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
- Sherlock Holmes by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
- The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan
- The Lord of the Rings by J.R.R Tolkien
- Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain
- Treasure Island by R.L Stevenson
- War of the Worlds by H.G Wells

***Please feel free to choose some of your favorite books to read! Record all of your reading/pages on the Summer Reading Log. Have a wonderful summer!**

PCA Summer Reading Challenge

Move over TV, computer and video games! Pleasure reading is cool!

Do you want your child to develop a love for literature that lasts a lifetime? Do you want to improve your child's skills in all school subjects? Studies have proven that whether children read alone or you read to them, they make great strides in language development, emotional development, imagination, and creativity when good books are a part of their lives.

PCA wants to encourage individual and family reading by providing a summer reading challenge for all students entering kindergarten through middle school. This is how it works:

- Each child with a public library card is awarded 100 points.
- Visits to the library will earn 100 points each (one visit per two-week period = 600 possible points).
- Each page of a book that your child reads will be worth one point.
- Each page read to your child is also worth one point.

The challenge begins the last day of school in June and ends the first day of school in August. The teachers will collect the Summer Reading Logs the first week of school. All reading logs are due the first week of school. Prizes will be given to children who reach certain point levels as follows:

Points/Award(s)

- Over 500 - Bookmark and candy (K-2nd grade only)
- Over 1000 - Free ice cream on Friday in lunch
- Over 3000 - Popcorn and juice party
- Over 4000 - 10 AR points to redeem at the AR store
- Over 5000 - \$5 Scholastic book fair gift certificate

Proverbs 24:14 Know also that wisdom is sweet to your soul; if you find it, there is a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off.

*All of the prizes and awards listed above are cumulative at each level

Summer Reading Challenge Prizes for Elementary and Middle School...

- Top Reader in each class - Ice cream party
- First place Top Reader in PCA - \$15 gift certificate for Barnes & Noble

- Second place Top Reader in PCA - \$10 gift certificate for Barnes & Noble
- Third place Top Reader in PCA - \$5 gift certificate for Barnes & Noble

****Note: Students, all books read should be at or above your grade level. A fourth or fifth grader should not be reading picture books. They may raise your total points, but what you learn is minimal. Rise to the challenge!***

How to Help Your Child Select A Book

YOU are the key in helping your child select summer reading books that will be of high interest and will also be at your child's *independent reading level*. The independent reading level is the level at which your child can comfortably read and understand material without adult assistance. Please use these guidelines in helping your child select appropriate reading material.

- Find books about your favorite topic or hobby.
- Look for books by a favorite author/illustrator
- Browse through the book to see if the illustrations are interesting. Read the book summary on the back cover or book jacket.
- Choose a book that is at your *independent reading level* using the "Five Finger Rule".

Choose a book that you think you would like to read. Open to any page and begin reading at the top of the page. For every word you can't pronounce or understand put up a finger on your right hand. If you put all five fingers up before you end that page, put the book back. It's too hard for you. For younger children you may want to use the "Three Finger Rule".

Books must be at student's grade level or higher. Pages with illustrations are included in total pages counted.