

Summer Reading in Science – WTHS

Instructions: Please Read

1. Students entering Grades 9-11 shall select & Read ONE book FROM THE LIST BELOW.
2. Students shall complete the scientific book report (format highlighted below) OR a Poster Board Report OR a Google Slide presentation. (pick one format)
3. Report OR Poster OR Google Slides are due the first academic Friday of school and will be 10% of the student's first quarter grade.
 - Late work will not be accepted & plagiarism will result in a zero and disciplinary action.
 - *Book selections are provided below (Be sure to pick the content area you will be in NEXT year)

Incoming 9th Graders: [Select Biology Book](#)

Soon to be 10th graders: [Select Chemistry Book](#)

Soon to be 11th graders: [Select Physics Book](#)

Students scheduled for AP CHEMISTRY [CLICK HERE FOR SPECIFIC ASSIGNMENTS](#)

Students scheduled for AP PHYSICS [CLICK HERE FOR SPECIFIC ASSIGNMENTS](#)

Resource links to access books:

- Worcester Public Library - [Click here to get a library card and access to digital/ebook collection.](#)
- Boston Public Library - [All MA residents can get a library card and access to digital collections.](#)
 - Use "myON": An educational version of Kindle with free books. Find this in Clever.
 - [Amazon has a variety of free ebooks and kindle editions.](#)
 - [Check here for The Ultimate Guide to Free Books](#)

Science Book Report Format

Minimum of 6-7 paragraphs, be sure to include your name, book and author.

1. Introduction Paragraph

2. Plot Summary Paragraph

a. State the type of book (Science Fiction, Factual, educational, philosophical).

b. What place or country was the book set in?

c. What time period was the book set in or when was it written?

d. Other notable features of the book.

e. What is the outcome of the book?

3-4. Write 1-2 paragraphs describing THREE major events, major points of discussion or theories that were presented in the book. Be sure to describe these three topics in your own words.

5. Scientific Relevance Paragraph:

a. State the scientific basis of the book.

b. What scientific ideas/theories does the book cover?

c. How is the science of this book relevant in our community/society/world?

6. About the Author: Write about the author and his/her contribution to the scientific world.

7. Personal Impressions and Conclusion Paragraph: Simply talk about what you liked or did not like about the book. Use this paragraph as your conclusion. It should summarize your overall impressions of the book and bring the report to a close.

Science Book Report Poster Board or Google Slide Presentation

Get a poster board and construct a Book Report Poster. Your poster must include the following elements. You may design the elements however you would like. OR you can create a Google slide presentation with the following information:

1. Title, Author, and Story Building card of your book
2. Picture(s) and paragraphs describing
 - a. State the type of book (Science Fiction, Factual, educational, philosophical).
 - b. What place or country was the book set in?
 - c. What time period was the book set in or when was it written?
 - d. Other notable features of the book.
 - e. What is the outcome of the book?
3. Picture(s) and paragraphs describing
 - a. THREE major events,
 - b. THREE major points of discussion or theories that were presented in the book.

Be sure to describe these three topics in your own words (add index cards)
4. Scientific Relevance Picture(s) and Paragraph:
 - a. State the scientific basis of the book.
 - b. What scientific ideas/theories does the book cover?
 - c. How is the science of this book relevant in our community/society/world?
5. About the Author Picture and paragraph
 - a. Write about the author and his/her contribution to the scientific world.
6. Personal Impressions and Conclusion Paragraph
 - a. Simply talk about what you liked or did not like about the book. Use this paragraph as your conclusion. It should summarize your overall impressions of the book and bring the report to a close.

Book report OR poster will be due to your science teacher during by the FIRST ACADEMIC FRIDAY of the school year.

*Book selections are provided below

*Plagiarism will result in a zero and disciplinary action.

*Late work will not be accepted

Students MUST choose from this list of books. This is a general list and does not reflect the views or educational content of WTHS or WPS.

BIOLOGY (Entering 9th graders)

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
The Lives of Cells, Notes of a Biology Watcher	Lewis Thomas
The Blind Watchmaker	Richard Dawkins
The Book of Beetles	Patrice Bouchard
Hidden Figures	Margot Lee Shetterly
Evolution: The Human Story	DK Publishing
The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks	Rebecca Skloot
The Greatest Show on Earth	Richard Dawkins
The Human Age	Diane Ackerman
Stiff	Mary Roach
The Double Helix: A personal Account of the discovery of the Double Helix	James Watson
The Origin of Species	Charles Darwin
The Selfish Gene	Richard Dawkins
The Sixth Extinction: An unnatural History	Elizabeth Kolbert
Undeniable	Bill Nye
Your Inner Fish	Neil Shubin

The Doctor's Plague	Sherwin B. Nuland
Ishmael	Daniel Quinn
Silent Spring	Rachel Carson
A Sand County Almanac	Aldo Leopold

CHEMISTRY (entering 10th Graders)

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
Bad Science	Ben Goldacre
Cosmos	Carl Sagan
Elements: A Visual Exploration	Theodore Gray
The Omnivore's Dilemma: Young Readers Ed.	Michael Pollan
Gödel, Escher, Bach	Douglas R. Hofstadter
The Hubble Cosmos	David H. DeVorkin
Science	Robert Dinwiddie
A Short History of Nearly Everything	Bill Bryson
Stuff Matters	Mark Miodownik
Universe	Martin Rees
A Universe from Nothing	Lawrence M. Krauss

Sugar changed the world	Aronson
The Poisoner's Handbook	Deborah Blum
Napoleon's Buttons: How 17 Molecules Changed History	Penny LeCouteur
Calling All MindsL How to think & create like an inventor	Temple Grandin

PHYSICS (Entering 11th Graders)

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
The Accidental Universe	Alan Lightman
The Elegant Universe	Brian Greene
The Fabric of the Cosmos	Brian Greene
Lunar Football League: The inside story	Jason A. Holt
The Hidden Reality	Brian Greene
Bomb: The race to build (and steal) the world's most dangerous weapon	Steve Sheinkin
The Grand Design	Stephen Hawking
Thing Explainer: Complicated Stuff in Simple Words	Randal Monroe

Human Universe	Brian Cox & Andrew Cohen
The Right Stuff	Tom Wolfe
Six Easy Pieces: Essentials of Physics Explained by Its Most Brilliant Teacher	Richard P. Feynmen
The Physics of Everyday Things: The Extraordinary Science Behind an Ordinary Day	James Kakalios