

WELCOME TO THE READING DEPARTMENT!

JANUARY 2015

SUMMER READING INFORMATION

Last summer we began utilizing the Renaissance Learning's *Accelerated Reader* program for Summer Reading. Students were encouraged to read any books that were designated as Middle + or Upper Grades level to participate in the program. When they arrived in the fall they took tests on the books that they read.

Students scoring 80% or higher earned up to two

Drop Quiz passes to be used in their classes throughout the year. The students that participated and made an 80% or greater on at least five books were awarded a pizza to be enjoyed during lunch. Those readers certainly enjoyed having a whole pizza!

Specifics regarding the upcoming Summer Reading program will be shared in May.



Students enjoy reading a variety of reading material available at our school library!

LOOKING FOR WAYS TO STRENGTHEN READING SKILLS?

We would like to recommend some resources to enhance reading skills.

- **Study Island** is a computerized program that provides practice on reading and language arts skills. <https://theisland.studyisland.com/>
- The **FSA Portal** provides examples of the types of questioning and activities your student will encounter on standardized testing. <http://www.fsassessments.org/students-and-parents>
- **Free Rice** is an online program that offers practice in vocabulary as well as other subjects. <http://freerice.com/#/english-vocabulary/1417>
- Looking to increase your student's higher level vocabulary? Check out **Word of the Day!** <http://dictionary.reference.com/wordoftheday/>
- Is **reading fluency, or speed**, an issue? Access the closed caption feature on your television. Students can read the words as they are read to them....an excellent way to increase reading speed!
- Trouble understanding the construction of sentences and parts of speech? Try online **Mad Libs**™ <http://www.madglibs.com/>
- Need help with **informational text**? Read magazines such as National Geographic and Sports Illustrated, newspapers are a good source too. Be sure to talk about what was read!
- Can't decide what to read next? Use **What Should I Read Next?** to help you select a title. <http://www.whatshouldireadnext.com/>