

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Reading and writing in the 21st century classroom is an interdisciplinary effort. Students read and write in all disciplines, but they have particularly extended and frequent opportunities to do so in English, the sciences, and social studies.

Summer reading at the high school level encompasses these three disciplines. Over the duration of each student's high school experience, he or she will select from summer reading lists that encourage reading for enjoyment and education, while addressing some of the "big questions" that surface in these three subjects areas and in adult life.

The books selected for each grade represent a variety of interests and reading levels. Print copies are readily available locally or via online booksellers. In addition to local bookstores, the Thayer Public Library is a valuable (and free!) resource. If you need help in selecting books, do not hesitate to ask the librarian!

For those of you planning travel this summer, consider going beyond the bookshelves and print pages to include audio books in your student's experience. While audio books are not a replacement for reading, they are a wonderful supplement, especially when experienced with a copy of the actual book. Audio books are available at the library on CD or on iTunes.

As you explore these opportunities and the "big question" for the summer, remember that summer reading is for pleasure! We hope you and your son or daughter find many enjoyable books and stories to be part of your summer. We look forward to working with you throughout your student's high school career.

Sincerely,

Rock Roberts, Director of English & Reading, rock.roberts@braintreeschools.org

Dr. Gorman Lee, Director of Social Studies, gorman.lee@braintreeschools.org

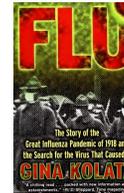
Dr. Betsey Clifford, Director of Science, betsey.clifford@braintreeschools.org

Braintree High School Summer Reading
for
students
entering
grade 10

Partnership
RESPECT & RESPONSIBILITY
Involvement
Diversity
Educational Excellence

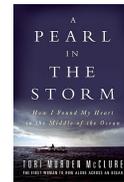
The Big Question:

What is our role in the natural world?



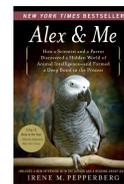
Flu

by Gina Kolata



A Pearl in the Storm

by Tori Murden McClure



Alex & Me

by Irene Pepperberg



100 Heartbeats

by Jeff Corwin



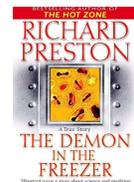
Physics for Future Presidents

by Richard A. Muller



The Stuff of Life §

by Mark Schultz



The Demon in the Freezer §

By Richard Preston



The Man Who Lives with Wolves

by Shaun Ellis with Penny Junor



The Sixth Extinction

by Elizabeth Kolbert



Going Blue

by Cathryn Berger Kaye
& Philippe Cousteau

Looking for great books? Interested in logging your reading hours for a prize? Visit thayerpubliclibraryteens.blogspot.com and www.thayerpubliclibrary.org.
§ This book was written for adults or young adults and contains some mature language and/or content.

Steps to a complete summer reading assignment for students entering grade 10*:

- **Select one book from the ten choices on the flyer** (more details available at www.braintreeschools.org/summer).
- **Read it and complete the Note-Taking Chart (below) for the Grade 10 Big Question.**

As humans, what is our role in the natural world? Do we hold a unique position, standing above and controlling the rest of the natural world, or are we enmeshed within nature's complex web of interactions? Are we obligated to act as caretakers for the future, or are natural resources here for us to use as we want? As humans become aware of and immersed in the natural world, they often find it to be more complex than it might first appear.

As you read, focus on the characters' interactions with the natural world. Copy the chart below (or print it at www.braintreeschools.org/summer) and complete it using the book you selected.

Moments in the book when a person or character interacted with or acted upon the natural world (changes to the world that the person/character made or moments when the person/character challenged nature)	Nature's responses to those actions or challenges
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
Evaluate your evidence and answer the question: As humans, what is our role in the natural world?	

- **Select any other book (with parent approval).**
- **Read it and complete the Note-Taking Questions (below).** The charts can be printed at www.braintreeschools.org/summer.

1. Select, from your book, five words that are new to you. Copy the words and the sentences or phrases in which they appear. Define each word (using a dictionary, online resource, or your own knowledge of context and roots).

2. List at least five important points, events, or facts from the book, and give a one- or two-sentence explanation of why each is important to the book.

3. Copy or print this chart and complete it to demonstrate connections you've made using your choice reading book.

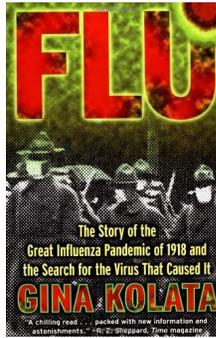
Text-to-Self Connections: How does a moment, character, or part of this book relate to your own life?	Text-to-Text Connections: How can you connect this book to another book or article you've read?	Text-to-World Connections: How does this book connect to something that happened or is happening in the real world?
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.

- **Turn in your written work to your Science teacher in the fall.**
- **Participate in the summer reading class activity in your Science class.**
- **Your passing or failing mark for summer reading will show via the Aspen X2 Student/Parent Portal.**

Flu: The Story of the Great Influenza Pandemic of 1918 and the Search for the Virus that Caused It

by Gina Kolata

In *Flu*, Gina Kolata, an acclaimed reporter for *The New York Times*, unravels the mystery of a lethal virus with the high drama of a great adventure story. From Alaska to Norway, from the streets of Hong Kong to the corridors of the White House, Kolata tracks the race to recover the live pathogen and probes the fear that has impelled government policy. A gripping work of science writing, *Flu* addresses the prospects for a great epidemic's recurrence and considers what can be done to prevent it.

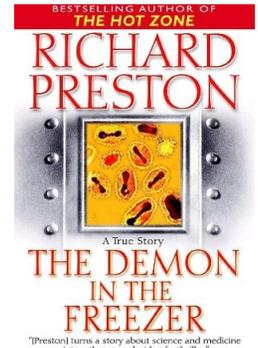


Braitree High School Summer Reading
for students entering grade 10

Partnership
RESPECT & RESPONSIBILITY
Involvement
Diversity
Educational Excellence

***The Demon in the Freezer* §**
by Richard Preston

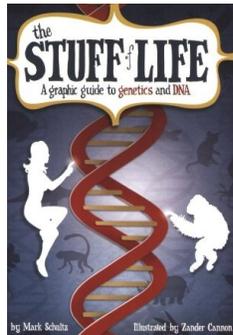
The first major bioterror event in the United States—the anthrax attacks in October 2001—was a clarion call for scientists who work with “hot” agents to find ways of protecting civilian populations against biological weapons. Richard Preston takes us into the heart of Usamriid, the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases at Fort Detrick, Maryland, once the headquarters of the U.S. biological weapons program and now the epicenter of national biodefense. Peter Jahrling, the top scientist at Usamriid, is leading a team of scientists doing controversial experiments with live smallpox virus at CDC. Preston takes us into the lab where Jahrling is reawakening smallpox and explains, with cool and devastating precision, what may be at stake if his last bold experiment fails.



The Stuff of Life: A Graphic Guide to Genetics and DNA

by Mark Schultz, Zander Cannon & Kevin Cannon

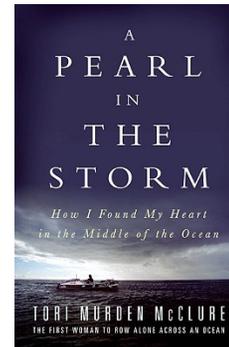
Let's face it: From adenines to zygotes, from cytokinesis to parthenogenesis, even the basics of genetics can sound utterly alien. So who better than an alien to explain it all? Enter Bloor 183, a scientist from an alien race threatened by disease. In the hands of the award-winning writer Mark Schultz, Bloor's explanations give even the most science-phobic reader a complete introduction to the history and science of genetics.



A Pearl in the Storm: How I Found My Heart in the Middle of the Ocean

by Tori Murden McClure

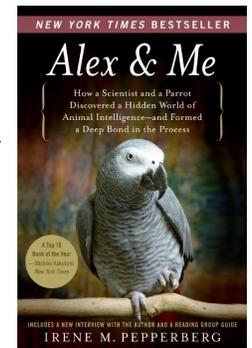
Growing up a self-proclaimed misfit, Tori Murden McClure was haunted by guilt over being unable to protect her developmentally handicapped brother from the world's cruelty. She cared fiercely about humanity but was emotionally isolated and blamed herself for failing to save the world. Driven to overcome this self-perceived weakness, 35-year-old McClure departed from the coast of North Carolina in 1998, planning to row the 3,600 miles to France. Within days she lost all communication with shore but decided to forge ahead — not knowing that 1998 would turn out to be the worst hurricane season on record in the North Atlantic.



Alex & Me: How a Scientist and a Parrot Discovered a Hidden World of Animal Intelligence – and Formed a Deep Bond in the Process

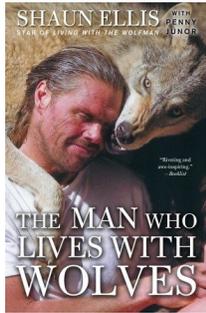
by Irene Pepperberg

Alex & Me is the remarkable true account of an amazing, irascible parrot and his best friend who stayed together through thick and thin for thirty years—the astonishing, moving, and unforgettable story of a landmark scientific achievement and a beautiful relationship.



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The Man Who Lives with Wolves

by Shaun Ellis with Penny Junor

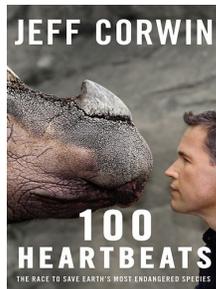
What would compel a man to place himself in constant danger in order to become a member of a wolf pack? To eat with them, putting his head into a carcass alongside the wolves' gnashing teeth? To play, hunt, and spar with them, suffering bruises and bites? To learn their language so his howl is indistinguishable from theirs? To give up a normal life of relationships and family so that he can devote himself completely to the protection of these wild animals? In *The Man Who Lives with Wolves*, Shaun Ellis reveals how his life irrevocably changed the first time he set eyes on a wolf. In exhilarating prose, he takes us from his upbringing in the wilds of Norfolk, England, to his survival training with British Army Special Forces to the Nez Percé Indian lands in Idaho, where he first ran with a wolf pack for nearly two years.

100 Heartbeats: The Race to Save Earth's Most Endangered Species

by Jeff Corwin

Popular television host Jeff Corwin takes readers on a gripping journey around the world to meet the animals threatened by extinction.

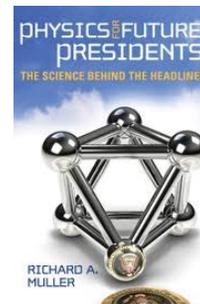
From the forests slipping away beneath the stealthy paws of the Florida panther, to the giant panda's plight to climb ever higher in the mountains of China, Corwin takes you on a global tour to witness firsthand the critical state of our natural world. Along the way, he shares inspiring stories of battles being waged and won by the conservationists on the front lines of defense.



Physics for Future Presidents: The Science Behind the Headlines

by Richard A. Muller

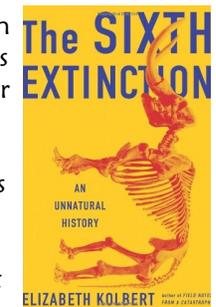
What should the president do if a "dirty" radioactive bomb were exploded in an American city? Is it safe to build nuclear reactors to provide clean energy? And what do we truly know about global warming? In this presidential primer, MacArthur fellow and UC-Berkeley physicist Muller ranges from terrorism to space exploration to global warming, offering basic information and countering myths.



The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History

by Elizabeth Kolbert

Kolbert introduces us to a dozen species, some already gone, others facing extinction, including the Panamanian golden frog, staghorn coral, the great auk, and the Sumatran rhino. Through these stories, Kolbert provides a moving account of the disappearances occurring all around us and traces the evolution of extinction as a concept, from its first articulation by Georges Cuvier in revolutionary Paris up through the present day. The sixth extinction is likely to be mankind's most lasting legacy; as Kolbert observes, it compels us to rethink the fundamental question of what it means to be human.



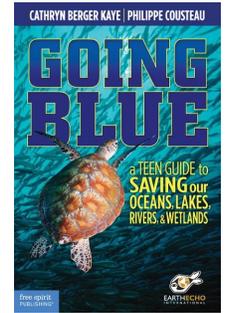
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Diversity
Educational Excellence

Going Blue: A Teen Guide to Saving Our Oceans, Lakes, Rivers & Wetlands

by Cathryn Berger Kaye & Philippe Cousteau

Co-written by Jacques Cousteau's grandson, this broad-reaching call to action introduces basic concepts about global water protection and what teens can do to help. Each packed spread combines clearly explained scientific concepts with lists, diagrams, and eye-opening statistics, such as a chart that lists how much water is required to make everyday items, from a sheet of paper (2 gallons) to a cotton T-shirt (700 gallons). The color photos deliver a high impact; for example, with contrasting images of a coral reef, first bursting with vibrant color, then bleached by rising ocean temperatures into an underwater ghost world. With a balance of sobering facts and inspiring accounts of communities creating real change, this welcome title will attract a broad range of student researchers, casual readers, and committed activists.



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