

# The Million Word Challenge!

This summer, unlike years past, we will not be having a Summer book project. We are going to try something a little different! While I don't want to give you "work" to do over the summer, I still WANT you to READ!! Reading offers you so many benefits and it is important for you to find what it is you like to read and foster it. I found this 1 Million Word Challenge and think it would be awesome to start it this summer and have it run until the end of the next school year.

Here's what you do!

1. Don't lose the packet attached to this letter. You will record information about each book on it to keep track this summer.
2. Choose any book appropriate for your age level and read it (or listen to it)! When you are finished, record it on the tracker.
3. To find the word count of your book you can click on the following links ( <https://www.arbookfind.com> or <https://wordcounters.com/word-count/search> ) or follow the QR code in the packet. Type in your book and it will tell you the word count. For example, WONDER by R.J. Palacio has 73,053 words!! 12 books that size and you have 1,000,000,000 words!

Now, don't panic! You have until May 2025 to try and get to 1 Million Words 😊

Your Summer reading goal is 250,000 words. If you reach that goal, you will hit the 1st of 4 milestones in this challenge by the end of Summer.

The 4 milestones are:

250,000 words

500,000 words

750,000 words

1,000,000 words

For each milestone you will receive a reward/celebration.

If you reach the first milestone of 250,000 words by August 26, you will be invited to an ice cream party during school, you will receive an extra credit grade from me for ELA and a goodie bag full of cool surprises!

If you don't reach the 1st milestone by the end of Summer, that's ok. JUST KEEP READING!

Once we return from school the rewards will be as follows:

250,000 - A free homework pass and an ice cream treat

500,000 - A free homework pass, a donut treat and a mystery prize

750,000 - A book themed reusable water bottle

1,000,000 - this reward/celebration will be held in May. Students will be invited to a pizza party and a sundae bar. You will also receive a book.

Some rules to remember:

- The challenge starts when school ends on Thursday.
- The challenge wraps up the last week of school.
- You may count any kind of book as long as you read OR listen to it cover to cover. (AS in the dictionary only counts if you actually read it cover to cover)
- Graphic novels, religious texts, and audiobooks, etc., are all fair game.
- You must finish the book for it to count. No counting books that are abandoned halfway through! There are two reasons for this:

Reason #1: Word counts are only supplied for the book as a whole, not broken down by the chapter.

Reason #2: I don't want to promote or encourage you to book hop. I want to reward you for completing a book!!

- The 250,000 word/summer challenge ends on August 26 (first day of school - you will hand your sheet in during your first ELA class)
- If you don't hit the 250,000 by summer's end, that's ok, the prizes just change.
- Next year in school you will be required to have a book to read for all free time so you will have lots of opportunities in school to add to your word count!

Good luck!!

I know you are up to the challenge and I can't wait to see all the milestones you break!!

Have a great summer!!

Mrs. Renken 😊

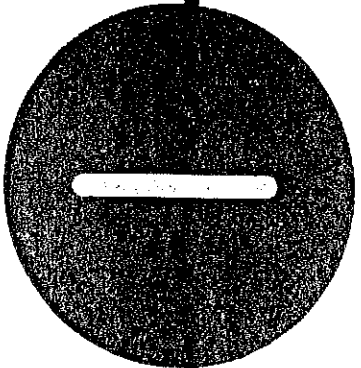
*Mrs. Renken*



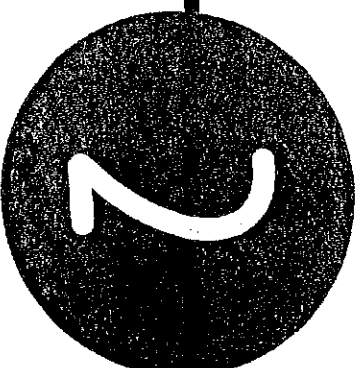




**SCAN TO FIND  
YOUR WORD  
COUNT.**



**READ A  
BOOK.**



**FIND THE  
WORD  
COUNT.**



3

**LOG YOUR  
READING.**



4

**CELEBRATE  
EACH  
MILESTONE!**