



Fayette County's
Math, Science & Technology Center
1600 Man O ' War Blvd.
Lexington , KY 40513

Karen Young, Facilitator
Karen.young@fayette.kyschools.us
Phone: 859-381-3558

MSTC Junior Research Summer Assignment

We will start MSTC Junior Research in the fall with a series of discussions and presentations related to this summer's reading assignment.

1. Choose which book you would like to read.

Outliers: The Story of Success by Malcom Gladwell

ISBN: 978-0-316-01792-3

In Outliers, Gladwell shares the stories of extremely successful people, and instead of focusing on their intelligence and ambition, looks at the role that things like their family, their birthplace, or even their birth date, can play in their success. As a result, Gladwell shares with us insights on how to make the most of human potential.

Atomic Habits: An Easy & Proven Way to Build Good Habits & Break Bad Ones by James Clear

ISBN: 978-0-735-21129-2

In Atomic Habits, Clear reveals practical strategies that will teach you how to change your habits and enable you to reach your goals. Bad habits repeat themselves, not because you don't want to change, but because you have the wrong system for change. You do not rise to the level of your goals. You fail to the level of your systems. Drawing on ideas from biology, psychology, and neuroscience, Clear creates an easy-to-understand guide for making good habits inevitable and bad habits impossible.

2. After reading, select a quote from the book that grabs your attention, speaks to you, or you strongly agree/disagree with. Be prepared to address why you chose this particular quote. Discuss how it relates to you. Give examples. How does it fit into the point(s) that Gladwell/Clear was trying to make? Give examples from the book to support your claims. How can you use this information to produce success in your own life?

I'd suggest coming in with notes or an outline!

3. Did you like or dislike the book you chose? Why or why not? Would you recommend this book as a summer assignment for next year's rising juniors? Please write a brief response that identifies the book you read and your answers and reasons for your answers. This response will be collected during our first Junior Research class.