



Cranbury School
"A National Blue Ribbon School"
Summer Reading Recommendations

Incoming Kindergarten

Giles Andreae *Giraffes Can't Dance*

Frank Asch *Happy Birthday, Moon*

Ludwig Bemelmans *Madeline*

Virginia Lee Burton *Mike Mulligan and his Steam Shovel*

Eric Carle *1,2,3 to the Zoo*

Jan deBrunhoff *The Story of Babar*

Marjorie Flack *The Story about Ping*

Russell Hoban *Frances Series*

Robert Kraus *Leo the Late Bloomer*

Munro Leaf *The Story of Ferdinand*

Arnold Lobel *Frog and Toad Series*

Bill Martin, Jr. *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you See?*

Arlene Mosel *Tikki Tikki Tembo*

Peggy Parish *Amelia Bedelia Series*

Maurice Sendak *Where the Wild Things Are*

H. A. Rey *Curious George Series*

Margaret Wise Brown *Goodnight Moon*

Audrey Wood *The Napping House*



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Summer Reading Recommendations

Incoming First Grade

Aliki *All By Myself; Hello! Goodbye!*
Molly Bang *In My Heart*
Alyssa Capucilli *Biscuit*
Eric Carle *Do You Want to be My Friend?*
Dori Chaconas *Cork & Fuzz* (series)
Niki Daly *Happy Birthday, Jamela*
Tomie DePaola *Bill and Pete; T-Rex is Missing*
P.D. Eastman *Are You My Mother?*
Gail Gibbons *Dinosaurs; My Baseball Book*
Mini Grey *Ginger Bear*
Kevin Henkes *Bailey Goes Camping; Kitten's First Full Moon*
Ezra Jack Keats *Pet Show; Peter's Chair*
David McPhail *Emma in Charge*
Joanne Rocklin *This Book is Haunted*
Dr. Seuss *All books!*
Lola Schaefer *Mittens*
Shelly Thomas *Happy Birthday, Good Knight*
Rosemary Wells *Read to Your Bunny*
Mo Willems *Edwina: The Dinosaur Who Didn't Know She was Extinct*
Jane Yolen *Baby Bears Chairs*



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Summer Reading Recommendations

Incoming Second Grade

David Adler *Young Cam Jansen*

Frank Asch *Happy Birthday, Moon*

Jan Brett *Hedgie Blasts Off; Daisy Comes Home*

Alyssa Capucilli *Biscuit Finds a Friend; Mrs. McTats and her Houseful of Cats*

Eric Carle *Does a Kangaroo Have a Mother, Too?*

Doreen Cronin *Bounce; Wiggle*

Kate DiCamillo *Mercy Watson to the Rescue (series)*

Mem Fox *Hattie and the Fox; Boo to a Goose*

Michael Garland *Miss Smith's Incredible Storybook*

Gail Gibbons *The Vegetables We Eat*

James Howe *Houndsley and Catina*

Kevin Henkes *Chester's Way*

Ezra Jack Keats *John Henry; Over in the Meadow*

Jean Marzollo *Soccer Sam*

Megan McDonald *Stink: The Incredible Shrinking Kid*

Peggy Rathman *Officer Buckle and Gloria*

Cynthia Rylant *The High Rise Private Eyes (series)*

Margaret and H.A. Rey *Curious George*

Marjorie Weinman-Sharmat *Nate the Great; Olivia Sharp: Sophie and Gussie*

Shelley Moore Thomas *Good Night, Good Knight*

Karma Wilson *Strike at the Zoo; Whopper Cake*

B. Wiseman *Morris the Moose*

Eric Wright *Frankie Pickle and the Closet of Doom*

Gene Zion *Harry the Dirty Dog*



Cranbury School
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Summer Reading Recommendations
Incoming Third Grade

CHAPTER BOOKS:

Tony Abbott *Secrets of Droom*

Eve Bunting *Nasty Stinky Sneakers*

Betsy Duffy *Hey, New Kid; Cody Unplugged*

David Adler *Young Cam Jansen; Cam Jansen; Andy Russell*

Matt Christopher *Catch that Pass; Baseball Pals; Dirt Bike Racer*

Paula Danziger *Amber Brown series*

Debbie Dadey *Bailey School Kids series*

Dan Greenburg *The Zack Files*

James Howe *Pinky and Rex*

Suzy Kline *Horrible Harry series*

Mary Pope Osborne *Magic Tree House series*

Barbara Park *Junie B. Jones series*

Dav Pilkey *Ricky Ricotta*

Cynthia Rylant *Henry and Mudge series*

Jon Scieszka *Time Warp Trip*

PICTURE BOOKS:

Tedd Arnold *Parts; More Parts; Even More Parts*

Tomie DePaola *The Baby Sister; The Art Lesson; Meet the Barkers*

Kevin Henkes *Wemberly Worried; Owen*

Russell Hoban *Bread and Jam for Frances*

Dav Pilkey *Dog Breath; Kat Kong; Dogzilla*

Patricia Polacco *My Rotten Redheaded Older Brother*

Christopher Raschka *Hip Hop Dog*

Jon Scieszka *The Stinky Cheese Man; Cowboy and Octopus*

William Steig *Dr. DeSoto*

Bernard Waber *Lyle Walks the Dogs*

NON-FICTION:

Thomas Adamson *Earth; Jupiter*

Nic Bishop *Frogs; Spiders*

Floyd Cooper *Jump: From the Life of Michael Jordan*

Lesa Cline-Ransome *Satchel Paige; Young Pele: Soccer's First Star*

Steve Jenkins *Actual Size*

Sandra Markle *How Many Baby Pandas?*

John Parlin *Amelia Earhart*

Jacqueline Mitton *Zoo in the Sky*

David Sheldon *Barnum Brown: Dinosaur Hunter*

Seymour Simon *Dogs; Dolphins; Incredible Sharks*

Kay Winters *Roberto Clemente: Pride of the Pittsburgh Pirates; Abe Lincoln: The Boy Who Loved Books*



Cranbury School
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Summer Reading Recommendations
Incoming Fourth Grade

JUST FOR FUN:

Matt Christopher ***The Dog that Called the Pitch*** When the umpire, Mr. Grimley, cannot call the game because his glasses are broken, Harry rescues the team by helping him.

Beverly Cleary ***Ramona Quimby, Age 8*** Third grade does not start well for Ramona, who must deal with a bully, egg in her hair, and throwing up in class.

Lois Lowry ***Gooney Bird Greene*** Gooney Bird Greene is new in her second-grade class at Watertower Elementary School, and her clothing choices and interesting lunches immediately capture the interest of her classmates. Although the stories she proceeds to tell initially seem unbelievable, Gooney Bird's teacher and classmates are assured the tales are "absolutely true."

GRADE LEVEL:

James Howe ***The Howliday Inn*** While their owners go on vacation, Harold and Chester, the family dog and cat, are boarded at the Chateau Bow-Wow. They no sooner arrive than Louise, a French poodle, disappears under suspicious circumstances. Chester believes the six other guests are suspects in the crime.

Sara Pennypaker ***Clementine*** Eight-year-old Clementine seems to have a solution for everything, including fixing her friend Margaret's hair by cutting it! How can Clementine make everyone realize that she was only trying to help?

Andrew Clements ***Frindle***. Known for his clever tricks and ability to distract his teacher, one of Nick's plans backfires and Mrs. Granger assigns him an extra report to research how new entries are added to the dictionary. Surprisingly, the research provides Nick with his best idea ever, and he decides to coin his own new word.

CHALLENGING:

Dan Gutman ***The Kid Who Became President*** Judson Moon, who became president at age 13, bungles his way through one year of presidency. After keeping the U.S. out of war, he resigns. This story provides the reader with information about the White House and the presidency.

Georgia Byng ***Molly Moon's Incredible Book of Hypnotism*** After ten-year-old orphan Molly finds a book about hypnotism, she begins an unexpected new life in New York, starring in a musical and living in luxury. But after her dog is kidnapped, Molly is forced to rob a bank.

Johanna Hurwitz ***Aldo Applesauce*** When he and his family move to the suburbs, Aldo has difficulty finding new friends.

Robert O'Brien ***Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh*** Having no one to help her with her problems, a widowed mouse visits the rats whose former imprisonment in a laboratory made them wise and civilized.

CHAPTER BOOKS – SERIES:

JUST FOR FUN:

David Adler *Cam Jansen* A series of books following the exploits of a young female detective named Jennifer "Cam" Jansen, who uses her photographic memory to solve mysteries.

Ron Roy - *A to Z Mysteries* This series features three smart kids who solve crimes and mysteries.

GRADE LEVEL:

Jon Scieszka *Time Warp Trio* A series of books which chronicles the adventures of three boys who travel through time and space with the aid of the mysterious "Book"

David Sobol *Encyclopedia Brown* A series of books featuring young detective Encyclopedia Brown, who helps his father solve crimes occurring in their small town.

CHALLENGING:

Dan Gutman *Baseball Card Adventures* A series of books featuring a boy who can travel through time when he touches old baseball cards.

Laura Ingalls Wilder *Little House on the Prairie* The *Little House* series tells the stories of Laura Ingalls Wilder's childhood in the United States in the 1800s.

NON-FICTION:

Jennifer Berne *Manfish: The Story of Jacques Cousteau* Jacques Cousteau always loved the water, even as a boy. Learn how he explored the oceans and shared them with the world on film in this beautifully illustrated book.

Michael Dooling *Young Thomas Edison* Beautiful illustrations and clear text tell the story of Thomas Alva Edison's childhood and how the nearly deaf inventor gave the world such luxuries as motion pictures and lightbulbs.

Sandra Markle *Little Lost Bat* Dreamy water colors illustrate the dramatic life of a baby bat who loses his mother but finds another.

Shange Ntozake *Coretta Scott* Written as a series of poems, this book is a tribute to Coretta Scott, as well as a history of the Civil Rights movement.

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Summer Reading Recommendations
Incoming Fifth Grade

CHAPTER BOOKS:

JUST FOR FUN:

Wendy Mass ***11 Birthdays*** Amanda and Leo were born on the same day and have always celebrated their birthdays together, until this year. Now they discover they are doomed to repeat their eleventh birthday over and over again, unless they can work together to break the curse and become friends again.

Ann M. Martin ***The Doll People*** Annabelle the doll wonders what life is like outside the dollhouse and what has happened to Auntie Sarah, who had mysteriously disappeared forty-five years before.

Andrew Clements ***Lunch Money*** When sixth-grader Greg Kenton decides to make money by selling his homemade comics, his principal has something to say about it. During his appeal to the School Committee, Greg discovers that business can be tough!

Beverly Cleary ***Strider*** In a series of diary entries, Leigh tells how he comes to terms with his parents' divorce, acquires joint custody of an abandoned dog, and joins the track team at school.

GRADE LEVEL:

Avi ***The Good Dog*** As head dog of his pack, McKinley tries to take care of every situation. When Duchess escapes, he tries to keep her from being captured by her abusive owner. At the same time, Lupin, a wolf, wants the dogs of McKinley's town to join her pack.

Kate DiCamillo ***The Magician's Elephant*** Ten-year-old Peter realizes that an elephant, mistakenly brought forth by a magician, has something to do with his sister Adele, whom a fortuneteller has told him is still alive.

Dan Gutman ***The Million Dollar Putt*** Thirteen-year-old Ed Bogard, also known as Bogie, proves that blind people can do almost anything. Then he meets Birdie, the unusual girl next door, who learns of his natural golf swing and becomes his coach. This unlikely team with unorthodox ways actually has a chance to win a million dollar tournament!

Linda Urban ***A Crooked Kind of Perfect*** Ten-year-old Zoe longs to play the piano. When her father buys her an organ, Zoe receives lessons and enters an organ-playing competition. While it's not Carnegie Hall, Zoe learns to try her best and keep playing.

Tim Green ***Pinch Hit*** An unlikely friendship between movie star Trevor, and Sam, a regular kid who has a shot at the Majors.

CHALLENGING:

Roald Dahl ***The BFG*** When Sophie is snatched by the BFG, she is very frightened. She soon learns to like and trust him and becomes determined to help him rid the world of the other, less friendly giants.

Lois Lowry ***The Willoughbys*** In this offbeat story, four children who are left with a nanny while their parents travel, set out to make themselves orphans.

Madeleine L'Engle – ***A Wrinkle in Time*** A *tesseract* is a wrinkle in time. Newbery Medal Winner 1963, it tells of the adventures in space and time of Meg, Charles and Calvin, who must find Meg's father, a scientist who disappeared while engaged in secret work for the government on the tesseract problem.

CHAPTER BOOKS – SERIES:

JUST FOR FUN:

Judy Blume *Otherwise Known as Sheila the Great* (Fudge Books) A summer in Tarrytown, N.Y., is a lot of fun for ten-year-old Sheila even though her friends make her face up to some self-truths she doesn't want to admit. (

Matt Christopher *Skateboard Tough* (Sports Books) When Brett's skateboarding abilities dramatically and inexplicably improve after using the Lizard, a skateboard mysteriously unearthed in his front yard, his friends start to wonder if the skateboard is haunted.

Beverly Cleary *Ralph S. Mouse Books* Fed up with life at the Mountain View Inn, Ralph persuades his friend Ryan to take him to school, where he is an instant hit with Ryan's classmates and where mishaps occur that threaten his life.

GRADE LEVEL:

Meg Cabot *Allie Finkle's Rules for Girls Books* In this first book of the "Allie Finkle's Rules for Girls" series, nine-year-old Allie learns that change isn't always bad when her family moves to another neighborhood. In this second book of the "Allie Finkle's Rules for Girls" series, nine-year-old Allie finally gets the kitten she has been waiting for and discovers that the bully in her class simply wants to be friends with the other girls.

James Howe *Bunnica Books* Is the baby rabbit found at the movies by the Monroes a vampire? After they find a dry, white tomato in the kitchen, Chester the cat and Harold the dog try to find the answer.

Pam Munoz Ryan *Esperanza Rising* A tragedy forces Esperanza and Mama to flee to California during the Great Depression, to settle in a camp for Mexican farm workers where she is forced to give up on fancy dresses and her comfortable life.

Tim Green *New Kid* Tommy has a new nickname, Brock—and he's having a hard time fitting into his new life in a new town. However, he gets a chance to be on the baseball team after a prank unfolds in an unpredictable way.

CHALLENGING:

Eion Colfer *Artemis Fowl Books* When wealthy twelve-year-old genius Artemis Fowl decides he wants something, he gets it. After he succeeds in copying the power-filled Fairy Book, the creatures of Lower Earth are led on an exciting mission that includes kidnapping, magic, and all kinds of danger.

Jane Yolen *Young Merlin Trilogy* Young Merlin plunges deep into the forest to run from the dreams that are haunting him. While there he meets up with the wild people who need his dreams to know their destiny. He is to be a great wizard, but he needs help to escape the forest alive.

NON-FICTION:

Rick Bowers *Spies of Mississippi: The True Story of the Spy Network that Tried to Destroy the Civil Rights Movement* A compelling story of how state spies tried to block voting rights for African Americans during the Civil Rights era.

Julie Cummins *Women Daredevils: Thrills, Chills, and Frills*

Dennis B. Frandin *Duel: Burr and Hamilton's Deadly War of Words*

Sandra Markle *Animal Heroes: True Rescue Stories*

Megan McCarthy *Aliens are Coming!: The True Account of the 1938 War of the Worlds Radio Broadcast*

Patrick O'Brien *Sabertooth*

Pamela Turner *Life on Earth and Beyond: An Astrobiologist's Quest*



NEWLY UPDATED IN 2018

Incoming Fifth Grade

If you like fantasy adventures, you'll love:

- ***Ophelia and the Marvelous Boy*** by Karen Foxlee
- ***The Endling*** by Katherine Applegate
- ***Five Kingdoms series*** by Brandon Mull
- ***In a Glass Grimly*** by Adam Gidwitz

If you like animal adventures, you'll love:

- ***The Last Dogs*** by Christopher Holt
- ***Warriors*** by Erin Hunter
- ***Mouseheart*** by Lisa Fielder
- ***The One and Only Ivan*** by Katherine Applegate

If you like adventures, you'll love

- ***Masterminds (series)*** by Gordon Korman
- ***Spy School (series)*** by Stuart Gibbs
- ***Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library (series)*** by Chris Grabenstein

If you like mysteries, you'll love:

- ***Space Case*** by Stuart Gibbs
- ***Isabel Feeney, Star Reporter*** by Beth Fantaskey
- ***Framed! A T.O.A.S.T. Mystery*** by James Ponti

If you like historical fiction, you'll love

- ***The War That Saved My Life*** by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
- ***Lost in the Pacific, 1942: Not a Drop to Drink*** by Tod Olson
- ***Stella by Starlight*** by Sharon M. Draper
- ***Secret of Midway: Ghosts of War #1 (series)*** by Steve Watkins

If you like realistic fiction, try reading:

- ***All Four Stars*** by Tara Dairman
- ***See You in the Cosmos*** by Jack Cheng
- ***El Deafo*** by Cece Bell
- ***The Penderwicks (series)*** by Jeanne Birdsall
- ***Kristy's Great Idea Babysitter's Club*** by Ann M. Martin

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Summer Reading Recommendations
Incoming Sixth Grade

Kate DiCamillo ***Flora and Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures*** Ten year old Flora starts her summer by promising her mother that she'll spend more time reading real books, and less time reading comics, but a tragic accident has an unpredictable outcome.

Chris Grabenstein ***Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*** Kyle Keeley, a class clown and talented video gamer, must find the secret clues to escape the hidden escape route at the new town library with the help of his friends.

Tim Green ***Force Out*** Joey and Zach are two of the best baseball players in their league, and will do anything to help each other get to the Center State team, but it isn't that easy.

Cynthia Kadohata ***Cracker the Best Dog in Vietnam*** The story of a Vietnam hero and his German Shepherd told from two points of view as they recount their adventures from training camp to active duty in the jungles of Vietnam.

Pete Nelson and Hunter Scott ***Left for Dead: A Young Man's Search for Justice on the USS Indianapolis***

Ian Doescher ***William Shakespeare's Star Wars Series*** Reimagined in gorgeous iambic pentameter this retelling of the *Star Wars* trilogy will astound you with it's Shakespearean language and beautiful Elizabethan illustrations.

Naomi Shihab Nye ***Habibi*** Liyana, 14, and her family make a tremendous adjustment when they move to Jerusalem from St. Louis.

Jim Murphy ***Blizzard*** Cool off by reading this riveting true story of the Great Blizzard of 1888, one of the most devastating natural disasters in U.S. history.

C.S. Lewis ***The Chronicles of Narnia Series*** Lewis chronicles the battle between Aslan the Lion and the White Witch. Since its release in the middle of the last century, the Chronicles of Narnia have mesmerized over sixty million readers—children and adults.

Rudyard Kipling ***Jungle Book*** The intense and captivating story of Mowgli, lost in the jungles of India as a child and adopted into a family of wolves. No child should go through childhood without reading it.

Scott O'Dell ***Island of Blue Dolphins*** One of the top 10 American children's books of the last 200 years by the Children's Literature Association. The story of a 12-year old girl who lives alone on a Pacific island.

Jennifer Armstrong ***Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World*** The extraordinary true story of the voyage of Ernest Shackleton and the Endurance.

Avi. ***True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle*** An adventure story set in the early 19th century. Thirteen-year-old resourceful Charlotte finds herself involved in an exciting situation upon the sailing ship, Seahawk.

David Almond ***Heaven Eyes*** This is a powerful and enchanting story about an orphan and two friends who run away from their orphanage on a homemade raft down the Ouseburn River.

Trenton Lee Stewart ***The Mysterious Benedict Society Collection*** Filled with page-turning action and mind-bending brain teasers, these wildly inventive journeys are sure to delight.

Harry Potter Collection Join the fun with other middle school children across the globe this summer and read J.K. Rowling's amazing series. A wonderfully rich collection of near classics.

Mark Twain ***Life on the Mississippi*** Twain's famous account of the life on the Mississippi in the old steamboat days and his own experiences as a pilot.

Lewis Carroll ***The Adventures of Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass*** These stories are so consumed by the unexpected that readers may well find that their imaginations cannot keep up.

Rick Riordan ***Percy Jackson & the Olympians*** A three-part series of hilarious and action packed adventures. A great adventure series for the summer months for everyone.

Brian Jacques ***Redwall*** Animals represent humans in a story of medieval warfare between good and evil.

Nathaniel Philbrick ***Revenge of the Whale: The True Story of the Whaleship Essex*** The story of the whaleship Essex, which sank in the Pacific in November 1820, after being deliberately rammed twice by an apparently enraged sperm whale.

Jerry Spinelli ***There's A Girl in my Hammerlock*** When eighth-grader Maisie Potter decides to try out for the wrestling team, she has no idea of the repercussions that will follow.

Katherine Applegate ***Home of the Brave*** Kek, a young Sudanese refugee, saw his father and brother killed, and was forced to leave his mother behind to join his aunt's family in Minnesota. The author captures the immigrant child's confusion and the tragic loss he feels as he encounters this strange new world.

Brian Dennis, Kirby Larson, and Mary Nethrey ***Nubs: The True Story of a Mutt, a Marine, and a Miracle*** Nubs is an Iraqi dog of war, leader of a pack of wild dogs living off the land and barely surviving, without a home, until he meets Marine Major Brian Dennis.

Dan Gutman – ***Getting Air*** While flying to California with his sister, and two skateboarding friends, Jimmy meets 79-year-old Mildred. When the plane is hijacked the passengers overtake the four terrorists and crash-land the plane in the forest.



NEWLY UPDATED IN 2018

Incoming Sixth Grade

If you like fantasy chapter books:

- *Iron Trial (Magisterium series)* by Holly Black
- *Outlaws of Time: The Legend of Sam Miracle* by N.D. Wilson
- *Wings of Fire (series)* by Tui T. Sutherland
- *Inkworld (series)* by Cornelia Funke
- *Peter and the Starcatchers (series)* by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson
- *The Girl Who Drank the Moon* by Kelly Barnhill

If you like mystery and adventure:

- *The Van Gogh Deception* by Deron Hicks
- *Ranger's Apprentice series* by John A. Flanagan
- *Masterminds* by Gordon Korman
- *Edge of Extinction The Ark Plan* by Laura Martin
- *Capture the Flag (series)* by Kate Messner
- *When you Reach Me* by Rebecca Stead
- *Murder is Bad Manners* by Robin Stevens

If you like historical fiction:

- *Refugee* by Alan Gratz
- *Mad Wolf's Daughter* by Diane Magras
- *The Great Trouble: A Mystery of London, Blue Death, and Boy Called Eel* by Deborah Hopkinson
- *The Inquisitor's Tale: Or, The Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog* and *The War That Saved My Life* by Adam Gidwitz
- *Black Radishes* by Susan Lynn Meyer
- *It Ain't So Awful, Falafel* by Firoozeh Dumas

If you like funny books:

- *Vordak the Incomprehensible* by Vordak T. Incomprehensible
- *Big Nate Welcome to My World (series)* by Lincoln Peirce
- *Strange Case of the Origami Yoda (series)* by Tom Angleberger
- *A Whole Nother Story (series)* by Cuthbert Soup
- *Middle School: The Worst Years of my Life* by James Patterson and Chris Tebbetts
- *Plants vs. Zombies* by Paul Tobin and Ron Chan

If you like your stories to be a little creepy:

- *100 Cupboards* by N.D. Wilson
- *Lockwood & Co The Screaming Staircase (series)* by Jonathan Stroud
- *Nightmares!* by Jason Segel and Kirsten Miller

If you like realistic fiction:

- *Amal Unbound* by Aisha Saeed
- *The Track Series (Ghost, Patina, Sunny)* by Jason Reynolds
- *Upside Down in the Middle of Nowhere* by Julie Lamona
- *The First Rule of Punk* by Celia Perey
- *Roller Girl* by Victoria Jamieson

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Summer Reading Recommendations
Incoming Seventh Grade

Holly Goldberg Sloan ***Counting by 7's*** Twelve year old Willow Chance is a genius, obsessed with the number seven, who always feels like an outsider looking in but discovers the true meaning of family after suffering a tragic loss.

Kathi Appelt ***The True Blue Scouts of Sugar Man Swamp*** Raccoon brothers Bingo and J'miah are the newest recruits of the Official Sugar Man Swamp Scouts.

Amy Timberlake ***One Came Home*** Sharpshooting 13-year-old Georgie Burkhardt and her sister's one time suitor Billy McCabe follow the trail of pigeon hunters and discover some secrets in Wisconsin.

Gris Grimly ***The Modern Prometheus*** A modern re-telling in graphics of the classic tale of Frankenstein.

Holly Black ***Doll Bones*** Zach, Poppy and Alice go on a quest to satisfy the demands of a ghost.

John Lewis and Andrew Aydin, with Nate Powell ***March Book One*** Congressman Lewis' retelling of his years as a civil rights activist in this non-fiction graphic novel.

Tim Green ***Football Genius Series*** Troy fights back after it seems that his dreams are shattered, learning that he is going to be part of a team with an unbroken losing streak.

Mary Lyons ***Letters From A Slave Girl*** A collection of fictional letters recreates the life and times of Harriet Ann Jacobs, a young slave who escaped to freedom and became an author and abolitionist.

Johanna Reiss ***The Journey Back*** After miraculously surviving the Holocaust, Annie and her sister find themselves free to go home but the adjustment is difficult.

Norma Mazer ***After the Rain*** A gentle, sensitive story about Rachel who has to take care of her surly, opinionated grandfather after school, when doctors discover he has a short time to live.

Robert L. Stevenson ***Kidnapped*** The adventures of a boy sent into slavery by an avaricious uncle to prevent him from claiming his inheritance.

Ann Brashares ***The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*** Carmen decides to throw away an old pair of jeans. When the jeans fit all of her friends perfectly, a sisterhood and a memorable summer begin.

Jonathan Swift ***Gulliver's Travels*** An account of the four voyages of Lemuel Gulliver, a ship's physician, to lands of tiny people and giants, a flying island of wise men and a utopia.

Mark Twain ***The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*** In this "hymn" to boyhood, Twain captures the adventures of a boy growing up with unparalleled wit.

Robert Cormier ***I am the Cheese*** An exciting introduction to psychological thrillers. Imagine discovering that your whole life has been a fiction, your identity altered, and a new family history created.

Jerry Spinelli ***Milkweed*** In Warsaw in 1939, a boy wanders the streets and survives by stealing what food he can. He knows nothing of his background. This is a powerful story of survival.

Laurence Yep ***Dragon's Gate*** An account of the lives of the Chinese, who built the transcontinental railroad in the Sierra Mountains during the U.S. Civil War.

Pam Munoz Ryan ***Becoming Naomi Leon***. Naomi discovers and proclaims who she really is despite many challenges.

Avi ***The Man Who Was Poe*** In 1948, Poe reluctantly investigates the mysterious problems of eleven-year-old, Edmund, whose family has mysteriously disappeared.

Jack London ***A Call of the Wild*** This is the story of a sled dog that roams the Alaskan wilderness. White Fang. A half-dog, half-wolf learns to accept humans through one man's kindness.

Lois Lowry ***Gathering Blue*** This is the story of an anti-utopian future society, in which Kira has lost both of her parents.

Margaret Peterson Haddix ***Among the Betrayed*** Thirteen-year-old Nina is imprisoned by the Population Police, who give her the option of turning in other "third" children.

Mike Lupica ***Travel Team*** An inspirational basketball tale of drama and suspense.



NEWLY UPDATED IN 2018

Incoming Seventh Grade

If you like fantasy and science fiction:

- *Eragon* by Christopher Paolini
- *The False Prince* by Jennifer A. Nielsen
- *Deep Blue* by Jennifer Donnelly
- *Above World* by Jenn Reese
- *Pashmina* by Nidhi Chanani
- *Echo* by Pam Munoz Ryan
- *The Alchemyst: The Secrets of the Immortal* by Nicholas Flamel

If you like realistic books:

- *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander
- *Captain Superlative* by J.S. Puller
- *The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl* by Stacy McAnulty
- *The Absolute Value of Mike* by Kathryn Erskine
- *Click'd* by Tamara Ireland Stone

If you like mystery and adventure:

- *Lockwood and Company: The Screaming Staircase* by Jonathan Stroud
- *The Raft* by Stephanie Stuve-Bodeen
- *Secret Coders Series* by Gene Luen Yang
- *House of Scorpions* by Nancy Farmer
- *Michael Vey* by Richard Paul Evans
- *Loot* by Jude Watson

If you like historical fiction:

- *Refugee* by Alan Gratz
- *Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson
- *It All Comes Down to This* by Karen English
- *The Watcher* by Joan Hiatt Harlow
- *The Tragically True Adventures of Kit Donovan* by Patricia Bailey

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Summer Reading Recommendations
Incoming Eighth Grade

Linda Sue Park ***A Long Walk to Water*** A Sudanese tale of survival.

Sharon M. Draper ***Out of My Mind*** A brilliant girl with cerebral palsy longs for a way to speak.

David Baldacci ***The Finisher*** A teenager uncovers the mysteries of a village surrounded by a beast-filled forest.

Sprague Theobald ***The Other Side of the Ice: One Family's Treacherous Journey Negotiating the Northwest Passage*** A sailor and his family's harrowing and inspiring story of their attempt to sail the treacherous Northwest Passage.

George Orwell ***Animal Farm*** An incredible allegory and powerful satire of an overworked group of animals fighting to establish a society of justice and progress.

Ray Bradbury ***Fahrenheit 451*** Guy Montag's job is to destroy the most prohibited object, the printed book, in a Dystopian world in which firemen set the fires and literature is almost extinct.

John Steinbeck ***Of Mice and Men*** George and Lennie's friendship teaches a profound lesson about humanity in this classic story of two migrant laborers seeking stability and an end to their loneliness.

Isabel Allende ***City of Beasts*** A fifteen-year-old accompanies his individualistic grandmother on an expedition to find a humanoid beast in the Amazon.

J.R. Tolkien ***The Hobbit*** Bilbo Baggins, an upstanding member of a little people, about half our height, and smaller than the bearded dwarves, embarks on a hazardous journey. A classic.

Wendelin van Draanen ***Flipped*** In alternating chapters, two teenagers describe how their feelings about themselves, each other, and their families have changed.

Francisco Jimenez ***Breaking Through*** At the age of 14, Francisco and his family are caught by immigration officers and forced to leave their California home, but soon find their way back.

Orson Scott Card ***Ender's Game Trilogy*** Aliens have attacked Earth twice and almost destroyed the human species. To make sure humans win the next encounter, the world government has taken to breeding military geniuses.

Cynthia Kadohata ***Kira Kira*** A lively, lovely, funny and sad novel -- winner of the 2005 Newbery Medal -- the Japanese-American Takeshima family moves from Iowa to Georgia in the 1950s when Katie, the narrator, is just in kindergarten.

Elie Wiesel ***Night*** This autobiographical masterpiece tells the story of the author's experiences with his father during the height of the Holocaust in a sparse, haunting and beautiful 100 pages.

Mark Haddon ***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*** Told from the point of view of a mathematically gifted autistic 15 year-old-boy, the narrator attempts to investigate a crime while encountering many challenges.

More.....

Richard Adams ***Watership Down*** Internal struggles for power surface in this realistically told adventure when the protagonists must coordinate tactics to defeat an enemy rabbit fortress.

Markus Zusak ***The Book Thief*** Death himself narrates this World War II-era story of Liesel from age nine, who is “taken” to live in Molching, Germany, with a foster family in a working-class neighborhood of tough kids.

Jerry Spinelli ***Stargirl*** She is the new girl at Mica Area High School. She is the girl who would change everyone she met.

Ann Rinaldi ***An Acquaintance with Darkness*** In 1865, Emily, a fourteen-year-old orphan, has come to live with her wealthy uncle. When President Lincoln is assassinated, her best friend’s family becomes the subject of suspicion. Outstanding historical fiction.

T.H. White ***The Once and Future King*** The ultimate story of King Arthur and the knights of the Round Table.

Jeanne Du Prau ***The City of Ember Series*** DuPrau clearly explores themes of nonviolence and when to stand up for oneself in this brilliant apocalyptic fantasy.

Alan Paton ***Cry the Beloved Country*** Referred to as “the greatest novel to emerge out of the tragedy of South Africa, and one of the best novels of our time” by the New Republic, Paton tells the story of a father in search of his son, a boy accused of murder.



NEWLY UPDATED IN 2018

Incoming Eighth Grade

If you like science fiction and fantasy:

- *Cinder* by Marissa Meyer
- *Rot and Ruin* by Jonathan Maberry
- *Red Queen* by Victoria Aveyard
- *Shadow and Bone* by Leigh Bardugo

If you like adventure and mystery:

- *The Agency* by Y. S. Lee
- *Heist Society* by Ally Carter
- *Beauty Queens* by Libba Bray
- *The Fixer* by Jennifer Lynn Barnes
- *First Storm: The Sherlock Holmes Legend Begins* by Andrew Lane

If you like realistic fiction and memoir:

- *Everything Everything* by Nicola Yoon
- *Mosquitoland* by David Arnold
- *Mockingbird* by Kathryn Erskine
- *Okay For Now* by Gary Schmidt
- *My Name is Not Easy* by Debby Dahl Edwardson

If you like historical fiction and history:

- *Undefeated: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team* by Steve Sheinkin
- *A Night Divided* by Jennifer A. Nielson
- *Code Talker* by Joseph Bruchac
- *Forge, Ashes* by Laurie Halse Anderson (**Seeds of America Trilogy**)
- *The Unexpected Life of Oliver Cromwell Pitts* by Avi

