



Meridianville Middle School Summer Reading 2018

<https://meridianville.mcsc12.org/>

Why Summer Reading?

1. Kids who don't read during their summer vacation lose two to three months of reading achievement ("The Effects of Summer Vacation on Achievement Test Scores").
2. Middle school students that read only five to six books over the summer don't suffer from that summer reading loss (<http://kylenebeers.com/blog/2014/05/04/guidelines-for-summer-reading/>).
3. Summer reading encourages students to practice reading skills and develop an enjoyment for reading.
4. Summer reading is a time for students to learn to read for pleasure.

Join us on Social Media

Look on social media for teachers sharing books they are reading. You can do the same by posting what you are reading and why you like it. Use #MVMSReads @MeridianvilleMS



Meridianville Middle School teachers and students make reading a priority each and every day. This does not stop during the summer break. To encourage students to read over the summer, the 7th and 8th grade teachers at MVMS have compiled a list of books and texts for each grade level.

Students should choose one book or text to read this summer. When students return to school after the break, they will have the opportunity to share what they read with their new teachers and classmates.

We are also going to have a **Summer Book Challenge**. For each additional book or text read beyond the first one, students will have their names entered into a drawing for a free book and a gift certificate to a local business. Students that want to participate should write on a piece of paper the title of each book or text that was read along with the date completed and have a parent or guardian sign it. This paper needs to be given to the Language Arts teacher when school starts. Two students from each grade will win!

The teachers at MVMS want to make the summer reading available to everyone, so we will have a few copies of books for each grade level in the front office for students to check out and read during the summer. All we ask is that students take care of the books and return them when they are finished. Additionally, each grade level has text selections in pdf format that students may read. The information for those is on the school's website and included in the book descriptions on the back.

Everyone at Meridianville Middle School looks forward to meeting our rising 7th and 8th grade students. Enjoy your summer and keep reading!

7th Grade Reading Selections Continued - Students should read at least one.

Lawn Boy by Gary Paulson (Realistic Fiction)

One day I was 12 years old and broke. Then Grandma gave me Grandpa's old riding lawn mower. I set out to mow some lawns. More and more people wanted me to mow their lawns. One client was Arnold the stockbroker, who offered to teach me about "the beauty of capitalism. If I'd known what was coming, I might have climbed on my mower and putted all the way home to hide in my room. But the lawn business grew and so did my profits, which Arnold invested in many things. And one of them was Joey Pow the prizefighter. That's when my 12th summer got really interesting.

Crash by Jerry Spinelli (Realistic Fiction)

Seventh-grade super-jock Crash Coogan got his nickname the day he used his first football helmet to knock his cousin Bridget flat on her backside. And he has been running over people ever since, especially Penn Webb, the dweeby, vegetarian Quaker kid who lives down the block. Through the eyes of Crash, readers get a rare glimpse into the life of a bully in this unforgettable story about stereotypes and the surprises life can bring.

Middle School, The Worst Years of My Life by James Patterson (Graphic Novel)

Rafe Khatchadorian has enough problems at home without throwing his first year of middle school into the mix. Luckily, he's got an ace plan for the best year ever, if only he can pull it off: With his best friend Leonardo the Silent awarding him points, Rafe tries to break every rule in his school's oppressive Code of Conduct. Chewing gum in class—5,000 points! Running in the hallway—10,000 points! Pulling the fire alarm—50,000 points! But when Rafe's game starts to catch up with him, he'll have to decide if winning is all that matters, or if he's finally ready to face the rules, bullies, and truths he's been avoiding.

Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children: The Graphic Novel by Ransom Riggs (Graphic Novel)

When Jacob Portman was a boy, his grandfather regaled him with stories of his fantastic life at Miss Peregrine's home during the Second World War, even sharing photos of the remarkable children with whom he resided. As Jacob grew up, though, he decided that these photos were obvious fakes, simple forgeries designed to stir up his youthful imagination. Or were they...?

Following his grandfather's death - a scene Jacob literally couldn't believe with his own eyes - the sixteen-year-old boy embarks on a mission to disentangle fact from fiction in his grandfather's tall tales. But even his grandfather's elaborate yarns couldn't prepare Jacob for the eccentricities he will discover at Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children!

The Testing by Joelle Charbonneau (Science Fiction)

It's graduation day for sixteen-year-old Malencia Vale, and the entire Five Lakes Colony (the former Great Lakes) is celebrating. All Cia can think about—hope for—is whether she'll be chosen for The Testing, a United Commonwealth program that selects the best and brightest new graduates to become possible leaders of the slowly revitalizing post-war civilization. When Cia is chosen, her father finally tells her about his own nightmarish half-memories of The Testing. Armed with his dire warnings ("Cia, trust no one"), she bravely heads off to Tosu City, far away from friends and family, perhaps forever. Danger, romance—and sheer terror—await.

From Exploring the Titanic by Robert D. Ballard (Narrative Nonfiction)

This excerpt details the loss of the famous—and allegedly unsinkable—luxury liner Titanic. Recollections by survivors Jack Thayer and Ruth Becker convey the wonder and excitement that accompanied its launch. The author describes how the Titanic was ill-equipped for a disaster, and how iceberg warnings were ignored or mishandled before the ship's fatal collision with an iceberg.

Students will find the link to this pdf on the school website.

8th Grade Reading Selections - Students should read at least one.

Flipped by Wendy Van Drannen (Realistic Fiction)

The first time she saw him, she flipped. The first time he saw her, he ran. That was the second grade, but not much has changed by the seventh. Juli says: "My Bryce. Still walking around with my first kiss." He says: "It's been six years of strategic avoidance and social discomfort." But in the eighth grade everything gets turned upside down: just as Bryce is thinking that there's maybe more to Juli than meets the eye, she's thinking that he's not quite all he seemed.

Stand Tall by Joan Bauer (Realistic Fiction)

At age 12, Tree stands 6' 3 1/2" and not much makes sense — why his parents are getting divorced, why he's terrible on the basketball court — but he begins to find his purpose helping Grandpa...and then comes Sophie, an older, bolder girl at school with a motto and a mission.

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Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse (Historical Fiction)

A poem cycle that reads as a novel, *Out of the Dust* tells the story of a girl named Billie Jo, who struggles to help her family survive the dust-bowl years of the Depression. Fighting against the elements on her Oklahoma farm, Billie Jo takes on even more responsibilities when her mother dies in a tragic accident. A testament to the American spirit, this novel is an instant classic.

This gripping story tells of Billie Jo's stoic courage, as she learns to cope with the loss of her mother and her grieving father's slow deterioration. There is hope at the end when Billie Jo's badly burned hands are healed, and she is able to play her beloved piano again.

Fever 1793 by Laurie Ruse Anderson (Historical Fiction)

During the summer of 1793, Mattie Cook lives above the family coffee shop with her widowed mother and grandfather. Mattie spends her days avoiding chores and making plans to turn the family business into the finest Philadelphia has ever seen.

But then the fever breaks out. Disease sweeps the streets, destroying everything in its path and turning Mattie's world upside down. At her feverish mother's insistence, Mattie flees the city with her grandfather. But she soon discovers that the sickness is everywhere, and Mattie must learn quickly how to survive in a city turned frantic with disease.

Civil War Journal by Louisa May Alcott (Nonfiction - Journal)

In her journal, Louisa May Alcott describes serving as a nurse during the Civil War. At a military hospital near Washington, D.C., she finds purpose and satisfaction in caring for the sick, wounded, and dying soldiers.

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