



## Summer Reading Requirements Entering Seventh or Eighth Grade 2011-2012

Students are required to read **three** books over the summer. The three books must come from the rising 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading list. **Assignments and Summer Reading Log are due the first full day of classes.**

### **Summer Reading Report Requirements for both rising 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students**

You may borrow the summer reading books from a library or a friend. All of these books have favorable reviews. **Parents, please supervise your child's choices for the three books; some books may contain adult language and situations.** Please read and follow carefully the written requirements for the three books.

### **Written assignments:**

You must write on note cards for the three books you choose to read. The note cards are due the first full day of literature class. Please follow the note card instructions carefully.

- Create one note card for each of the books that you read.
- Use 5" x 8" cards. Points will be deducted for 3" x 5" cards.
- Write neatly in ink or type your cards.

### **On the front of each card include:**

- Title (underlined) and author
- Your name and the date you finished the book
- Names of major characters
- Setting
- Genre
- Category (fiction or non-fiction)

### **On the back of the card include:**

- One conflict the main character faced. Conflicts may be man vs. man, man vs. self, man vs. nature, man vs. God
- Write a one to two sentence explanation of the conflict you see the character facing, and explain how it applies to the story. For example, if the character faces a terrible storm, this is man vs. nature. Then explain how the character had to fight to survive in a dangerous storm.
- A line or sentence you found memorable and the chapter and page where this can be found. Include why you found the line or sentence memorable.

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE GRADE YOU EARN ON YOUR SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE YOUR FIRST LITERATURE TEST GRADE.**

*Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic School seeks to create a nurturing environment grounded in the Catholic faith, which provides for the spiritual and academic development of each child.*

## OLA Catholic School Rising Seventh and Eighth Grade Suggested Reading List

### NON-FICTION

AUTHOR	TITLE	NOTES
Armstrong, Jennifer	<i>Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World</i>	Describes the events of the 1914 Shackleton Antarctic expedition when, after being trapped in a frozen sea for nine months, their ship, Endurance, was finally crushed, forcing Shackleton and his men to make a very long and perilous journey to reach inhabited land.
Bartoletti, Susan Campbell	<i>Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow</i>	A photo-illustrated look at the youth organizations Adolf Hitler founded and used to meet his sociopolitical and military ends; includes profiles of individual Hitler Youth members as well as young people who opposed the Nazis, such as Hans and Sophie Scholl.
Borden, Louise	<i>The Journey that Saved Curious George</i>	Tells how the creators of "Curious George" narrowly escaped capture by the Nazis while fleeing Paris on their bicycles during World War II.
Burns, Loree Griffin	<i>Tracking Trash: Flotsam, Jetsam, and the Science of Ocean Motion</i>	Describes the work of a man who tracks trash as it travels great distances by way of ocean currents.
Caputo, Philip	<i>10,000 days of Thunder: a History of the Vietnam War</i>	Presents a collection of illustrated photographs and maps depicting the war in Vietnam from its beginning under French control to the fall of Saigon in 1975, and contains accounts from soldiers and civilians, profiles of those involved, and a look at the role of women on the battlefield.
Chevat, Richie	<i>The Omnivore's Dilemma: the Secrets Behind What You Eat. Young Readers ed.</i>	Examines the origins of the different food chains that have sustained humans throughout history, discussing how certain foods and cuisines have become a popular part of people's daily diets.
Fleischman, John	<i>Phineas Gage</i>	The true story of Phineas Gage, whose brain had been pierced by an iron rod in 1848, and who survived and became a case study in how the brain functions.
Fleischman, Sid	<i>The Trouble Begins at 8: A Life of Mark Twain in the Wild, Wild West.</i>	A narrative account of the childhood and youth of nineteenth-century writer Mark Twain. Includes period engravings, newspaper cartoons, and black-and-white photographs.
Frank, Anne	<i>Diary of a Young Girl</i>	A thirteen-year-old Dutch-Jewish girl records her impressions of the two years she and seven others spent hiding from the Nazis before they were discovered and taken to concentration camps.
French, Michael, adapt.	<i>Flags of our Fathers (adapted)</i>	Presents an account of the Marines who came together during the battle of Iwo Jima to raise the American flag in a moment that has been immortalized in one of the most famous photographs of World War II.
Giblin, James Cross	<i>Good Brother, Bad Brother: the Story of Edwin Booth and John Wilkes Booth.</i>	Tells the life stories of nineteenth-century actor Edwin Booth and his actor brother John Wilkes Booth, describing the differences between the two men, chronicling John's assassination of Abraham Lincoln, and examining the impact of John's crime on the Booth family for decades afterward.
Goldsmith, Connie	<i>Superbugs Strike Back: When Antibiotics Fail</i>	Explains how the development and over-use of antibiotics has led to new superbugs that are resistant to common medical treatments and pose a greater threat to human health
Gore, Albert	<i>An Inconvenient Truth: The Crisis of Global Warming (adapted)</i>	An adaptation of the book in which former Vice President Al Gore examines the climate crisis that is threatening the future of the planet, describes what the world's governments are doing to correct the problem, and explains why the problem should be taken more seriously.
Hersey, John	<i>Hiroshima</i>	An account of the dropping of an atomic bomb on Hiroshima in 1945, from the viewpoint of the people who lived through it.
Houston, Jeanne	<i>Farewell to Manzanar: a True Story of Japanese American Experience During and After World War II Internment</i>	Biography of Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston relating her experiences of living at the Manzanar internment camp during World War II and how it has influenced her life
Levine, Ellen	<i>Darkness Over Denmark: The Danish Resistance</i>	An account of people in Denmark who risked their lives to protect and rescue their Jewish neighbors from the Nazis during World War II.
Martin, Russell	<i>The Mysteries of Beethoven's Hair.</i>	Examines the true story of a lock of hair clipped from Beethoven's head at the time of his death in 1827, its transport to a safe house in Denmark in 1943, auction in 1994, and scientist's ability to finally determine the cause of the composer's death.

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Menzel, Peter	<i>What the World Eats</i>	A collection of photographs depicting twenty-five families from twenty-one different countries, and includes Chad, Equador, Greenland, Japan, Mongolia, and others, and also describes the cost of a week's worth of food, and other cultural information for each listed country.
Mowat, Farley	<i>Never Cry Wolf</i>	The author reports his observations of the Keewatin Lands northwest of the Hudson Bay, and the caribou and wolf populations living in the region; includes an afterword section with assorted writings about wolves.
Murphy, Jim	<i>American Plague</i>	Provides an account of the yellow fever epidemic that swept through Philadelphia in 1793, discussing the chaos that erupted when people began evacuating in droves, leaving the city without government, goods, or services, and examining efforts by physicians, the Free African Society, and others to cure and care for the sick.
Murphy, Jim	<i>Truce: The Day the Soldiers Stopped Fighting.</i>	Tells the story of the December 25, 1914 truce between German and British soldiers as they laid down their weapons and met in No Man's Land to celebrate Christmas.
Nelson, Pete	<i>Left For Dead: a Young Man's Search for Justice for the USS Indianapolis</i>	Recalls the sinking of the U.S.S. Indianapolis at the end of World War II, the Navy cover-up and unfair court martial of the ship's captain, and how a young boy helped the survivors set the record straight fifty-five years later.
Sandler, Martin	<i>The Dust Bowl Through the Lens : How Photography Revealed and Helped Remedy a National Disaster</i>	A collection of historic photographs that capture the devastation that plagued the Dust Bowl and the courage and enduring spirit of the people who tried to save their homes and livelihood during the era.
Stone, Tanya Lee	<i>Almost astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream.</i>	Profiles thirteen women who challenged social norms and government policies to prove they could be exceptional astronauts.
Thimmesh, Catherine	<i>Team Moon: How 400,000 People Landed Apollo 11 on the Moon</i>	Chronicles the Apollo 11 mission, the spaceflight that landed the first man on Earth's moon on July 20, 1969, emphasizing the contributions and reactions of the thousands of people who made the mission successful.
Uusma, Bea	<i>The Man Who Went to the Far Side of the Moon: the Story of Apollo 11 Astronaut Michael Collins</i>	Describes the experiences of Apollo 11 astronaut Michael Collins as he circled the moon while Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin walked on it; and explains what everyday life was like on "Columbia," presents background on the three astronauts, and includes photos of Collins and his family.

## FICTION

<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>GENRE</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
Abrahams, Peter	<i>Down the Rabbit Hole: An Echo Falls Mystery</i>	Mystery	Like her idol Sherlock Holmes, eighth-grader Ingrid Levin-Hill uses her intellect to solve the murder of an eccentric local woman in her hometown of Echo Falls.
Almond, David	<i>Kit's Wilderness</i>	Contemporary Fiction	Thirteen-year-old Kit goes to live with his grandfather in the decaying coal mining town of Stoneygate, England, and finds both the old man and the town haunted by ghosts of the past.
Auch, Mary Jane	<i>Ashes of Roses</i>	Historical Fiction	Sixteen-year-old Rose Nolan arrives on Ellis Island in 1911 in the hopes of starting a new life, but after most of her family is sent back to Ireland, she must find her own way in a new country and fend for herself and her younger sister
Avi	<i>Nothing But the Truth</i>	Contemporary Fiction	A ninth-grader's suspension for singing "The Star-Spangled Banner" during homeroom becomes a national news story, and leads to him and his teacher both leaving the school.
Bartoletti, Susan Campbell	<i>The Boy Who Dared</i>	Historical Fiction	Novel based on the true story of a Hitler Youth . In October 1942, seventeen-year-old Helmuth Hubener, imprisoned for distributing anti-Nazi leaflets, recalls his past life and how he came to dedicate himself to bring the truth about Hitler and the war to the German people.

<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>GENRE</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
Bloor, Edward	<i>Taken</i>	Science Fiction	In 2036 kidnapping rich children has become an industry, but when thirteen-year-old Charity Meyers is taken and held for ransom, she soon discovers that this particular kidnapping is not what it seems.
Bradbury, Ray	<i>Fahrenheit 451</i>	Science Fiction	After learning that books are a vital part of a culture he never knew, a book-burning official in a future fascist state clandestinely pursues reading until he is betrayed.
Carbone, Elias Lynn	<i>Blood on the River: Jamestown 1607</i>	Historical Fiction	Traveling to the New World in 1606 as the page to Captain John Smith, twelve-year-old orphan Samuel Collier settles in the new colony of James Town, where he must quickly learn to distinguish between friend and foe.
Carter, Anne Laurel	<i>The Shepherd's Granddaughter</i>	Contemporary Fiction	Amani's lifelong dream to be a shepherd like her beloved grandfather, Seedo, is devastated to discover the Israelis are going to build a settlement on the family homestead in Palestine, and while her uncle and brother prepare to take a militant stance, help comes from unexpected quarters.
Christie, Agatha	<i>Murder on the Orient Express</i>	Mystery	Detective Hercule Poirot has a wealth of suspects to choose from when a wealthy American is stabbed to death en route to Paris on the Orient Express.
Cleaver, Vera	<i>Where the Lilies Bloom</i>	Contemporary Fiction	In the Great Smoky Mountains region, a fourteen-year-old girl struggles to keep her family together after their father dies.
Colfer, Eoin	<i>Artemis Fowl</i>	Fantasy	Twelve-year-old evil genius Artemis Fowl tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, but the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll.
Cooney, Caroline B.	<i>Code Orange</i>	Mystery	While conducting research for a school paper on smallpox, Mitty finds an envelope containing 100-year-old smallpox scabs and fears that he has infected himself and all of New York City.
Cooper, James Fenimore	<i>The Last of the Mohicans</i>	Historical Fiction	A Mohican brave struggles to protect two English girls from an evil Huron during the French and Indian War in upstate New York.
Cooper, Susan	<i>The Dark is Rising (series)</i>	Fantasy	On his eleventh birthday Will Stanton discovers that he is the last of the Old Ones, destined to seek the six magical Signs that will enable the Old Ones to triumph over the evil forces of the Dark.
Cooper, Susan	<i>King of Shadows</i>	Fantasy/ Time Travel	While in London as part of an all-boy acting company preparing to perform in a replica of the famous Globe Theatre, Nat Field suddenly finds himself transported back to 1599 and performing in the original theater under the tutelage of Shakespeare himself.
Crichton, Michael	<i>Jurassic Park</i>	Science Fiction	An account of the attempt, through a hair-raising twenty-four hours on a remote jungle island, to avert a global emergency — a crisis triggered by today's rush to commercialize genetic engineering.
Crossley-Holland	<i>The Seeing Stone</i>	Historical Fiction	In late twelfth-century England, a thirteen-year-old boy named Arthur recounts how Merlin gives him a magical seeing stone which shows him images of the legendary King Arthur, the events of whose life seem to have many parallels to his own.
Cushman, Karen	<i>The Loud Silence of Francine Green</i>	Historical Fiction	In 1949, thirteen-year-old Francine goes to Catholic school in Los Angeles where she becomes best friends with a girl who questions authority and is frequently punished by the nuns, causing Francine to question her own values.
Deuker, Carl	<i>Heart of a Champion</i>	Sports	Seth faces a strain on his friendship with Jimmy, who is both a baseball champion and something of an irresponsible fool, when Jimmy is kicked off the team.
Dickens, Charles	<i>Oliver Twist</i>	Historical Fiction	A young orphan boy in nineteenth-century England lives in the squalid surroundings of a workhouse until he becomes involved with a gang of thieves.
Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan	<i>The Adventures of Sherlock Homes</i>	Mystery	A collection of Sherlock Holmes mystery adventures, including "A Scandal in Bohemia," "The Red-headed League," and "The Adventure of the Speckled Band."

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Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan	<i>The Hound of the Baskervilles</i>	Mystery	Sherlock Holmes is asked to investigate the tale of a hound that haunts the lonely moors around the Baskervilles' ancestral home.
Dumas, Alexandre	<i>The Count of Monte Cristo</i>	Adventure/ Action	Presents the classic novel by Alexandre Dumas about Edmond Dantes, a young sailor who is falsely imprisoned, escapes, and assumes a new identity on the island of Monte Cristo.
Erskine, Kathryn	<i>Mockingbird : (Mok'ing-burd)</i>	Contemporary Fiction	Ten-year-old Caitlin, who has Asperger's Syndrome, struggles to understand emotions, show empathy, and make friends at school, while at home she seeks closure by working on a project with her father.
Feinstein, John	<i>The Rivalry -- Mystery at the Army-Navy Game</i>	Mystery	Teen sportswriters Stevie Thomas and Susan Carol Anderson are assigned to cover the football game between long time rivalries Army and Navy, and, after noticing the actions of secret service agents, they begin to suspect that the president, who is going to attend the event, is in danger.
Flanagan, John	<i>Ranger's Apprentice: The Ruins of Gorlan</i>	Adventure/ Action	When fifteen-year-old Will is rejected by battleschool, he becomes the reluctant apprentice to the mysterious Ranger Halt, and winds up protecting the kingdom from danger.
Fleischman, Paul	<i>Whirligig</i>	Contemporary Fiction	While traveling to each corner of the country to build a whirligig in memory of the girl whose death he causes, sixteen-year-old Brian finds forgiveness and atonement.
Fox, Paula	<i>One-Eyed Cat</i>	Contemporary Fiction	An eleven-year-old shoots a stray cat with his new air rifle, subsequently suffers from guilt, and eventually assumes responsibility for it.
Freitas, Donna	<i>The Possibilities of Sainthood</i>	Contemporary Fiction	While regularly petitioning the Vatican to make her the first living saint, fifteen-year-old Antonia Labella prays to assorted patron saints for everything from help with preparing the family's fig trees for a Rhode Island winter to getting her first kiss from the right boy.
Gaiman, Neil	<i>The Graveyard Book</i>	Fantasy	The orphan Bod, short for Nobody, is taken in by the inhabitants of a graveyard as a child of eighteen months and raised lovingly and carefully to the age of eighteen years by the community of ghosts and otherworldly creatures
Gallison, Jennifer	<i>Gilda Joyce: Psychic Investigator</i>	Mystery	During the summer before ninth grade, intrepid Gilda Joyce invites herself to the San Francisco mansion of distant cousin Lester Splinter and his thirteen-year-old daughter, where she uses her purported psychic abilities and detective skills to solve the mystery of the mansion's boarded-up tower.
Gleitzman, Morris	<i>Once</i>	Historical Fiction	After living in a Catholic orphanage for nearly four years, a naive Jewish boy runs away and embarks on a journey across Nazi-occupied Poland to find his parents.
Green, Bette	<i>Morning is Long Time Coming</i>	Historical Fiction	Sequel to: Summer of my German soldier. En route to Germany in search of the maternal love she never had, eighteen-year-old Patty Bergen lingers in Paris and experiences her first love affair.
Grisham, John	<i>Theodore Boone : Kid Lawyer</i>	Mystery	Thirteen-year-old Theodore Boone, who knows every judge, police officer, and court clerk in the small town of Strattenburg, finds himself involved in a murder trial because of knowledge he might have about a cold-blooded killer.
Gwaltney, Doris.	<i>Homefront</i>	Historical Fiction	Margaret Ann Motley has always wanted a room of her very own, but when her English cousin Courtney moves in with Margaret's family to escape the blitz, Margaret loses her only chance of having her own room and begins to resent Courtney, until she realizes how difficult Courtney's own life has been.

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Hamilton, Virginia	<i>House of Dies Drear</i>	Historical Fiction	Thomas Small and his family move into an old house that was once used as part of the Underground Railroad and soon realize that the house, where two fugitive slaves and Dies Drear himself had been killed by bounty hunters, continues to hold many secrets.
Hesse, Karen	<i>Out of the Dust</i>	Historical Fiction	In a series of poems, fifteen-year-old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's wheat farm in Oklahoma during the dust bowl years of the Depression.
Higson, Charlie	<i>Silverfin</i>	Adventure/ Action	Young James Bond, a student at the Eton boarding school in the 1930s, travels to his aunt's Scotland estate for the Easter holidays where he becomes caught up in investigating the disappearance of a local boy, a crime allegedly linked to a madman with a plot for global domination.
Hilton, James	<i>Goodbye, Mr. Chips</i>	Historical Fiction	A retired teacher reminisces about his years at Brookfield school, the thousands of boys he taught, his happy marriage, and about the comic and tragic events in his life.
Hinton, S.E.	<i>Taming the Star Runner</i>	Contemporary Fiction	Sent to live with his uncle after a violent confrontation with his stepfather, sixteen-year-old Travis, an aspiring writer, finds life in a small Oklahoma town confining until he meets an eighteen-year-old horse trainer named Casey.
Hinton, S.E.	<i>Rumble Fish</i>	Contemporary Fiction	A junior high school boy idolizes his older brother, the coolest, toughest guy in the neighborhood, and wants to be just like him.
Holm, Jennifer L.	<i>Penny from Heaven</i>	Historical Fiction	As she turns twelve during the summer of 1953, Penny gains new insights into herself and her family while also learning a secret about her father's death.
Horowitz, Anthony	<i>Point Blank (Alex Rider series)</i>	Adventure/ Action	Alex, a fourteen-year-old spy, has been assigned by the British MI6 to investigate a series of mysterious deaths. He ends up in a boarding school in the Swiss Alps, and finds many strange things are happening to the students.
Hunt, Irene	<i>Across Five Aprils</i>	Historical Fiction	Young Jethro Creighton grows from a boy to a man when he is left to take care of the family farm in Illinois during the difficult years of the Civil War.
Jacques, Brian	<i>Castaways of the Flying Dutchman</i>	Fantasy	In 1620, a boy and his dog are rescued from the doomed ship, Flying Dutchman, by an angel who guides them in travelling the world, eternally helping those in great need.
Kadohate, Cynthia	<i>Cracker! The Best Dog in Vietnam</i>	Historical Fiction	A young soldier in Vietnam bonds with his bomb-sniffing dog.
Keith, Harold	<i>Rifles for Watie</i>	Historical Fiction	The struggles and hardships faced by Jeff Bussey on his 300-mile escape route during the Civil War.
Koertge, Ronald	<i>Shakespeare Makes the Playoffs</i>	Contemporary Fiction	Fourteen-year-old Kevin Boland, poet and first baseman, is torn between his cute girlfriend--Mira--and Amy, who is funny, plays Chopin on the piano, and is also a poet.
Koningsburg, E.L.	<i>The Outcasts of 19 Schuyler Place</i>	Contemporary Fiction	Upon leaving an oppressive summer camp, twelve-year-old Margaret Rose Kane spearheads a campaign to preserve three unique towers her great-uncles have been building in their backyard for more than forty years.
Lasky, Kathryn	<i>Ashes</i>	Historical Fiction	In 1932 Berlin, thirteen-year-old Gaby Schramm witnesses the beginning of Hitler's rise to power, as soldiers become ubiquitous, her beloved literature teacher starts wearing a jewelled swastika pin, and the family's dear friend, Albert Einstein, leaves the country while Gaby's parents secretly bury his books and papers in their small yard.
Lawrence, Iain	<i>The Wreckers (trilogy)</i>	Historical Fiction	Shipwrecked after a vicious storm, fourteen-year-old John Spencer attempts to save his father and himself while also dealing with an evil secret about the Cornish coastal town where they are stranded.
L'Engle, Madeline	<i>A Ring of Endless Light</i>	Contemporary Fiction	During the summer her grandfather is dying of leukemia and death seems all around, 15-year-old Vicky finds comfort with the pod of dolphins with which she has been doing research.

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Lewis, Richard	<i>The Killing Sea</i>	Historical Fiction	In the aftermath of the 2004 tsunami in Sumatra, two teenagers, American Sarah and Acehnese Ruslan, meet and continue together their arduous climb inland, where Ruslan hopes to find his father and Sarah seeks a doctor for her brother.
Lisyte, Robert	<i>The Brave</i>	Sports	Having left the Indian reservation for the streets of New York, seventeen-year-old boxer Sonny Bear tries to harness his inner rage by training with Alfred Brooks, who has left the sport to become a policeman.
Lowry, Lois	<i>Gathering Blue</i>	Science Fiction	Lame and suddenly orphaned, Kira is mysteriously removed from her squalid village to live in the palatial Council Edifice, where she is expected to use her gifts as a weaver to do the bidding of the all-powerful Guardians.
Lupica, Mile	<i>Heat</i>	Sports	Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old and he has no parents to offer them proof.
Malory, Sir Thomas	<i>Le Morte d' Arthur</i>	Fantasy	The standard account of King Arthur and his knights, the story of the dream of the Round Table, knightly honor, and a just earthly government, all dissolved through human frailty.
Mazer, Norma	<i>After the Rain</i>	Contemporary Fiction	After discovering her grandfather is dying, fifteen-year-old Rachel gets to know him better than ever before and finds the experience bittersweet.
McCormick, Patricia	<i>Black Duck</i>	Historical Fiction	Years afterwards, Ruben Hart tells the story of how, in 1929 Newport, Rhode Island, his family and his best friend's family were caught up in the violent competition among groups trying to control the local rum-smuggling trade.
McKissack, Pat	<i>The Clone Codes</i>	Science Fiction	On the run from a bounty hunter who arrested her mother for being part of a secret society devoted to freeing clones, thirteen-year-old Leanna learns amazing truths about herself and her family as she is forced to consider the value of freedom and what it really means to be human in 2170 America.
Mebas, Scott	<i>Gods of Manhattan</i>	Fantasy	When thirteen-year-old Rory discovers a spirit world alongside his contemporary New York City that is filled with fantastical creatures, people from the city's colorful past--who have become gods and goddesses--choose Rory to perform a dangerous mission.
Meyer, Carolyn	<i>Mary, Bloody Mary</i>	Historical Fiction	Mary Tudor, who would reign briefly as Queen of England during the mid-sixteenth century, tells the story of her troubled childhood as daughter of King Henry VIII.
Mikaelson, Ben	<i>Touching Spirit Bear</i>	Contemporary Fiction	After his anger erupts into violence, fifteen year-old Cole, in order to avoid going to prison, agrees to participate in a sentencing alternative based on the Native American Circle Justice, and he is sent to a remote Alaskan Island where an encounter with a huge Spirit Bear changes his life.
Miller, Sarah Elizabeth	<i>Miss Spitfire: Reaching Helen Keller</i>	Historical Fiction	At age twenty-one, partially-blind, lonely but spirited Annie Sullivan travels from Massachusetts to Alabama to try and teach six-year-old Helen Keller, deaf and blind since age two, self-discipline and communication skills. Includes historical notes and timeline.
Nix, Garth	<i>Mister Monday</i>	Fantasy	Arthur Penhaligon, destined to die at a young age, is saved by a key shaped like the minute hand of a clock, but his survival invokes the wrath of the mysterious Mister Monday who will stop at nothing to get the key back, and Arthur is forced into a desperate quest to unravel the secrets of the key and discover his true fate.
Oppel, Kenneth	<i>Airborn</i>	Fantasy	Matt, a young cabin boy aboard an airship, and Kate, a wealthy young girl traveling with her chaperone, team up to search for the existence of mysterious winged creatures reportedly living hundreds of feet above the Earth's surface.

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Paolnii, Christopher	<i>Eragon</i>	Fantasy	In Alagaesia, a fifteen-year-old boy of unknown lineage called Eragon finds a mysterious stone that weaves his life into an intricate tapestry of destiny, magic, and power, peopled with dragons, elves, and monsters.
Park, Linda Sue	<i>When My Name was Keoko</i>	Historical Fiction	With national pride and occasional fear, a brother and sister face the increasingly oppressive occupation of Korea by Japan during World War II, which threatens to suppress Korean culture entirely.
Parks, Gordon	<i>The Learning Tree</i>	Contemporary Fiction	An African-American youth in a small town in Kansas finds himself the only witness to a murder.
Paterson, Katherine	<i>Jacob Have I Loved</i>	Historical Fiction	Feeling deprived all her life of schooling, friends, mother, and even her name by her twin sister, Louise finally begins to find her identity.
Paterson, Katherine	<i>Bread and Roses, Too</i>	Historical Fiction	Twelve-year-old Rosa and thirteen-year-old Jake form an unlikely friendship as they try to survive and understand the 1912 Bread and Roses strike of mill workers in Lawrence, Massachusetts.
Patterson, James	<i>The Angel Experiment</i>	Adventure/ Action	After the mutant Erasers abduct the youngest member of their group, the "birdkids," who are the result of genetic experimentation, take off in pursuit and find themselves struggling to understand their own origins and purpose.
Patterson, James	<i>The Dangerous Days of Daniel X</i>	Science Fiction	Fifteen-year-old Daniel has followed in his parents' footsteps as the Alien Hunter, exterminating beings on The List of Alien Outlaws on Terra Firma, but when he faces his first of the top ten outlaws, the very existence of Earth and another planet are at stake.
Paulsen, Gary	<i>Canyons</i>	Historical Fiction	Finding a skull on a camping trip in the canyons outside El Paso, Texas, Brennan becomes involved with the fate of a young Apache Indian who lived in the late 1800s.
Paulsen, Gary	<i>Woods Runner</i>	Historical Fiction	From his 1776 Pennsylvania homestead, thirteen-year-old Samuel, who is a highly-skilled woodsman, sets out toward New York City to rescue his parents from the band of British soldiers and Native Americans who kidnapped them after slaughtering most of their community.
Peck, Richard	<i>A Year Down Yonder</i>	Historical Fiction	Sequel to: A long way from Chicago. During the recession of 1937, fifteen-year-old Mary Alice is sent to live with her feisty, larger-than-life grandmother in rural Illinois and comes to a better understanding of this fearsome woman.
Pratchett, Terry	<i>Only You Can Save Mankind</i>	Science Fiction	Prequel to : Johnny and the dead. Twelve-year-old Johnny endures tensions between his parents, watches television coverage of the Gulf War, and plays a computer game called Only You Can Save Mankind, in which he is increasingly drawn into the reality of the alien ScreeWee.
Prattchet, Terry	<i>The Wee Free Men</i>	Fantasy	Tiffany, a young witch-to-be in the land of Discworld, teams up with the Wee Free Men, a clan of six-inch-high blue toughs, to rescue her baby brother and ward off a sinister invasion from Fairyland.
Pullman, Philip	<i>Golden Compass</i>	Fantasy	Accompanied by her daemon, Lyra Belacqua sets out to prevent her best friend and other kidnapped children from becoming the subject of gruesome experiments in the Far North.
Rawls, Wilson	<i>Summer of the Monkeys</i>	Fantasy	In rural Oklahoma at the turn of the century, fourteen-year-old Jay Berry Lee discovers a tree full of monkeys, a find that leads to a summer that teaches him about life.
Reeve, Philip	<i>Fever Crumb</i>	Science Fiction	Foundling Fever Crumb has been raised as an engineer although females in the future London, England, are not believed capable of rational thought, but at age fourteen she leaves her sheltered world and begins to learn startling truths about her past while facing danger in the present.
Rinaldi, Ann	<i>A Stitch in Time</i>	Historical Fiction	Trying to hold the family together after her mother's death, Hannah worries about her sense of purpose when her father returns to the sea and her younger siblings become self-sufficient, and Hannah decides to make a wonderful quilt.
Rinaldi, Ann	<i>Amelia's War</i>	Historical Fiction	As the Civil War rages, Amelia's Maryland town is beset by divisions. Even she and her best friend Josh disagree. Amelia vows not to take sides, until the Confederate troops march into town...led by Josh's uncle.

AUTHOR	TITLE	GENRE	NOTES
Riordan, Rick	<i>The Lightning Thief</i>	Fantasy	Percy, expelled from six schools for being unable to control his temper, learns the truth from his mother that his father is the Greek god Poseidon, and is sent to Camp Half Blood where he is befriended by a satyr and the demigod daughter of Athena who join him in a journey to the Underworld to retrieve Zeus's lightning bolt and prevent a catastrophic war.
Riordan, Rick	<i>The Red Pyramid</i>	Fantasy	Brilliant Egyptologist Dr. Julius Kane accidentally unleashes the Egyptian god Set, who banishes the doctor to oblivion and forces his two children to embark on a dangerous journey, bringing them closer to the truth about their family and its links to a secret order that has existed since the time of the pharaohs.
Sachar, Louis	<i>The Cardturner</i>	Contemporary Fiction	When his wealthy uncle, a champion bridge player who has lost his vision, asks seventeen-year-old Alton to be a cardturner for him, Alton has no idea how much he will ultimately learn from his eccentric relative. Includes appendix by Syd Fox with information about bridge.
Salisbury, Graham	<i>Eyes of the Emperor</i>	Historical Fiction	Following orders from the United States Army, several young Japanese American men train K-9 units to hunt Asians during World War II.
Schmidt, Gary D.	<i>Okay for Now</i>	Historical Fiction	Fourteen-year-old Doug Swieteck faces many challenges, including an abusive father, a brother traumatized by Vietnam, suspicious teachers and police officers, and isolation, but when he meets a girl known as Lil Spicer, he develops a close relationship with her and finds a safe place at the local library.
Schmidt, Gary D.	<i>The Wednesday Wars</i>	Historical Fiction	During the 1967 school year, on Wednesday afternoons when all his classmates go to either Catechism or Hebrew school, seventh-grader Holling Hoodhood stays in Mrs. Baker's classroom where they read the plays of William Shakespeare and Holling learns much of value about the world he lives in.
Scott, Sir Walter	<i>Ivanhoe</i>	Historical Fiction	Relates the adventures of the Saxon knight Ivanhoe in 1194, the year of Richard the Lion-Hearted's return from the Third Crusade.
Selznick, Brian	<i>The Invention of Hugo Cabret</i>	Historical Fiction	When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toyseller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.
Sheth, Kashmira	<i>Keeping Corner</i>	Historical Fiction	In India in the 1940s, 13-year old Leela's happy, spoiled childhood ends when her husband since age 9, whom she barely knows, dies, leaving her a widow whose only hope of happiness could come from Mahatma Ghandi's social and political reforms.
Smith, Betty	<i>A Tree Grows in Brooklyn</i>	Historical Fiction	Young Francie Nolan experiences the problems of growing up in a Brooklyn, New York slum.
Smith, Roland	<i>Peak</i>	Contemporary Fiction	A fourteen-year-old boy attempts to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mount Everest. <b>Note: this title may only be read by rising 7<sup>th</sup> grade.</b>
Sonnenblick, Jordan	<i>After ever after</i>	Contemporary Fiction	Although Jeff and Tad, encouraged by a new friend, Lindsey, make a deal to help one another overcome aftereffects of their cancer treatments in preparation for eighth-grade graduation, Jeff still craves advice from his older brother Stephen, who is studying drums in Africa.
Sperry, Armstrong	<i>Call It Courage</i>	Adventure/ Action	Based on a Polynesian legend, this is the story of a youth who overcomes his fear of the sea and proves his courage to himself and his tribe.
Stead, Rebecca	<i>When You Reach Me</i>	Science Fiction	As her mother prepares to be a contestant on the 1980s television game show, "The \$20,000 Pyramid," a twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seems to defy the laws of time and space.
Stoker, Bram	<i>Dracula</i>	Classic	Having discovered the double identity of the wealthy Transylvanian nobleman Count Dracula, a small group of people vow to rid the world of the evil vampire.

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Stevenson, Robert Louis	<i>Treasure Island</i>	Adventure/ Action	While going through the possessions of a deceased guest who owed them money, the mistress of an inn and her son find a treasure map that leads them to a pirate's fortune. Includes review questions.
Taylor, Mildred	<i>Let the Circle Be Unbroken</i>	Historical Fiction	Sequel to: Roll of thunder, hear my cry. Four black children growing up in rural Mississippi during the Depression experience racial antagonisms and hard times, but learn from their parents the pride and self-respect they need.
Taylor, Theodore	<i>The Bomb</i>	Historical Fiction	In 1944, when the Americans liberate Bikini Atoll from the Japanese, fourteen-year-old Sorry Rinamu does not realize that in two years he will lead a desperate effort to save his island home from a much more deadly threat.
Thompson, Kate	<i>The New Policeman</i>	Fantasy	Fifteen-year-old musician J.J. Liddy leaves his small, Irish town and travels to the land of the fairies to search for time so he can give it to his busy mother, but when he gets there, he discovers that the inhabitants are in trouble and learns about his family's secret history.
Thompson, Kate	<i>The Last of the High Kings</i>	Fantasy	When eleven-year-old Jenny Liddy, in turmoil over learning that she is a changeling, makes a deal with a devil creature, she endangers the human race but her own cleverness, her human and fairy fathers, and the last of Ireland's High Kings help to make things right.
Tolkein, J.R.R.	<i>The Hobbit</i>	Fantasy	Bilbo Baggins, a respectable, well-to-do hobbit, lives comfortably in his hobbit-hole until the day the wandering wizard Gandalf chooses him to take part in an adventure from which he may never return.
Tolkein, J.R.R.	<i>Lord of the Rings (trilogy)</i>	Fantasy	Follows the Companions of the Ring as they set out to destroy the Ring of Power and check the power of the evil Sauron.
Udale, Eleanor	<i>Montmorency: Thief, Liar, Gentleman?</i>	Historical Fiction	In Victorian London, after his life is saved by a young physician, a thief utilizes the knowledge he gains in prison and from the scientific lectures he attends as the physician's case study exhibit to create a new, highly successful, double life for himself.
Van Draanen Wendelin	<i>Flipped</i>	Contemporary Fiction	In alternating chapters, two teenagers describe how their feelings about themselves, each other, and their families have changed over the years.
Verne, Jules	<i>20,000 Leagues Under the Sea</i>	Science Fiction	Jules Verne's classic nineteenth-century science-fiction tale about a French professor and his companions who are trapped aboard a futuristic submarine with a mad sea captain and come face to face with exotic ocean creatures and strange sights hidden from the world above.
Weeks, Sarah	<i>So B. It</i>	Contemporary Fiction	After spending her life with her mentally retarded mother and agoraphobic neighbor, twelve-year-old Heidi sets out from Reno, Nevada, to New York to find out who she is.
Wells, H.G.	<i>War of the Worlds</i>	Science Fiction	Presents H. G. Wells's classic story in which Earth is invaded by hostile, technologically superior aliens from Mars.
Westerfeld, Scott	<i>Uglies (series)</i>	Science Fiction	Sequel: Pretties. Tally is faced with a difficult choice when her new friend Shay decides to risk life on the outside rather than submit to the forced operation that turns sixteen-year-old girls into gorgeous beauties, and realizes that there is a whole new side to the pretty world that she doesn't like.
White, T.H.	<i>The Sword in the Stone</i>	Fantasy	A retelling of the Arthurian legend.
Wilder, Thornton	<i>The Bridge of San Luis Rey</i>	Historical Fiction	A tiny footbridge in Peru breaks, and five people hurtle to their deaths. For Brother Juniper, a humble monk who witnesses the catastrophe, the question is: Why those five?
Wiles, Deborah	<i>Countdown</i>	Historical Fiction	As eleven-year-old Franny Chapman deals with drama at home and with her best friend in 1962, she tries to understand the larger problems in the world after President Kennedy announces that Russia is sending nuclear missiles to Cuba. Features historic quotations and photographs.
Yancey, Richard	<i>The Extraordinary Adventures of Alfred Kropp</i>	Adventure/ Action	Through a series of dangerous and violent misadventures, teenage loser Alfred Kropp rescues King Arthur's legendary sword Excalibur from the forces of evil.