Middle School Suggested Reading List

The following suggested reading list is offered as a guide to students and parents when choosing the additional books needed to meet the summer reading requirements. Parents: This list includes books of varying difficulty and maturity levels in order to meet the needs of students in grades five through eight. Students may find books which are appropriate matches for their reading levels and/or personal interests. We recommend using http://www.commonsensemedia.org to determine whether a novel is a good fit for your child.

Nonfiction Titles

March Forward, Girl: From Young Warrior to Little Rock Nine by Melba Pattillo Beals

The Elephant Whisperer by Lawrence Anthony

The Nazi Hunters: How a Team of Spies and Survivors Captured the World’s Most Notorious Nazi by Neal Bascomb

The Boys Who Challenged Hitler: Knud Pedersen and the Churchill Club by Phillip Hoose

The Keeper: The Unguarded Story of Tim Howard (Young Reader’s Ed.) by Tim Howard

No Summit Out of Sight: The True Story of the Youngest Person to Climb the Seven Summits by Jordan Romero

Stubby the War Dog: The True Story of World War I’s Bravest Dog by Ann Bausum

No Better Friend (Young Readers Edition) by Robert Weintraub

Untamed: The Wild Life of Jane Goodall by Anita Silvey

Vincent and Theo: the Van Gogh Brothers by Deborah Heiligman*

The 57 Bus by Dashka Slater*

I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai

Historical Fiction Titles

Code Talkers by Joseph Bruchak

The Book Thief by Marcus Zusak

The Night Diary by Veera Hiranandani

The War That Saved My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley*

How I Became a Ghost: A Choctow Trail of Tears Story by Tim Tingle

Full of Beans by Jennifer L. Holm

The Hired Girl by Laura Amy Schlitz

* Award winning book (Newbery, National Book Award, Coretta Scott King, Pura Belpre or various others)

** Author visiting GSB during the 2018–19 academic year

*** Author visited GSB previously
Between Shades of Gray by Ruta Sepetys
Catch You Later, Traitor by Avi
Crow by Barbara Wright
Hell and High Water by Tanya Landman
The Great Trouble: A Mystery of London, the Blue Death, and a Boy Called Eel by Deborah Hopkinson
The Gallery by Laura Marx Fitzgerald
Lucky Broken Girl by Ruth Behar
I Lived on Butterfly Hill by Marjorie Agosin
One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia*
The Lions of Little Rock by Kristen Levine

Popular Series
The Unwind Dystology by Neal Shusterman
Magnus Chase, Kane Chronicles, Heroes of Olympus, Percy Jackson, etc. by Rick Riordan
The Penderwicks by Jeanne Birdsall
Ranger in Time by Kate Messner**
Finishing School by Gail Carriger
The Mortal Instruments by Cassandra Clare
The Land of Stories by Chris Colfer
Warriors by Erin Hunter
Chaos Walking by Patrick Ness
I am Number Four by Pittacus Lore
Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children by Ransom Riggs
The Looking Glass Wars by Frank Beddor

Science Fiction & Fantasy
The Girl Who Drank the Moon by Kelly Barnhill*
The Children of Blood and Bone by Toni Adeyemi
The Cruel Prince by Holly Black
Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo*
The Forgotten Book by Mechthild Gläser
The Forgetting by Sharon Cameron
The Wolf Princess by Cathryn Constable
The Eye of Minds by James Dashner
The Lie Tree by Frances Hardinge
Scythe by Neal Shusterman
The Charmed Children of Rookskill Castle by Janet Fox
Noggin by John Corey Whaley
The Prince of Mist by Carlos Ruiz Zafón
House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer*

Nathan Hale’s Hazardous Tales by Nathan Hale
Ranger’s Apprentice by John Flanagan
Alex Rider by Anthony Horowitz
Genius Files by Dan Gutman
Because of Mr. Terupt by Rob Buyea
Serafina series by Robert Beatty
Mickey Bolitar series by Harlan Coben
Track by Jason Reynolds
Harry Potter by J.K. Rowling

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Strange the Dreamer by Laini Taylor

**Graphic Books**

El Deafo by Cece Bell

Real Friends by Shannon Hale

All’s Faire in Middle School by Victoria Jamieson

The Good Neighbors by Holly Black

Amulet series by Kazu Kibuishi

Squirrel Girl by Shannon Hale and Dean Hale

Nimona by Noelle Stevenson

Be Prepared by Vera Brosgol

Invisible Emmie by Terri Libenson

All Summer Long by Hope Larson

March by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin

Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling

**Books in Verse**

Rebound by Kwame Alexander

Full Cicada Moon by Marilyn Hilton

American Ace by Marilyn Nelson

Silver People by Margarita Engle

5 to 1 by Holly Bodger

The Weight of Water by Sarah Crossan

Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds*

The Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo

Blood Water Paint by Joy McCullough

Unbound by Ann E. Burg

Mary’s Monster: Love, Madness, and How Mary Shelley Created Frankenstein by Lita Judge

Inside Out and Back Again by Thanhha Lai

All the Broken Pieces by Ann E. Burg

**Classics**

Black Beauty by Walter Farley

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

A Separate Peace by John Knowles

The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien

Animal Farm by George Orwell

Ender’s Game by Orson Scott Card

The Princess Bride by William Goldman

Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt

Matilda by Roald Dahl

The Earthsea Quartet by Ursula Le Guin

The Golden Compass by Philip Pullman

The Sword in the Stone by T.H. White

**Realistic Fiction**

All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook by Leslie Connor

Watched by Marina Budhos

As Brave as You by Jason Reynolds

The Fault in Our Stars by John Green

Restart by Gordon Korman

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Ghost by Jason Reynolds
Short by Holly Goldberg Sloan
Posted by John David Anderson
Slider by Pete Hautman
Hello, Universe by Erin Entrada Kelly*
Piecing Me Together by Renée Watson*
Dear Martin by Nic Stone
The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora by Pablo Cartaya*
Breakout by Kate Messner**
Amal Unbound by Aisha Saeed
Ghost Boys by Jewel Parker Rhodes
The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl by Stacy McAnulty
Swagger by Carl Deuker
Braced by Alyson Gerber
Refugee by Alan Gratz
The Girl I Used to Be by April Henry
Keeper by Mal Peet
Moo by Sharon Creech
The Great Greene Heist by Varian Johnson
Amina’s Voice by Hena Khan
All American Boys by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely**
Tradition by Brendan Kiely**
The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas*
Monster by Walter Dean Myers
Best Friend Next Door by Carolyn Mackler

Mockingbird by Kathryn Erksine
Okay for Now by Gary D. Schmidt
The Science of Unbreakable Things by Tae Keller
Wolf Hollow by Lauren Wolk
Flipped by Wendelin Van Draanen
Game Seven by Paul Volponi
Mexican Whiteboy by Matt de la Pena***
The Secret Sheriff of Sixth Grade by Jordan Sonnenblick***
Soar by Joan Bauer
Save Me a Seat by Sarah Weeks and Gita Varadarajan
Some Kind of Courage by Dan Gemeinhart
The Backfield Boys: a Football Mystery in Black and White by John Feinstein
Kira–Kira by Cynthia Kadohada
When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead*
Holes by Louis Sachar*
Jurassic Park by Michael Crichton
The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau Banks by E. Lockhart
The Tyrant’s Daughter by J.C. Carleson
Counting by Sevens by Holly Goldberg Sloan
The Someday Birds by Sally J. Pla
Summer Ball by Mike Lupica
Peak by Roland Smith
Dogsong by Gary Paulsen*