

McCall Middle School
Recommended Summer Reading List
June 2009

Below are the **REQUIRED** reading titles for each grade level. Following is The Recommended Summer Reading List. Selections include recommendations from teachers, librarians, and students. There are recent award winners as well as classics. Most titles are available in paperback, and many can be found at the Winchester Public Library, at Book Ends, or at your favorite online source.

REQUIRED READING

Grade 6: The Young Man and the Sea by Rodman Philbrick. In addition, students are expected to read at least two other books over the summer.

Grade 7: Select one title from the Percy Jackson & The Olympians Series: The Lightning Thief, Sea of Monsters, Titan's Curse, Battle of Labyrinth, and The Last Olympian by Rick Riordan. In addition, students are expected to read at least two other books over the summer.

Grade 8: The Golden Compass by Philip Pullman or Coraline by Neil Gaiman. In addition, students are expected to read at least two other books over the summer.

A Message From the Winchester Public Library

Dear Middle School students,

Many of you probably have participated in the Winchester Public Library Summer Reading Program in the past. This summer for the first time you have the opportunity to do so as a middle school student. Independent and computer based, your program allows you to record titles you read, comment on them and read other students' comments from anywhere in the world! You are anonymous. To enter you will go to the following web address: www.readsinma.org/winpublib. When you sign up initially, please come into the library for your free thank you gift. We're excited about this opportunity and look forward to sharing with you. Happy reading and sharing, Molly Wiелlette, Winchester Public Library

* Indicates titles recommended for older readers (7th and 8th grade)

Recommended Summer Reading List

SCIENCE FICTION

Anderson, M.T. Whales on Stilts. Racing against the clock, shy middle-school student Lily and her best friends, Katie and Jasper, must foil the plot of her father's conniving boss to conquer the world using an army of whales.

Armstrong, Jennifer. Fire Us Trilogy (includes The Kiln, The Kindling, and Keeper of the Flame). In 2007, a small band of children have joined together in a Florida town, trying to survive in a world where it seems that all the adults have been killed off by a catastrophic virus.

Card, Orson Scott. Ender's Game series. Ender Wiggins is a genius who is training to save the planet from impending Alien attacks.

*Clements, Andrew. Things Not Seen. When fifteen-year-old Bobby wakes up and finds himself invisible, he and his parents and his new blind friend Alicia try to find out what caused his condition and how to reverse it.

DuPrau, Jeanne. The City of Ember and People of Sparks. In the year 241, twelve-year-old Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a Messenger to run to new places in her decaying but beloved city, perhaps even to glimpse Unknown Regions. The Prophet of Yonwood is the prequel.

*Farmer, Nancy. House of the Scorpion (Newbery Honor Book 2003). In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patrón, the 142-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States.

Haddix, Margaret Peterson. Among the Hidden series. In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke has lived all of his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm, until another "third" convinces him that the government is wrong.

L'Engle, Madeline. A Wrinkle in Time. Meg Murry and her friends become involved with unearthly strangers and a search for Meg's father, who has disappeared while engaged in secret work for the government.

Lowry, Lois. The Messenger. In this novel that unites characters from The Giver and Gathering Blue, Matty, a young member of a utopian community that values honesty, conceals an emerging healing power that he cannot explain or understand. Also try The Giver and Gathering Blue

*Pearson, Mary E. The Adoration of Jenna Fox. In the not-too-distant future, when biotechnological advances have made synthetic bodies and brains possible but illegal, a seventeen-year-old girl, recovering from a serious accident and suffering from memory lapses, learns a startling secret about her existence.

Reeve, Philip. Mortal Engines. In the distant future, when cities move about and consume smaller towns, a fifteen-year-old apprentice is pushed out of London by the man he most admires and must seek answers in the perilous Out-Country, aided by one girl and the memory of another.

Sleator, William. The Last Universe. When her desperately ill older brother insists that she take him into their mysterious backyard garden, designed by their quantum physicist great uncle, fourteen-year-old Susan discovers that things are not always what they seem.

Stahler, David Jr. Truesight. In a distant frontier world, thirteen-year-old Jacob is uncertain of his future in a community that considers blindness a virtue and "Seers" as aberrations.

* Indicates titles recommended for older readers (7th and 8th grade)

Stewart, Trenton Lee. The Mysterious Benedict Society. After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules.

Thompson, Kate. The New Policeman. Irish teenager JJ Liddy discovers that time is leaking from his world into Tir na nOg, the land of the fairies, and when he attempts to stop the leak he finds out a lot about his family history, the music that he loves, and a crime his great-grandfather may or may not have committed.

Young, E. L. Storm: The Infinity Code. In London, the teenaged geniuses of STORM, a secret organization dedicated to eliminating the world's misery through science and technology, uncover plans for a deadly weapon and race to find and dismantle it, then confront the corrupt scientist behind the scheme. Sequel -STORM : the Ghost Machine.

FANTASY

Barry, David. Peter and the Starcatchers. Soon after Peter, an orphan, sets sail from England on the ship Never Land, he befriends and assists Molly, a young Starcatcher, whose mission is to guard a trunk of magical stardust from a greedy pirate and the native inhabitants of a remote island. (Sequels: Peter and the Shadow Thieves, Peter and the Secret of Rundoon)

* Bell, Hilari. The Last Knight. In alternate chapters, eighteen-year-old Sir Michael Severson, an anachronistic knight errant, and seventeen-year-old Fisk, his street-wise squire, tell of their noble quest to bring Lady Ceciel to justice while trying to solve her husband's murder.

* Bunce, Elizabeth C. A Curse Dark as Gold. Upon the death of her father, seventeen-year-old Charlotte struggles to keep the family's woolen mill running in the face of an overwhelming mortgage and what the local villagers believe is a curse, but when a man capable of spinning straw into gold appears on the scene she must decide if his help is worth the price.

Collins, Suzanne. Gregor the Overlander. When eleven-year-old Gregor and his two-year-old sister are pulled into a strange underground world, they trigger an epic battle involving men, bats, rats, cockroaches, and spiders while on a quest foretold by an ancient prophecy (Sequels: The Underland Chronicles).

Corbett, Sue. 12 Again. Twelve-year-old Patrick's mother is missing, and it is up to him to find her and get her back or face a life without her.

Divakaruni, Chitra Banerjee. The Conch Bearer. In India, a healer invites twelve-year-old Anand to join him on a quest to return a magical conch to its safe and rightful home high in the Himalayan mountains.

Farmer, Nancy. Sea of Trolls. After Jack becomes apprenticed to a Druid bard, he and his little sister Lucy are captured by Viking Berserkers and taken to the home of King Ivar the Boneless and his half-troll queen, leading Jack to undertake a vital quest to Jotunheim, home of the trolls. Sequel is The Land of the Silver Apples.

Flanagan, John. The Ruins of Gorlan. 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. Also, the other titles in the Ranger's Apprentice Series

Ferris, Jean. Once Upon a Marigold. A young man with a mysterious past and a penchant for inventing things leaves the troll who raised him, meets an unhappy princess he has loved from afar, and discovers a plot against her and her father.

* Indicates titles recommended for older readers (7th and 8th grade)

Funke, Cornelia. Inkheart. Twelve-year-old Meggie learns that her father, who repairs and binds books for a living, can "read" fictional characters to life when one of those characters abducts them and tries to force him into service. (Sequels: Inkspell, Inkdeath)

Funke, Cornelia. The Thief Lord. Two brothers, having run away from the aunt who plans to adopt the younger one, are sought by a detective hired by their aunt, but they have found shelter with—and protection from—Venice's "Thief Lord."

Gardner, Sally. I, Coriander. In seventeenth-century London, Coriander, a girl who has inherited magic from her mother, must find a way to use this magic in order to save both herself and an inhabitant of the fairy world where her mother was born.

Jacques, Brian. Loamhedge: A Tale from Redwall. While a group of adventurers from Redwall seeks the ancient abbey of Loamhedge in hopes of curing a young harem's paralysis, Redwall is besieged by vermin.

Keehn, Sally M. Gnat Stokes and the Foggy Bottom Swamp Queen. In Mary's Cove, Tennessee, in 1869, twelve-year-old Gnat Stokes decides to prove she's not just a trouble maker by rescuing a boy who was spirited away seven years earlier by the evil Swamp Queen of Foggy Bottom.

Levine, Gail Carson. Fairest. In a land where beauty and singing are valued above all else, Aza eventually comes to reconcile her unconventional appearance and her magical voice, and learns to accept herself for who she truly is.

Lowry, Lois. Gossamer. While learning to bestow dreams, a young dream giver tries to save an eight-year-old boy from the effects of both his abusive past and the nightmares inflicted on him by the frightening Sinisteads.

MacHale, D.J. Pendragon series: Merchant of Death, The Lost City of Faar, The Never War, and Reality Bug.

*McNamee, Eoin. The Navigator. Owen has always been different, and not only because his father committed suicide, but he is not prepared for the knowledge that he has a mission to help the Wakeful—the custodians of time—to stop the Harsh from reversing the flow of time.

Meyer, Kai. The Water Mirror. In a place similar to Venice, Italy, two teenaged orphans, apprenticed to a maker of magic mirrors, begin to realize that their fates are tied to the magical protector of the city known as the Flowing Queen and to the ruler of Hell, respectively. (Sequels: The Stone Light and The Glass Word)

*Oppel, Kenneth. Airborne. 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.

Paolini, Christopher. Eragon. In Aagaesia, 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. (Sequel: Eldest)

Pattou, Edith. East. A young woman journeys to a distant castle on the back of a great white bear who is the victim of a cruel enchantment.

Pearce, Philippa. The Little Gentleman. A young girl's dull life is transformed when she meets and befriends an extraordinary talking mole that likes to be read to and tells of his own past exploits throughout the centuries.

Pierce, Tamora. Circle of Magic Series. A fantasy series including Briar's Book, Daja's Book, Sandry's Book and Tris' Book.

* Indicates titles recommended for older readers (7th and 8th grade)

Pratchett, Terry. The Bromeliad Trilogy (Truckers, Diggers, and Wings). After generations of existing in the human-sized world, a group of four-inch-high gnomes discover their true nature and origin with the help of a black square called the Thing. Also, Nation.

Reeve, Philip. Here Lies Arthur. When her village is attacked and burned, Gwyna seeks protection from the bard Myrddin, who uses Gwyna in his plan to transform young Arthur into the heroic King Arthur.

Reiss, Kathryn. Paint by Magic. After his mom suddenly starts acting old-fashioned, eleven-year-old Conner is transported back to 1926, where he must discover and break the mysterious hold an obsessed artist has on his mom that is trapping her between times. Also try Time Windows, Pale Phoenix, PaperQuake, Dreadful Sorry, and Glass House People.

Riordan, Rick. The Lightning Thief. After learning that he is the son of a mortal woman and Poseidon, god of the sea, twelve-year-old Percy is sent to a summer camp for demigods like himself, and joins his new friends on a quest to prevent a war between the gods. (all books in the Percy Jackson and the Olympians Set)

Scott, Michael. The Alchemyst. While working at pleasant but mundane summer jobs in San Francisco, fifteen-year-old twins, Sophie and Josh, suddenly find themselves caught up in the deadly, centuries-old struggle between rival alchemists, Nicholas Flamel and John Dee, over the possession of an ancient and powerful book holding the secret formulas for alchemy and everlasting life. Series: Secrets of the immortal Nicholas Flamel

Stroud, Jonathan. The Amulet of Samarkand (Bartimaeus Trilogy, #1). Nathaniel, a magician's apprentice, summons up the djinni Bartimaeus and instructs him to steal the Amulet of Samarkand from the powerful magician Simon Lovelace (The Golem's Eye and Ptolemy's Gate).

HISTORICAL FICTION

Alvarez, Julia. Before We Were Free. In the early 1960s in the Dominican Republic, twelve-year-old Anita learns that her family is involved in the underground movement to end the bloody rule of the dictator, General Trujillo.

Amistead, John. The Return of Gabriel. In the summer of 1964, a thirteen-year-old white boy whose best friend is black is caught in the middle when civil rights workers and Ku Klux Klan members clash in a small town near Tupelo, Mississippi.

Anderson, Laurie Halse. Fever: 1793. In 1793 Philadelphia, sixteen-year-old Matilda Cook, separated from her sick mother, learns about perseverance and self-reliance when she is forced to cope with the horrors of a yellow fever epidemic.

* Auch, Mary Jane. Ashes of Roses. Sixteen-year-old Margaret Rose Nolan, newly arrived from Ireland, finds work at New York City's Triangle Shirtwaist Factory shortly before the 1911 fire in which 146 employees died.

Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker. For Freedom: The Story of a French Spy. Despite the horrors of World War II, a French teenager pursues her dream of becoming an opera singer, which takes her to places where she gains information about what the Nazis are doing--information that the French Resistance needs.

* Breslin, Theresa. Remembrance. The destinies of two Scottish families, one of shopkeepers and one of wealth and power, become entwined through their involvement in World War I, social causes, and love.

* Bruchac, Joseph. Code Talker: a novel about the Navajo Marines of World War Two. After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.

* Indicates titles recommended for older readers (7th and 8th grade)

Collier, Kristi. Jericho Walls. In 1957, when her preacher father accepts a post in Jericho, Alabama, Jo wants to fit in, but her growing friendship with a black boy forces her to confront the racism of the South and to reconsider her own values.

Cooney, Caroline B. Goddess of Yesterday. Taken from her home on an Aegean island as a six-year-old girl, Anaxandra calls on the protection of her goddess while she poses as two different princesses before ending up as a servant in the company of Helen and Paris as they make their way to Troy.

Cowley, Marjorie. Dar and the Spear Thrower. A young Cro-Magnon boy living 15,000 years ago in southeastern France is initiated into manhood by his clan and sets off on a journey to trade his valuable fire rocks for an ivory spear thrower.

Crossley-Holland, Kevin, Crossing to Paradise. When fifteen-year-old Gatty, an illiterate field-girl who sings beautifully, is selected for a pilgrimage, she travels from her home on an English estate to London, Venice, and eventually Jerusalem, and experiences great changes in her circumstances and in herself.

Crowe, Chris. Mississippi Trial, 1955. In Mississippi in 1955, a sixteen-year-old finds himself at odds with his grandfather over issues surrounding the kidnapping and murder of a fourteen-year-old African American from Chicago.

Dickinson, Peter. The Kin Series: Po's Story, Suth's Story, Mana's Story, Noli's Story. Stories of the Stone Age tribe, the Kin.

Duble, Kathleen Benner. The Sacrifice. Two sisters, aged ten and twelve, are accused of witchcraft in Andover, Massachusetts, in 1692 and await trial in a miserable prison while their mother desperately searches for some way to obtain their freedom.

Durbin, William. Broken Blade. When an injury prevents his father from going into northern Canada with fur traders, thirteen-year-old Pierre decides to take his father's place as a voyageur.

Hesse, Karen. Stowaway. This fictionalized journal relates the experiences of a young stowaway from 1768 to 1781 aboard the *Endeavour*, which sailed around the world under Captain James Cook.

Holm, Jennifer. Boston Jane: Adventurer, Boston Jane: Wilderness Days, and Boston Jane: The Claim. The story of a blossoming New England girl who must surrender etiquette in order to survive in the West.

Hughes, Dean. Soldier Boys. Two boys, one German and one American, are eager to join their respective armies during WWII, but the realities of war come to a head when they cross paths at the Battle of Bulge.

Ketchum, Liza. Where the Great Hawk Flies. Years after a violent New England raid by the Redcoats and their Revolutionary War Indian allies, two families, one that suffered during that raid and one with an Indian mother and Patriot father, become neighbors and must deal with past trauma and prejudices before they can help each other in the present. Based on the author's family history

Lawrence, Iain. Lord of the Nutcracker Men. During World War I an English boy comes to believe that the battles he enacts with his toy soldiers control the war his father is fighting on the front.

Leeds, Constance. The Silver Cup. In 1096, Anna, a German Catholic girl, and Leah, a German Jewish girl, strike up a remarkable friendship and make surprising discoveries about each other.

Lester, Jules. Pharaoh's Daughter: A Novel of Ancient Egypt. A fictionalized account of the Biblical tale in which a Hebrew infant, rescued by the daughter of the Pharaoh, passes through a turbulent adolescence to eventually become a prophet of his people while his sister finds her true self as a priestess to the Egyptian gods

McGraw, Eloise. Mara, Daughter of the Nile. This book tells the adventures of an ingenious Egyptian slave girl who undertakes a dangerous assignment as a spy in the royal palace of Thebes, in the days when Queen Hatshepsut ruled.

Napoli, Donna Jo Daughter of Venice. Frustrated with the restrictions her gender imposes on her life, fourteen-year-old Donata, disguised as a boy, sneaks out of her noble family's house to roam the streets of late sixteenth-century Venice and then must confront the repercussions of her actions. Also, The Smile.

Paterson, Katherine. Bread and Roses, Too. Jake and Rosa, two children, form an unlikely friendship as they try to survive and understand the 1912 Bread and Roses strike of mill workers in Lawrence, Massachusetts.

Paterson, Katherine. Lyddie. An impoverished Vermont farm girl, Lyddie Worthen, is determined to gain her independence by becoming a factory worker in Lowell, Massachusetts in the 1840s.

Peck, Richard. The Teacher's Funeral: A Comedy in Three Parts. In rural Indiana in 1904, fifteen-year-old Russell's dreams of quitting school and joining a wheat threshing crew are disrupted when his older sister takes over the teaching at his one-room schoolhouse after mean, old Myrt Arbuckle "hauls off and dies."

*Rinaldi, Ann. The Color of Fire. Someone is setting fires in New York City ... In 1741, America is at war with Catholic Spain. Phoebe watches as her town erupts into mass hysteria when the whites in New York City accuse the black slaves of planning an uprising. With people implicating each other at every turn, Phoebe has to decide if she's willing to save her friend Cuffee from execution, or if her own conscience and quest for freedom will be singed by her indiscretions.

Slade, Arthur. Dust. Eleven-year-old Robert is the only one who can help when a mysterious stranger arrives, performing tricks and promising to bring rain, at the same time children begin to disappear from a dust bowl farm town in Saskatchewan in the 1930s.

Sutcliff, Rosemary. The Eagle of the Ninth. A young centurion ventures among the hostile tribes beyond the Roman Wall to recover the eagle standard of the Ninth, a legion which mysteriously disappeared under his father's command.

*Taylor, Mildred. The Land. After the Civil War Paul, the son of a white father and a black mother, finds himself caught between the two worlds of colored folks and white folks as he pursues his dream of owning land of his own.

Turnbull, Ann. Maroo of the Winter Caves. Maroo, a girl of the late Ice Age, must take charge after her father is killed, and lead her little brother, mother, and aged grandmother to the safety of the winter camp before the first blizzards strike.

REALISTIC FICTION

Abrahams, Peter. Down the Rabbit Hole: an Echo Falls mystery. Like her idol Sherlock Holmes, eighth grader Ingrid Levin-Hill uses her intellect to solve a murder case in her hometown of Echo Falls.

*Alexie, Sherman. The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian. Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Indian is the school mascot.

Bang, Molly. Tigers Falling. After eleven-year-old Lupe is partially paralyzed in an accident in her Mexican village, other handicapped people help her realize that her life can still have purpose.

Birdsall, Jeanne. The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy. While vacationing with their widowed father in the Berkshire Mountains, four lovable sisters, ages four

* Indicates titles recommended for older readers (7th and 8th grade)

through twelve, share adventures with a local boy, much to the dismay of his snobbish mother. Sequel: The Penderwicks on Gardam Street.

Bloor, Edward. Tangerine. Twelve-year-old Paul, who lives in the shadow of his football hero brother Erik, fights for the right to play soccer despite his near blindness and slowly begins to remember the incident that damaged his eyesight.

Brooke, Peggy. Jake's Orphan. When taken from an orphanage to work on a farm in North Dakota in 1926, twelve-year-old Tree searches for a home not only for himself but also for his irreplaceable younger brother, Acorn.

Cabot, Meg. All American Girl. A sophomore girl stops a presidential assassination attempt, is appointed Teen Ambassador to the United Nations, and catches the eye of the very cute First Son.

*Dessen, Sarah. Keeping the Moon. Fifteen-year-old Colie, a former fat girl, spends the summer working as a waitress in a beachside restaurant, staying with her overweight and eccentric Aunt Mira, and trying to explore her sense of self.

*Draper, Sharon. Battle of Jericho (Coretta Scott King Honor Award). A high school junior and his cousin suffer the ramifications of hazing when they join what seems to be a "reputable" school club.

Feinstein, John. Last Shot: a Final Four Mystery. After winning a basketball reporting contest, eighth graders Stevie and Susan Carol are sent to cover the Final Four tournament, where they discover that a talented player is being blackmailed into throwing the final game.

Fleischman, Paul. Seek Rob becomes obsessed with searching the airwaves for his long-gone father, a radio announcer.

Hiaasen, Carl. Flush. With their father jailed for sinking a river boat, Noah Underwood and his younger sister, Abbey, must gather evidence that the owner of this floating casino is emptying his bilge tanks into the protected waters around their Florida Keys home.

Hiaasen, Carl. Hoot (Newbery Honor Book). Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site.

Huser, Glen. Stitches. Travis lives in a trailer park outside a small prairie town with his aunt, uncle, and a pack of rowdy little cousins. His mother, a country-and-western singer, is on the road a lot; his father is long gone. He knows he's different from his junior high classmates in other ways; he loves to sew, play with puppets, and become a professional puppeteer. These interests make Travis a target the school bullies.

Koss, Amy Goldman. The Cheat. When Sarah gets her hands on the answers to the eighth-grade geography midterm and decides to share them with some other students, the consequences are far-ranging.

Lowry, Lois. Silent Boy. Katy, the ten-year-old daughter of the town doctor, befriends a mentally handicapped boy.

Lupica, Mike. Travel Team. After he is cut from his travel basketball team--the very same team that his father once led to national prominence--twelve-year-old Danny Walker forms his own team of cast-offs that might have a shot at victory. Sequel is Summer Ball.

*Mikaelson, Ben. Touching Spirit Bear. After his anger erupts into violence, 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.

* Indicates titles recommended for older readers (7th and 8th grade)

*Murdock, Catherine Gilbert. Dairy Queen. After spending her summer running the family farm and training the quarterback for her school's rival football team, sixteen-year-old D.J. decides to go out for the sport herself, not anticipating the reactions of those around her.

Ritter, John. The Boy Who Saved Baseball. The fate of a small California town rests on the outcome of one baseball game, and Tom Gallagher hopes to lead his team to victory with the secrets of the now disgraced player, Dante Del Gato.

*Sones, Sonya. What My Mother Doesn't Know. Over Christmas vacation, while all of her friends are away, Sophie develops a relationship with Murphy, one of the class nerds. When her friends arrive back in town, she is forced to decide if she will reveal her relationship with Murphy to them. Also try Stop Pretending.

Spinelli, Jerry. Stargirl. In this story about the perils of popularity, the courage of nonconformity, and the thrill of first love, an eccentric student named Stargirl changes Mica High School forever.

Stauffacher, Sue. Harry Sue. Although tough-talking Harry Sue would like to start a life of crime in order to be "sent up" and find her incarcerated mother, she must first protect the children at her neglectful grandmother's home day care center and befriend a paralyzed boy.

Deborah Wiles. Each Little Bird That Sings. Comfort Snowberger is well acquainted with death since her family runs the funeral parlor in their small southern town, but even so the ten-year-old is unprepared for the series of heart-wrenching events that begins on the first day of Easter vacation with the sudden death of her beloved great-uncle Edisto.

QUICK READS

Brooke, Lauren. Coming Home (book #1 Heartland series). Heartland is a horse farm with the special mission of healing abused or neglected horses and finding them new homes. Fifteen-year-old Amy works alongside her talented mother, a gifted horse trainer who uses techniques to heal these damaged horses.

Bunting, Eve. Summer of Riley. Shortly after he gets Riley, the dog he's been longing for, eleven-year-old William must fight for the dog's life after he is taken away.

Cabot, Meg. Princess Diaries series. Fourteen-year-old Mia, who is trying to lead a normal life as a teenage girl in New York City, is shocked to learn that her father is the Prince of Genovia, a small European principality, and that she is a princess and the heir to the throne.

Clements, Andrew. A Week in the Woods. The fifth grade's annual camping trip in the woods tests Mark's survival skills and his ability to relate to a teacher who seems out to get him. Also try The Report Card, Janitor's Boy, Frindle, Landry News, No Talking.

Curtis, Christopher. The Watson's Go to Birmingham. The ordinary interactions and everyday routines of the Watsons, an African American family living in Flint, Michigan, are drastically changed after they go to visit Grandma in Alabama in the summer of 1963. Also try Bud, Not Buddy.

DiCamillo, Kate. Because of Winn Dixie. Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog, Winn-Dixie.

Fletcher, Ralph. Flying Solo. After a substitute fails to show up, a group of sixth grade classmates decide to run the class on their own.

Going, K.L. The Liberation of Gabriel King. In Georgia during the summer of 1976, Gabriel, a white boy who is being bullied, and Frita, an African American girl who is facing prejudice, decide to overcome their many fears together as they enter fifth grade.

* Indicates titles recommended for older readers (7th and 8th grade)

Gorman, Carol. Dork on the Run (sequel to Dork in Disguise). Having reluctantly agreed to run for sixth-grade president, Jerry, who has been trying to change his image as a dork, finds his opponent playing dirty tricks on him. Also try Dork in Disguise and A Midsummer's Night Dork.

Gutman, Dan. Babe and Me. With their ability to travel through time using vintage baseball cards, Joe and his father have the opportunity to find out whether Babe Ruth really did call his shot when he hit that homerun in the third game of the 1932 World Series against the Chicago Cubs. Also try Jackie and Me, Honus and Me, and Shoelless Joe and Me., The Homework Machine, and Getting Air.

Holt, Kimberly Willis. My Louisiana Sky. Tiger Ann struggles with her feelings about her stern but loving grandmother, her mentally slow parents, and her good friend and neighbor, Jesse.

Hunt, Irene. The Lottery Rose. A young victim of child abuse gradually overcomes his fears and suspicions when placed in a home with other boys.

Hurwitz, Johanna. One Small Dog. Curtis gets a dog when his parents divorce, but his beloved new dog causes problems that he did not expect.

Korman, Gordon. Shipwreck (book #1 of the Island series). Six adolescents are stuck in the middle of the Pacific Ocean on a boat. When a terrifying storm hits, they must fight to survive.

Mazer, Ann. Every Cloud Has a Silver Lining. Told through prose, journal entries, and drawings, the story follows Abby as she tries to make her mark in school. Try other titles in The Amazing Days of Abby Hayes series.

Mazer, Harry. A Boy at War: A Novel of Pearl Harbor. While fishing with his friends off Honolulu on December 7, 1941, teenaged Adam is caught in the midst of the Japanese attack and through the chaos of the subsequent days tries to find his father, a naval officer who was serving on the U.S.S. Arizona when the bombs fell.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. Including Alice. Fifteen-year-old Alice finds it hard to adjust to the changes in her life when her father gets married and her brother moves to his own apartment. Also try other titles in the Alice series.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. Bernie Magruder & The Bats in the Belfry. Many residents of Middleburg, Indiana, are already going crazy from the ever-ringing church bells and now, after a bat is spotted in the hotel run by Bernie's family, they worry that the dangerous Indiana Aztec bat has finally arrived.

O'Connor, Barbara. How to Steal a Dog. Living in the family car in their small North Carolina town after their father leaves them virtually penniless, Georgina, desperate to improve their situation and unwilling to accept her overworked mother's calls for patience, persuades her younger brother to help her in an elaborate scheme to get money by stealing a dog and then claiming the reward that the owners are bound to offer.

O'Dell, Kathleen. Agnes Parker - Keeping Cool in the Middle School. Agnes Parker tries to maintain her old persona and keep a low profile in middle school, but her best friend Prejean's problems, persistent harassment from the eighth-grade boys, and a friendship with an interesting boy in her art class make it difficult.

Paulsen, Gary. Lawn Boy. Things get out of hand for a twelve-year-old boy when a neighbor convinces him to expand his summer lawn mowing business.

Peck, Robert Newton. A Year Down Yonder. 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. Also try the sequel Long Way From Chicago.

Deborah Wiles, Love, Ruby Lavender. When her quirky grandmother goes to Hawaii for the summer, nine-year-old Ruby learns to survive on her own in Mississippi by writing letters, befriending chickens as well as the new girl in town, and finally coping with her grandfather's death.

MULTICULTURAL

Abraham, Susan Gonzales. Cecilia's Year. Nearly fourteen and poor, Cecilia Gonzales wants desperately to go to high school and become a teacher until her mother's old-fashioned ideas about a woman's place threaten her dreams.

Alvarez, Julia. How Tia Lola Came to Visit - Stay. Ten-year-old Miguel is embarrassed of his colorful aunt, Tia Lola, when she comes to Vermont from the Dominican Republic to stay with his family.

Cambell, Eric. A Place of Lions. When the plane flying Chris and his father crashes on the Serengeti Plain, Chris sets out to find help and finds that his journey is paralleled by that of an aging lion.

Clinton, Cathryn. A Stone in My Hand. Eleven-year-old Malaak and her family are touched by the violence in Gaza between Jews and Palestinians when first her father disappears and then her older brother is drawn to the Islamic Jihad.

Ellis, Deborah. The Breadwinner. Because the Taliban rulers of Kabul, Afghanistan, impose strict limitations on women's freedom and behavior, eleven-year-old Parvana must disguise herself as a boy so that her family can survive after her father's arrest. Also try the sequels Parvana's Journey and Mud City.

Fletcher, Susan. The Shadow Spinner. When Marjan, a thirteen-year-old crippled girl, joins the Sultan's harem in ancient Persia, she gathers for Shahrazad the stories which will save the queen's life.

McCaughrean, Geraldine. The Kite Rider. In thirteenth-century China, after trying to save his widowed mother from a horrendous second marriage, twelve-year-old Haoyou has life-changing adventures when he takes to the sky as a circus kite rider and ends up meeting the great Mongol ruler Kublai Khan.

Naidoo, Beverley. The Other Side of Truth. Smuggled out of Nigeria after their mother's murder, Sade and her younger brother are abandoned in London when their uncle fails to meet them at the airport. They are fearful of their new surroundings and of what may have happened to their journalist father back in Nigeria.

Napoli, Donna Jo. Bound. In a novel based on Chinese Cinderella tales, fourteen-year-old stepchild Xing-Xing endures a life of neglect and servitude, as her stepmother cruelly mutilates her own child's feet so that she alone might marry well.

* Osa, Nancy. Cuba 15. Violet Paz, a Chicago high school student, reluctantly prepares for her upcoming "quince," a Spanish nickname for the celebration of an Hispanic girl's fifteenth birthday.

* Park, Linda Sue. When My Name was Keoko. 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.

Park, Linda Sue. Project Mulberry : a novel. While working on a project for an after-school club, Julia, a Korean American girl, and her friend Patrick learn not just about silkworms, but also about tolerance, prejudice, friendship, patience, and more. Between the chapters are short dialogues between the author and main character about the writing of the book.

Quintana, Anton. The Baboon King. Son of a Kikuyu mother and a Masai herdsman father, Morengáru the hunter lives on the edges of tribal society until an actual banishment forces him to make a life for himself among a troop of baboons.

* Indicates titles recommended for older readers (7th and 8th grade)

Resau, Laura. What the Moon Saw. Fourteen-year-old Clara Luna spends the summer with her grandparents in the tiny, remote village of Yucuyoo, Mexico, learning about her grandmother's life as a healer, her father's decision to leave home for the United States, and her own place in the world.

Ryan, Pam Munoz. Esperanza Rising. Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.

Ryan, Pam Munoz. Becoming Naomi Ryan. When Naomi's absent mother resurfaces to claim her, Naomi runs away to Mexico with her great-grandmother and younger brother in search of her father.

Shea, Pegi Deitz. Tangled Threads: A Hmong Girl's Story. After ten years in a refugee camp in Thailand, thirteen-year-old Mai Yang travels to Providence, Rhode Island, where her Americanized cousins introduce her to pizza, shopping, and beer, while her grandmother and new friends keep her connected to her Hmong heritage.

Smith, Roland. Thunder Caves. Determined, after his mother's accidental death, to foil his stepfather's plans for his future, fourteen-year-old Jacob travels alone to Africa in search of his father, a biologist studying elephants in a remote area of Kenya.

Stolz, Joelle. The Shadows of Ghadames. At the end of the nineteenth century in Libya, eleven-year-old Malika simultaneously enjoys and feels constricted by the narrow world of women, but an injured stranger enters her home and disrupts the traditional order of things

Temple, Francis. Grab Hands and Run. After his father disappears, twelve-year-old Felipe, his mother, and his younger sister set out on a difficult and dangerous journey, trying to make their way from their home in El Salvador to Canada.

Venciana-Suarez, Ana. Flight to Freedom. Writing in the diary which her father gave her, thirteen-year-old Yara describes life with her family in Havana, Cuba, in 1967 as well as her experiences in Miami, Florida, after immigrating there to be reunited with some relatives while leaving others behind.

Voelkel, J. & P. The Jaguar Stones: Book One Middleworld.

Whelan, Gloria. Homeless Bird. Married and widowed at the age of 13, Koly finds herself in the grim position of being cast out by society in India.

Woodson, Jacqueline. Hush. Twelve-year-old Toswiah finds her life changed when her family enters the witness protection program.

Yee, Lisa. Stanford Wong Flunks Big Time. After flunking sixth-grade English, basketball prodigy Stanford Wong must struggle to pass his summer-school class, keep his failure a secret from his friends, and satisfy his academically demanding father.

AWARD WINNERS

Appelt, Kathi. The Underneath. (Newbery Honor 2009) An old hound that has been chained up at his hateful owner's run-down shack, and two kittens born underneath the house, endure separation, danger, and many other tribulations in their quest to be reunited and free.

* Indicates titles recommended for older readers (7th and 8th grade)

Avi. Crispin: The Cross of Lead (Newbery Winner 2002). Falsely accused of theft and murder, an orphaned peasant boy in fourteenth-century England flees his village and meets a larger-than-life juggler who holds a dangerous secret.

Choldenko, Jennifer. Al Capone Does my Shirts. (Newbery Honor Book). A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.

DiCamillo, Kate. Tale of Despereaux (Newbery Winner 2003). This is the story of the adventures of Despereaux Tilling, a small mouse of unusual talents, the princess that he loves, the servant girl who longs to be a princess, and a devious rat determined to bring them all to ruin.

Gaiman, Neil. The Graveyard Book. (Newbery Winner 2009) After the grisly murder of his entire family, a toddler wanders into a graveyard where the ghosts and other supernatural residents agree to raise him as one of their own.

Giff, Patricia Reilly. Pictures of Hollis Woods (Newbery Honor Book). Hollis, a troublesome twelve-year-old orphan, staying with an elderly artist who needs her, remembers the only other time she was happy in a foster home, with a family that truly seemed to care about her.

Henkes, Kevin. Olive's Ocean (Newbery Honor Book). On a summer visit to her grandmother's cottage by the ocean, twelve-year-old Martha gains perspective on the death of a classmate, on her relationship with her grandmother, on her feelings for an older boy, and on her plans to be a writer.

Kadohata, Cynthia. Kira-kira. (Newbery Winner 2004). Chronicles the close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s and early 1960s, and the despair when one sister becomes terminally ill.

Larson, Kirby. Hattie Big Sky. (Newbery Honor 2007). After inheriting her uncle's homesteading claim in Montana, sixteen-year-old orphan Hattie Brooks travels from Iowa in 1917 to make a home for herself and encounters some unexpected problems related to the war being fought in Europe.

Law, Ingrid Savvy. (Newbery Honor 2009). Recounts the adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her "savvy"--a magical power unique to each member of her family--just as her father is injured in a terrible accident.

Lester, Julius. Day of Tears: a novel in dialogue. (Coretta Scott King Award 2006). Emma has taken care of the Butler children since Sarah and Frances's mother, Fanny, left. Emma wants to raise the girls to have good hearts, as a rift over slavery has ripped the Butler household apart. Now, to pay off debts, Pierce Butler wants to cash in his slave "assets", possibly including Emma

Perkins, Lynne Rae. Criss Cross. (Newbery Winner 2005). Teenagers in a small town in the 1960s experience new thoughts and feelings, question their identities, connect, and disconnect as they search for the meaning of life and love.

Schmidt, Gary D. Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy. (Newbery Honor 2005) In 1911, Turner Buckminster hates his new home of Phippsburg, Maine, but things improve when he meets Lizzie Bright Griffin, a girl from a poor, nearby island community founded by former slaves that the town fathers--and Turner's--want to change into a tourist spot.

Schmidt, Gary D. The Wednesday Wars. (Newbery Honor 2008) 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.

* Indicates titles recommended for older readers (7th and 8th grade)

Tolan, Stephanie. Surviving the Applewhites (Newbery Honor Book). Jake, a budding juvenile delinquent, is sent for home schooling to the artsy and eccentric Applewhite family's Creative Academy, where he discovers talents and interests he never knew he had.

Woodson, Jacqueline. Locomotion (Coretta Scott King Honor Award). In a series of poems, eleven-year-old Lonnie writes about his life, after the death of his parents, separated from his younger sister, living in a foster home, and finding his poetic voice at school.

BIOGRAPHIES / MEMOIRS

Al-Windawi, Thura. Thura's Diary: My Life in War-Time Iraq

Barakat, Ibtisam. Tasting the Sky: A Palestinian Childhood. In her memoir set in Ramallah following the 1967 Six-Day War, Ibtisam Barakat describes the life of a child whose world is shattered by war.

Ben Artzi-Pelossof, Noa. In the Name of Sorrow and Hope: Yitzhak Rabin's Granddaughter Writes About Her Grandfather and Her Quest for Peace

*Crutcher, Chris. King of the Mild Frontier: An Ill-Advised Autobiography.

Dahl, Roald. Boy: Tales of Childhood and Going Solo.

Delano, Marfe Ferguson. Genius: A Photobiography of Albert Einstein.

Fritz, Jean. The Double Life of Pocahontas.

*Giblin, James Cross. Good Brother, Bad Brother: The Story of Edwin Booth and John Wilkes Booth.

Jiang, Ji Li. Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution.

Krull, Kathleen. Leonardo da Vinci and Isaac Newton.

Latham, Jean Lee. Carry On, Mr. Bowditch. Nathaniel Bowditch, a nautical wonder and mathematical wizard, grew up in a sailor's world.

Lekuton, Joseph, Lemasolai. Facing the Lion: Growing Up Maasai on the African Savanna.

*Loebel, Anita. No Pretty Pictures: A Child of War. The author describes her experiences as a Polish Jew during World War II and her years in Sweden afterward the war.

Lowry, Lois. Looking Back: A Book of Memories. Using family photographs and quotes from her books, the author provides glimpses into her life.

*Ma, Adeline. Chinese Cinderella: The True Story of an Unwanted Daughter. A memoir of a girl's painful coming-of-age in a wealthy Chinese family during the 1940s.

McClafferty, Clara Killough. Something Out of Nothing: Marie Curie and Radium

Menchu, Rigoberta. The Girl From Chimel. Nobel Peace Prize winner, Rigoberta Menchu describes her childhood in Guatemala.

Myers, Walter Dean. Bad Boy: A Memoir.

Myers, Walter Dean. The Greatest Muhammad Ali.

Partridge, Elizabeth. This Land was Made for You and Me. The Life and Songs of Woody Guthrie.

* Indicates titles recommended for older readers (7th and 8th grade)

Paulsen, Gary. Guts: The True Stories Behind Hatchet and the Brian Books.

Scieszka, Jon. Knucklehead: Tall Tales & Mostly True Stories Growing Up Scieszka.

*Spinelli, Jerry. Knots in My Yo-yo String: The Autobiography of a Kid.

Tillage, Leon Walter. Leon's Story. The son of a North Carolina sharecropper recalls the hard times faced by his family and other African Americans in the first half of the twentieth century and the changes that the civil rights movement helped bring about.

Twain, Mark. The Trouble Begins at 8: A Life of Mark Twain in the Wild, Wild West.

Winfrey, Oprah. Up Close: Oprah Winfrey.

NON FICTION

Allen, Thomas. George Washington, Spymaster: How the Americans Outspied the British and Won the Revolutionary War.

Allen, Thomas. Remember Pearl Harbor: Japanese and American Survivors Tell Their Stories

* Ambrose, Stephen. Undaunted Courage : Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson, and the Opening of the American West

Armstrong, Jennifer. Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World: the extraordinary true story of Shackleton and the Endurance.

Aronson, Marc. Witch-Hunt: Mysteries of the Salem Witch Trials

Bachrach, Susan D. The Nazi Olympics: Berlin, 1936.

Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. Black Potatoes: The Story of the Great Irish Famine

Burns, Loree Griffin. Tracking Trash: Flotsam, Jetsam, and the Science of Ocean Motion.

Cherry, Lynne and Gary Braasch. How We Know What We Know About Our Changing Climate.

Collard III, Sneed B. Pocket Babies and Other Amazing Marsupials

D'Aluisio, Faith. What the World Eats.

Giblin, James Cross. Secrets of the Sphinx.

Gore, Al. An Inconvenient Truth: The Crisis of Global Warming. (Adapted for middle school students)

Hawass, Zahi. Tutankhamun: The Mystery of the Boy King

Kehret, Peg. Shelter Dogs: Amazing Stories of Adopted Strays.

Krasner, Steven. Playing Ball Like the Pros and Playing Ball Like the Hall of Famers

McKissack, Patricia. Days of Jubilee: The End of Slavery in the United States (Coretta Scott King Honor Award)

McPherson, James. Crossroads of Freedom: Antietam

* Indicates titles recommended for older readers (7th and 8th grade)

Montgomery, Sy. The Man-Eating Tigers of Sundarbans and Quest for the Tree Kangaroo

Murphy, Jim. Boys War: Confederate and Union Soldiers Talk About the War

Murphy, Jim. An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793
(Newbery Honor Book)

Sartore, Joel. Face to Face with Grizzlies

Schlosser, Eric & Charles Wilson, Chew on This: Everything You Don't Want to Know About Fast Food

Tanaka, Shelley. Mummies The Newest, Coolest & Creepiest From Around the World.

POETRY

Appelt, Kathi. Poems from Homeroom: A Writer's Place to Start. A collection of poems about the experiences of young people. Includes a section with information about how each poem was written to enable readers to create their own original poems.

Creech, Sharon. Love that Dog. A young student, who comes to love poetry through a personal understanding of what different famous poems mean to him, surprises himself by writing his own inspired poem. Also try Heartbeat and Hate That Cat.

Engle, Margarita. The Surrender Tree. Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom.

Frost, Helen. Spinning Through the Universe. A collection of poems written in the voices of Mrs. Williams of room 214, her students, and a custodian about their interactions with each other, their families, and the world around them. Includes notes on the poetic forms represented.

George, Kristine O'Connell. Swimming Upstream: Middle School Poems. A collection of poems that capture the feelings and experiences of a middle school student.

Janeczko, Paul B., ed. A Kick in the Head: An Everyday Guide to Poetic Forms.

Kennedy, Caroline, ed. A Family of Poems: My Favorite Poetry for Children.

Kennedy, X. J., ed. Knock at a Star: A Children's Introduction to Poetry. A collection of poems arranged in such categories as poems that make you smile, send messages or share feeling; poems that contain "beats that repeat" or "word play"; and special kinds of poems such as limericks, songs, and haiku.

Nelson, Marilyn. Carver: A Life in Poems. A biography of George Washington Carver's life told in a series of poems.

Smith, Hope Anita. The Way A Door Closes. Told through a series of poems, this is the story of CJ's struggle to accept a father who has walked out on his family.

Yolen, Jane. Dear Mother, Dear Daughter: Poems for Young People. A mother and daughter converse through poetry.

* Indicates titles recommended for older readers (7th and 8th grade)

RECOMMENDED AUTHORS

Alcott, Louisa May	Gantos, Jack	Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds
Alexander, Lloyd	Creech, Sharon	Nixon, Joan Lowery
Asimov, Isaac	Dickens, Charles	Paterson, Katherine
Avi	Giff, Patricia Reilly	Paulsen, Gary
Barron, T.A.	Haddix, Margaret Peterson	Peck, Robert Newton
Bauer, Joan	Hesse, Karen	Pierce, Tamora
Bradbury, Ray.	Hobbs, Will	Soto, Gary
Clarke, Arthur C.	Lawrence, Iain	Voigt, Cynthia
Clements, Andrew	Ibbotson, Eva	Whelan, Gloria
Cooney, Caroline B.	Levine, Gail Carson	Van Draanen, Wendelin
Cooper, Susan	Lewis, C.S.	Yolen, Jane
Danzinger, Paula	London, Jack	Yep, Lawrence

Read Any Good Books Lately? June 2009

The members of the English faculty at McCall Middle School are pleased to offer a list of adult books that we have enjoyed reading this year. In our effort to support community literacy, we have tried to share a variety of books, and we hope there is something for everyone. Happy Reading!

Fiction

Adiga, Aravind	White Tiger
Alameddine, Rabih	The Hakawati
Barker, Nicola	Darkmans
Bloom, Amy	Away
Brooks, Germaine	People of the Book
Bynum, Sarah Shun-Lien	Miss Hempel Chronicles
Diaz, Junot	The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao
DeLillo, Don	White Noise
Dubus, Andre III	Garden of Last Days
Edwards, Kim	Memory Keeper's Daughter
Eggers, Dave	What is the What?
Erdrich, Louise	Plague of Doves
Forester, E.M.	Room with a View
Galchen, Rivka	Atmospheric Disturbances
Ghosh, Amitov	Sea of Poppies, Shadow Lines
Glass, Julia	I See You Everywhere
Gruber, Michael	Book of Air and Shadows
Gruen, Sara	Water for Elephants
Hamid, Mohsin	The Reluctant Fundamentalist
Harrison, Jim	English Major
Horan, Nancy	Loving Frank
Hoffman, Alice	The Third Angel
Jian, Mo	Beijing Coma
Johnson, Diane	Lulu in Marakech

* Indicates titles recommended for older readers (7th and 8th grade)

Jones, Edward P.	All Aunt Hagar's Children: Stories
Jones, Lloyd	Mister Pip
Jordan, Hillary	Mudbound
Kushner, Rachel	Telex from Cuba
Marquez, Gabriel	Love in the Time of Cholera
Morrison, Toni	A Mercy
Lahiri, Jhumpa	Unaccustomed Earth, Namesake
Lively, Penelope	Consequences
Merullo, Ronald	Breakfast with Buddha
Miller, Sue	Senator's Wife
Price, Richard	Lush Life
Rushdie, Salman	Enchantress of Florence, Midnight's Children, Shalimar the
Clown	
Russo, Richard	Bridge of Sighs
Shaffer, Mary Ann & Annie Barrows	The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society
Sebold, Alice	Almost Moon
Setterfield, Diane	Thirteenth Tale
Shreve, Anita	Testimony
Sinha, Indra	Animal's People
Smith, Tom Rob	Child 44
Toltz, Steve	A Fraction of the Whole
Wolitzer, Meg	The Ten-Year Nap
Wroblewski, David	Story of Edgar Sawtelle
Young, William	The Shack

Nonfiction

Ayers, Bill	Fugitive Days
Bolte-Taylor, Jill	My Stroke of Insight: A Brain Scientist's Personal Journey
Brooks, Geraldine	Nine Parts of Desire: Hidden World of Islamic Women
Chandrasekaran, Rajiv	Imperial Life in the Emerald City: Inside Iraq's Green Zone
Chayes, Sarah	Punishment of Virtue: Inside Afghanistan after the Taliban
Coates, Ta Nehisi	Beautiful Struggle: A Father, Two Sons, and an Unlikely
Road to	
Crutcher, Chris	Manhood
Erenreich, Barbara	King of the Mild Frontier
Gerzina, Gretchen & Anthony	This Land is Their Land: Reports from a Divided Nation
Family	Mr. and Mrs. Prince: How an Extraordinary 18 th Century
Hessler, Peter	Moved Out of Slavery
Present	Oracle Bones: A Journey Between China's Past and
Horne, Jed	Breach of Faith: Katrina and the Near Death of a Great
American	City
Kalish, Mildred Armstrong	Little Heathens: Hard Times and High Spirits on an Iowa
Farm	
Lyall, Sarah	Anglo Files: A Field Guide to the British
McBride, James	Color of Water, Song Yet Sung ***
McCracken, Elizabeth	An Exact Replica of a Figment of My Imagination

* Indicates titles recommended for older readers (7th and 8th grade)

McCullough, David
Roose, Kevin
Ross, Alex
Sacks, Oliver
Suskind, Ron
Toobin, Jeffrey
Wagman-Geller, Marlene
Intriguing

Wilkerson, Cathy
Winger, Debra

1776, John Adams
Unlikely Disciple
The Rest is Noise: Listening to the Twentieth Century
Musicophilia
The Way of the World
The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court
Once Again to Zelda: Stories Behind Literature's Most

Dedications
Flying Close to the Sun
Undiscovered

*****Winchester Reads selection**

* Indicates titles recommended for older readers (7th and 8th grade)

Required reading. What a terrible term it was. It wasn't that I was being forced to read: I could get behind that. The resentment I felt was tied to the fact that I loved reading, but teachers and administrators and whoever else had all conspired against me to keep the books I wanted to consume out of my hands. Required reading wasn't easy anymore. The print was small! The chapters went on forever! Most of all, they were boring! Get rid of the idea of required reading altogether. It's not helping anyone. Kids today don't read for pleasure as much as they used to. And who can blame them? Video games are seriously fantastic, there is a huge ... All of them. Throw them all out. Get rid of the idea of required reading altogether. It's not helping anyone. Kids today don't read for pleasure as much as they used to. And who can blame them? Find 52 synonyms for "required reading" and other similar words that you can use instead from our thesaurus. Need synonyms for required reading? Here's a list of similar words from our thesaurus that you can use instead. Noun. A book giving instructions or information. textbook. handbook. manual. Required reading definition: If you say that something is required reading for a particular group of people, you mean | Meaning, pronunciation, translations and examples. If you say that something is required reading for a particular group of people, you mean that you think it is essential for them to read it because it will give them information which they should have. It is an important report that should be required reading for every MP. [+for]. See full dictionary entry for require. COBUILD Advanced English Dictionary.