

Summer Reading

June 2018

Dear Families,

Reading for enjoyment during the summer is one of life's little pleasures for most of us. Our wish for your children is that they too, look forward to reading those books that they just didn't have time for this past school year. We hope to instill in our students a lifelong reading habit of stacking their nightstands and suitcases (or camp packs) and e-readers with books they *want* to read.

When preparing our summer reading lists, our primary goal was to include titles that middle school readers would want to read over the summer. On each of the lists, you will find suggested titles, genres, and authors.

All students entering sixth, seventh and eighth grades are expected to read at least three books during the summer. However, there is no expectation that they write a response to what they have read. This will be an assignment they will have when they return to school in September. We do recommend that students use post-it notes or jot down notes in a response notebook as a way to record their thinking about what they have read.

The reading levels of the books on these lists may vary quite a bit because our readers also vary. If you feel that a book is not at an appropriate level for your child, please help them choose something else. You may want to choose to read the same books your child reads so that you will be able to have conversations about them throughout the summer. We are hoping that some students will choose to pair-up with friends and read the same book so that they can discuss them together.

This summer, Capstone is providing free access to thousands of eBooks that can be used with a laptop or desktop computer or an iPad. These interactive eBooks have supports like text-highlighting and read-aloud audio. To access these eBooks:

- Go to: www.mycapstonelibrary.com
- Login: summer18
- Password: lovetoread

Here is to a wonderful summer awaiting us all...and to all those books waiting on our bedside tables or e-readers!

Best wishes,

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6th Grade Language and Literature

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7th Grade Language and Literature

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Suggested Summer Reading for Sixth Grade

Summer 2018

Students are expected to read any three books this summer, although we hope you will choose to read all summer. Books may be chosen from the suggestions below, but are not limited to this list. *There is no expectation that you write a response to what you have read over the summer. This will be an assignment you will have when you return to school in September.* We do recommend that you use post-it notes or jot down notes in a response notebook as a way to record your thinking about what you have read.

SHORT STORY COLLECTION

Flying Lessons & Other Stories Edited by Ellen Oh

In a partnership with We Need Diverse Books, industry giants Kwame Alexander, Soman Chainani, Mat de la Pena, Tim Federle, Grace Lin, Meg Medina, Walter Dean Myers, Tim Tingle, Kelly J. Baptist, and Jacqueline Woodson have written a story collection that is humorous as it is heartfelt.

ADVENTURE

The Copernicus Legacy #1: The Forbidden Stone by Tony Abbott

Wade, Lily, Darrell, and Becca fly from Texas to Germany for the funeral of an old family friend. But instead of just paying their respects, they wind up on a dangerous, mind-blowing quest to unlock an ancient, guarded secret that could destroy the fate of the world.

Other Books in the Series: The Copernicus Archives: Wade and the Scorpion's Claw, The Copernicus Legacy #2: The Serpent's Curse

Pax by Sara Pennypacker

Peter is determined to find his pet fox after his father forces him to leave him in the woods as war looms in the background. Dual narrative between Peter and his fox, Pax.

Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard Book One: The Sword of Summer by Rick Riordan

Magnus turns 16 and discovers he is a demi-god; his father is a Norse god. Now he must find his father's sword and do what he can to stop Ragnarok with the help of his new companions. Fun adventure in the same tone as Percy Jackson.

Other Books in the Series: The Hammer of Thor, The Ship of the Dead

The Trials of Apollo: The Hidden Oracle by Rick Riordan

How do you punish an immortal? By making him human. After angering his father Zeus, the god Apollo is cast down from Olympus. Weak and disoriented, he lands in New York City as a regular teenage boy. Apollo needs help, and he can think of only one place to go...an enclave of modern demigods known as Camp Half-Blood.

Other Books in the Series: The Dark Prophecy, The Flaming Maze

When the Sea Turned to Silver by Grace Lin

The Tiger Emperor is conscripting all the men of the mountain villages to build the Vast Wall surrounding the kingdom. But when they reach Pinmei's village, they also take her grandmother, the Storyteller. In order to save her, Pinmei and her friend Yishan embark on a voyage to find the Luminous Stone That Lights the Night - the only thing the Emperor will trade for a prisoner's freedom. Companion novel to *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* and *Starry River of the Sky*.

FANTASY

DC Icons Wonder Woman: Warbringer by Leigh Bardugo

Diana, Princess of the Amazons, journeys to the World of Man in this coming-of-age story.

Other Books in the series: Batman: Nightwalker by Marie Lu

The Magisterium Book Three: The Bronze Key by Holly Black and Cassandra Clare

Third book in the series in which Call, Tamara and Aaron defy what you think you know about the worlds of good and evil.

Other Books in the Series: The Iron Trial, The Copper Gauntlet, The Silver Mask

The Girl Who Drank the Moon by Kelly Barnhouse

Every year, the people of the Protectorate leave a baby as an offering to the witch who lives in the forest. They hope this sacrifice will keep her from terrorizing their town. But the witch in the Forest, Xan, is kind. She shares her home with a wise Swamp Monster and a Perfectly Tiny Dragon. Xan rescues the children and delivers them to welcoming families on the other side of the forest, nourishing the babies with starlight on the journey.

One year, Xan accidentally feeds a baby moonlight instead of starlight, filling the ordinary child with extraordinary magic.

Miles Morales: Spider-Man (A Marvel Novel) by Jason Reynolds

Brooklyn Visions Academy student Miles Morales may not always want to be a super hero, but he must come to terms with his identity - and deal with a villainous teacher - as the new Spider Man.

Ghosts by Raina Telgemeier

Cat's family moves to foggy Northern California to help her little sister who has cystic fibrosis. The town has a huge Day of the Dead festival which at first frightens her, but she finds Maya needs this reunion of family members and their dead relatives. Graphic novel.

HISTORICAL FICTION

The War That Saved My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

Ada and her little brother, neglected and abused by their mother, are evacuated to the country with other London children during WWII. Ada, after being ridiculed and kept a virtual prisoner because of her club foot, finds a life she never knew existed. However, learning to trust is nearly impossible.

Other Books in the Series: The War I Finally Won

Raymie Nightingale by Kate DiCamillo

In 1975, after her father runs off, ten year old Raymie Nightingale has a plan to get him to come home. But she has to do a good deed and in the process makes friends with two other girls with problems of their own.

Sunny Side Up by Jennifer Holm

Sunny Lewin has been packed off to Florida to live with her grandfather for the summer. At first she thought Florida might be fun - it is the home of Disney World, after all. But the place where gramps lives is no amusement park. It is full of ... old people. Really old people. Graphic novel.

Other Books in the Series: *Swing It, Sunny*

The Inquisitor's Tale, or, the Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog by Adam Gidwitz

In 1242, travelers cross paths at an Inn and begin to tell stories of three children who are said to be able to perform miracles of saints. William, Jacob and Jeanne chase through France trying to save precious holy texts from being burned. They're taken captive by knights, sit alongside a king and save the land from a farting dragon, accompanied by Jeanne's greyhound, recently brought back from the dead.

The Breadwinner: A Graphic Novel by Deborah Ellis

This beautiful graphic novel adaptation of *The Breadwinner* tells the story of eleven-year-old Parvana who must disguise herself as a boy to support her family during the Taliban's rule in Afghanistan. Graphic novel.

HORROR

The Charmed Children of Rookskill Castle by Janet Fox

During WWII, to escape the London Blitz, Katherine and her siblings are sent to a crumbling Scottish estate that's been turned into a boarding house where mysterious things are happening.

Guys Read: Terrifying Tales by Jon Scieszka

Ten stories by a variety of well known scary story writers.

MYSTERY

Serafina and the Twisted Staff by Robert Beatty

In the first book in this series, Serafina defeats the Man in the Black Cloak. In this second book, Serafina encounters a strange and terrifying figure in the forest, and is attacked by the vicious wolfhounds that seem to be under his control. Even worse, she's convinced that the stranger was not alone, that he has sent his accomplice into Biltmore in disguise. A mysterious series of attacks test Serafina's role as Biltmore's protector.

Other Books in the Series: *Serafina and the Black Cloak, Serafina and the Splintered Heart*

Curiosity House: The Shrunken Head by Lauren Oliver and H.C. Chester

This book is about, among other things: the strongest boy in the world, a talking cockatoo, a faulty mind reader, a beautiful bearded lady and a nervous magician, an old museum, and a shrunken head.

Other Books in the Series: *The Screaming Statue, The Fearsome Firebird*

Book Scavenger by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman

Twelve year old Emily plays a game where books are hidden in cities all of the country and clues to find them are revealed online through puzzles. Emily thinks she has found a book starting a brand new game, but there are others who want to take it from her.

Theodore Boone: The Scandal by John Grisham

Thirteen-year-old Theodore Boone knows every judge, police officer and court clerk in Stratzenburg. He has even helped bring a fugitive to justice. But even a future star lawyer like Theo has to deal with statewide standardized testing. In this sixth book in the series, an anonymous tip leads the school board to investigate a suspicious increase in scores at another local middle school. Theo finds himself thrust in the middle of a cheating scandal.

Other Books in the Series: Kid Lawyer, The Abduction, The Accused, The Activist, The Fugitive

Tombquest Book 5: The Final Kingdom by Michael Northrop

Get ready for the battle that will shake the world -- and the afterworld. In the epic conclusion to Alex and Ren's quest, they must face off against the Death Walkers, The Order, and an army raised from the dead. Can Alex put an end to the chaos and send these evil spirits back where they belong -- without putting an end to his own life?

Other Books in the Series: Book of the Dead, Amulet Keepers, Valley of Kings, The Stone Warriors

Sting: A Loot Novel by Jude Watson

A cursed sapphire, a botched heist... Twins, March and Jules are in the sights of the FBI and Interpol and a gang of international jewel thieves.

Other Books in the Series: Loot: How to Steal a Fortune

Bob by Wendy Mass and Rebecca Stead

It has been five years since Livy and her family have visited Livy's grandmother in Australia. Now that she is back, Livy has the feeling she has forgotten something really, really important about Gran's house. It turns out she is right.

REALISTIC FICTION

Short by Holly Goldberg Sloan

Julia is very short for her age, but by the end of the summer run of *The Wizard of Oz*, she'll realize how big she is inside, where it counts.

Ms. Bixby's Last Day by John David Anderson

A sixth grade class, in an elementary school, finds out their wonderful teacher has cancer. Three boys decide to let her know what she means to them.

All's Faire in Middle School by Victoria Jamieson

Homeschooled by Renaissance Fair enthusiasts, eleven-year-old Imogene has a hard time fitting in when her wish to enroll in public school is granted. Graphic novel.

The Best Man by Richard Peck

Archer Magill has three grown-up role models: his grandpa, his dad and his Uncle Paul. These are the three he wants to be. Then he finds a fourth - Mr. McLeod, a teacher. In fact, the first male teacher in the history of his school.

The Crossover by Kwame Alexander

Told in verse. Twins and star basketball players, Josh and Jordan, must deal with basketball season, girls and the failing health of their father, a former ball player.

Moo by Sharon Creech

Follow one family's momentous move from the city to rural Maine. Twelve year old Reena develops an unexpected bond with one very ornery cow. Written in verse.

SCIENCE FICTION

Ahsoka by E.K. Johnston

Following her experiences with the Jedi and the devastation of Order 66, Ahsoka is unsure she can be part of a larger whole ever again. But her desire to fight the evils of the Empire and protect those who need it will lead her right to Bail Organa and the Rebel Alliance.

The Wild Robot Escapes by Peter Brown

The sequel to *The Wild Robot*, Robot Roz has to navigate around the challenges of the civilized world as she tries to find her way to Brightbill and the wild island.

Masterminds: Payback by Gordon Korman

The thrilling finale of the Masterminds trilogy. After a serious betrayal from one of their former friends, the clones of Project Osiris are on the run again. Now separated into pairs, Eli and Tori and Amber and Malik are fighting to survive in the real world.

Other Books in the Series: Masterminds, Criminal Destiny

Redeemed (The Missing Book Eight) by Margaret Peterson Haddix

In the eighth and final book of *The Missing* series, Jonah's new twin must time travel and face off against his siblings' worst enemy in order to save the future—and his family.

Other Books in the Series: Found, Sent, Sabotaged, Torn, Caught, Risked, Revealed

INFORMATIONAL TEXTS

Amazon Adventure: How Tiny Fish are Saving the World's Largest Rainforest

by Sy Montgomery

Explore how tiny fish, called piabas, can help preserve not only the rainforest and its often misunderstood inhabitants, but the fate of our entire environment.

Stormy Seas: Stories of Young Boat Refugees by Mary Beth Leatherdale

Travel from pre-World War II Europe to present-day North Africa, and experience the harrowing real journeys of five young people who fled their homes, risking their lives on the open seas to seek refuge elsewhere.

Two Truths and a Lie: It's Alive by Ammi-Joan Paquette

Presents some of the crazy-but-true stories about the living world as well as a handful of stories that are too crazy to be true—and asks readers to separate facts from the fakes.

Super Woman: Six Scientists Who Changed the World by Laurie Lawlor

A brief biography of six women who have changed the world.