

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,

Claudia Ducic, Danielle Egan, Ed Feller
6th Grade Language and Literature

Rachael Lief, Denise Rivera, Jill Rosenblum
7th Grade Language and Literature

Melissa Gretczko, Michael Pagano, Jill Rosenblum
8th Grade Language and Literature

Michelle Kaczmarek
K-8 Literacy Coordinator

Dobbs Ferry Middle School
Suggested Summer Reading for Seventh and Eighth 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 you 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

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.

Walk on Earth a Stranger by Rae Carson

During the California Gold Rush, Leah's uncle kills her father and mother to get control of her ability to sense gold. She disguises herself as a boy and runs away with her friend Jeff, heading to California on the Oregon Trail and hoping her uncle doesn't find her.

Other Books in the Series: Like a River Glorious, Into the Bright Unknown

The Witchlands Book One: Truthwitch by Susan Dennard

First in a new series. On a continent ruled by three empires, everyone is born with a "witchery," a magical skill that sets them apart from others. Now, as the Twenty Year Truce in a centuries long war is about to end, the balance of power-and the failing health of all magic-will fall on the shoulders of a mythical pair called the Cahr Awen.

Other Books in the Series: Windwitch

Midnight Star (Young Elites Book Three) by Marie Lu

Final book in the series. Adelina Amouteru is done suffering. She's turned her back on those who have betrayed her and achieved the ultimate revenge: victory. Her reign as the White Wolf has been a triumphant one, but with each conquest her cruelty only grows. The darkness within her has begun to spiral out of control, threatening to destroy all she's gained.

Other Books in the Series: The Young Elites, The Rose Society

The Double Cross and Other Skills I Learned as a Superspy by Jackson Pearce

Twelve year old Hale's superspy parents don't come home from a mission and Hale decides he must save them. He may not be the fastest or the fittest spy-in-training, but he might be the smartest!

FANTASY

Six of Crows by Leigh Bardugo

Set in the same world as the Grisha trilogy, a group of six outcasts take a chance on a deadly heist that will make them rich - if they survive. First book in the series.

Other Books in the Series: Crooked Kingdom

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

Renegades by Marissa Meyer

The Renegades are a syndicate of prodigies - humans with extraordinary abilities - who emerged from the ruins of a crumbled society and established peace and order where chaos reigned.

Red Queen by Victoria Aveyard

Seventeen year old Mare Barrow's life is determined by blood color. Red serve the Silver, a genetically gifted group of people with supernatural abilities. After a chance encounter with a prince, she discovers she is Red and Silver, and could be just the spark to start a rebellion against the oppression.

Other Books in the Series: The Glass Sword, King's Cage, War Storm

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.

HISTORICAL FICTION

The Breadwinner: A Graphic Novel by Deborah Ellis

This beautiful graphic novel adaptation of *The Breadwinner* tell 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.

Alex & Eliza: A Love Story by Melissa De La Cruz

When Alex and Eliza meet one fateful night, so brings an epic love story that would forever change the course of American History.

Wolf Hollow by Lauren Wolk

In a small Pennsylvania town during WWII, Anabelle confronts a bully but finds that a troubled WWI veteran is the new target.

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.

Finding the Worm by Mark Goldblatt

In this follow-up to *Twerp*, it's 1969 and Julian and his friends are 7th graders. After being falsely accused of harming a valued school painting, Julian is assigned a 200 word essay about honor by the principal which he just can't seem to write.

HORROR

Lockwood & Co. Book One: The Screaming Staircase by Jonathan Stroud

The plucky and talented Lucy Carlyle teams up with Anthony Lockwood, the charismatic leader of Lockwood & Co, a small agency that runs independent of any adult supervision.

Other Books in the Series: The Whispering Skull, The Hollow Boy, The Dagger in the Desk, The Creeping Shadow, The Empty Grave

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

Need by Joelle Charbonneau

Sixteen year old Kaylee and the students at her high school start joining a new social networking site, NEED, where in exchange for completing a task they are rewarded with their desired need. The tasks become more and more malicious.

A Study in Charlotte: A Charlotte Holmes Novel by Brittany Cavallaro

The great-great-great grandchildren of Holmes and Watson attend the same private boarding school in New England and are framed for murder of another student.

Other Books in the Series: The Last of August

Take the Key and Lock Her Up (Embassy Row Book Three) by Ally Carter

For the past three years, Grace Blakely has been desperate to find out the truth about her mother's murder. She thought it would bring her peace. She thought it would lead her to answers. She thought she could put the past to rest. But the truth has only made her a target. Final book in the series.

Other Books in the Series: All Fall Down, See How They Run

Beastly Bones: A Jackaby Novel by William Ritter

The second book in the series. In 1892, Abigail Rook and supernatural investigator Jackaby are called to investigate the murder of a woman in a distant rural town. More bodies turn up, puncture wounds are found, dinosaur bones are stolen, and a monster is on the loose.

Other Books in the Series: Jackaby, Ghostly Echoes, The Dire King

REALISTIC FICTION

Ghost (Track Book 1) by Jason Reynolds

Ghost wants to be the fastest sprinter on his elite middle school track team, but his past is slowing him down. First book in a new series.

Other Books in the Series: Patina, Sunny

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.

Goodbye Stranger by Rebecca Stead

Long ago, best friends Bridge, Emily, and Tab made a pact: no fighting. But it's the start of seventh grade, and everything is changing. Emily is attracting attention and Tab is suddenly a member of the Human Rights Club. And then there's Bridge. She's started wearing cat ears and is the only one who's still tempted to draw funny cartoons on her homework.

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.

Booked by Kwame Alexander

Soccer player Nick's parents are separating and an injury puts him on the sidelines. Written in verse.

Falling Over Sideways by Jordan Sonnenblick

Eighth grade Claire is dealing with normal girl things - dance, band, mean girls, changing friendships, a perfect older brother - when her funny, amazing father has a stroke.

SCIENCE FICTION

Warcross by Marie Lu

When teenage coder Emika Chen hacks her way into the opening tournament of the Warcross Championships, she glitches herself into the game as well as a sinister plot with major consequences for the entire Warcross empire.

The Lunar Chronicles Book Four: Winter by Marissa Meyer

Final book in the Lunar Chronicles series. Can Cinder, Scarlet, Cress, and Winter defeat Levana and find their happily ever afters?

Other Books in the Series: Scarlet, Cress, Fairest, Stars Above

The Diabolic by S.J. Kincaid

Red Queen meets *The Hunger Games*. What happens when the galaxy's most deadly weapon masquerades as a senator's daughter and a hostage of the galactic court? A Diabolic is ruthless. A Diabolic is powerful. A Diabolic is powerful. A Diabolic has a single task - kill in order to protect the person you have been created for.

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

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

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

Death on the River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Amazon Adventure by
Samantha Seiple

In October 1913, Theodore Roosevelt arrived in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on tour of South America. The thrill-seeking adventurer had no idea that he would soon receive an offer he couldn't refuse: the chance to lead an expedition deep into the Amazon jungle to chart an unmapped river with his son Kermit and renowned Brazilian explorer Candido Mariano da Silva Rondon.

Survivor's Club: The True Story of a Very Young Prisoner of Auschwitz by
Michael Bornstein

The incredible true story of Michael Bornstein - who at age four was one of the youngest children to be liberated from Auschwitz - and of his family.

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.