Suggested Summer Reading List for Students Entering Grade 5

***Fiction***

Astrotwins -- Project Blastoff**Astrotwins: Project Blastoff** by Mark Kelly

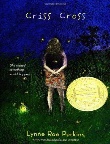
Mark and Scott Kelly are in trouble for destroying their dad’s calculator and as punishment are sent to their grandfather’s house where they are forced to work together. With the help of Jenny and a crew of can-do kids, they set out to build a real rocket.

Binny for Short**Binny for Short** by Hilary McKay

Binny’s family moves into a seaside cottage where she finds adventure, a nemesis, and maybe her long lost dog.

Bluffton: My Summers with B...**Bluffton: My Summers with Buster Keaton** by Matt Phelan

A band of vaudeville performers move into Muskegon, Michigan and decide to stay for the summer.

**Criss Cross** by Lynne Rae Perkins

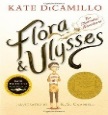
She wished something would happen. Something good. To her. Looking at the bright, fuzzy picture in the magazine, she thought, something like that. Checking her wish for loopholes, she found one. Hoping it was not too late, she thought the word soon.

A Dragon's Guide to the Car...**A Dragon’s Guide to the Care and Feeding of Humans** by Laurence Yep and Joanne Ryder (Fantasy)

Miss Drake the dragon has a new pet human.

Eddie Red, Undercover: Myst...**Eddie Red, Undercover: Mystery on Museum Mile** by Marcia Wells (Mystery)

Eddie Red and his photographic memory are called on by the NYPD to help capture a gang of art thieves.

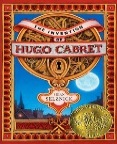
**Flora and Ulysses**by Kate Di Camillo Ulysses, the squirrel, never saw the vacuum cleaner coming, but Flora is the right person to step in and save him. What neither can predict is that Ulysses has been born anew, with powers of strength, flight, and misspelled poetry. Flora will be changed too, as she discovers the possibility of hope and the promise.

Honey**Honey** by Sarah Weeks (Mystery)

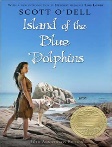
Melody overhears her father calling someone Honey. Her and her best friend, Nick, try to piece together the clues and discover why Honey is being hidden. Meanwhile, a dog named Mo keeps having dreams of a girl he is bound to meet someday.

House of Robots**House of Robots** by James Patterson and Chris Grabenstein

Sammy’s genius mom decides he should take the robot she has created to school to teach it how to be a student.

**The Invention of Hugo Cabret** by Brian Selznick (Mystery)

Orphan, clock keeper, and thief, Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station. But when his world suddenly collides with a bookish girl and a bitter old man who runs a toy booth in the station, Hugo's undercover life, and his most precious secret, are put in jeopardy.

**Island of the Blue Dolphins** by Scott O’Dell

Karana, an Indian girl who lived alone for years on the Island of the Blue Dolphins. Year after year, she watched one season pass into another and waited for a ship to take her away. But while she waited, she kept herself alive by building shelter, making weapons, finding food, and fighting her enemies, the wild dogs.

Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tal...**Nathan Hale’s Hazardous Tales: One Dead Spy** by Nathan Hale (Graphic Novel)

Before Nathan Hale is hanged during the Revolutionary War tells a British soldier a bit of American history.

Nightmares! (Nightmares!, #1)**Nightmares!** by Jason Segal and Kristen Miller (Mystery)

Twelve year old Charlie and a group of kids must face their fears to save their town when nightmares start creeping in.

Rump: The True Story of Rum...**Rump: The True Story of Rumpelstiltskin** by Liesl Shurtliff (Fantasy)

In a magic kingdom Twelve-year-old Rump finds an old spinning wheel and discovers he has a gift for spinning straw into gold. He is warned that magic is dangerous and he weaves himself deeper into a curse.

**Scooby Apocalypse** by Griffen Keith and Howard Porter(Graphic Novel)

The Scooby Doo gang has to battle a variety of monsters and Scooby meets the Resident Evil.

Serafina's Promise**Serafina’s Promise** by Ann E. Burg

Serafina has a secret dream to go to school and become a doctor. But in their rural village  
outside Port-au-Prince, Haiti, many obstacles stand in Serafina’s way--little money, never-ending chores.

**Shipwreck Island** by S.A. Bodeen

Sarah's dad and stepmom decide to take the whole family on a special vacation in order to break the ice and have everyone get to know one another. They'll fly to Tahiti, charter a boat, and go sailing for a few days. It'll be an adventure, right? Wrong. Dead wrong.

 **Space Battle Lunchtime** by Natalie Riess (Fantasy)

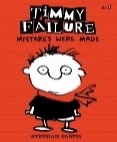
It is almost time for the season finale of Space Battle Lunchtime, and finalist Peony (the only Earth contestant) is nowhere! She has been kidnapped and taken to the set of Space Battle Lunchtime's biggest rival. Up against some of the most dangerous aliens in the galaxy, will Peony even make it to the end of the show?

The Tapper Twins Go to War**The Tapper Twins Go to War (with Each Other)** by Geoff Rodkey

Claudia and Reese, who couldn't be more different, except in their determination to come out on top. They take sibling rivalry from the cafeteria to the fictional universe of an online video game where they have to decide if their efforts to destroy each other are worth the price.

The Terrible Two**The Terrible Two** by Mac Barnett and Jorry John

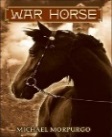
It’s prankster against prankster, until the two finally decide to join forces and pull off the biggest prank ever seen: a prank so huge that it would make the members of the International Order of Disorder proud.

**Timmy Failure: Mistakes Were Made** by Stephan Pastis (Mystery)

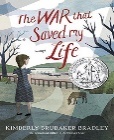
Meet Timmy Failure, clueless, self-confident, CEO of the best detective agency in town, perhaps even the nation, add his impressively lazy business partner, a very large polar bear named Total who take on a spy mission that will solve all of their money problems.

Tuesdays at the Castle (Cas...**Tuesdays at the Castle** by Jessica Day George (Fantasy)

When King and Queen Glower are ambushed and their fate is unknown, it's up to Celie, with her secret knowledge of the castle's never-ending twists and turns, to protect their home and save their kingdom.

**War Horse** by Michael Morpurgo (Historical Fiction)

In 1914, Joey, a beautiful bay-red foal, is sold to the army and thrust into the midst of the war on the Western Front. With his officer, he charges toward the enemy, witnessing the horror of the battles in France. But his heart aches for Albert, the farmer's son he left behind. Will he ever see his true master again?

 **The War That Saved My Life** by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley (Historical Fiction)

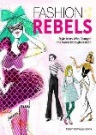
Ada has never left her one-room apartment. Her mother is too humiliated by Ada’s twisted foot to let her outside. When her little brother Jamie is shipped out of London to escape the war, Ada sneaks out to join him. So begins a new adventure of Ada, and for Susan Smith, the woman who is forced to take the two kids in.

The Dragonet Prophecy (Wing...**Wings of Fire: The Dragonet Prophecy** by Tui T. Sutherland (Fantasy)

Five dragonets are collected to fulfill the prophecy, raised in a hidden cave and enlisted, against their will, to end the terrible war.

**100 Cupboards** by N.D Wilson (Fantasy) Twelve-year-old Henry is going to sleep one night when he hears a bump on the attic wall above his head. Henry scrapes the plaster off the wall and discovers doors. Through one he can hear the sound of falling rain. Through another he sees a glowing room. They are, in fact, portals to other worlds.

***Non-Fiction***

**Fashion Rebels: Style Icons who Changed the World through Fashion** by [Carlyn Cerniglia Beccia](https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/14056221.Carlyn_Cerniglia_Beccia)

Throughout time, daring women have made fashion choices that have altered the course of history. From Marie Antoinette, who wore a hairstyle as large as her presence, to Coco Chanel, who imagined a world without rib crushing corsets and heavy gowns, to Katharine Hepburn, who walked around the studio in her underwear when studio executives refused to let her wear her then-scandalous jeans, these women were mavericks as well as rebellious icons.

Heroes of Olympus**Heroes of Olympus** by Philip Freeman

Ancient myths continue to have modern relevance with irresistible stories of gods and flawed heroes that portray the fundamental aspects of humanity and are filled with entertaining drama and insights.

How Angel Peterson Got His ...**How Angel Peterson Got His Name** by Gary Paulsen When you grow up in a small town in the north woods, you have to make your own excitement which includes high spirits, idiocy, and showing off for the girls.

 **Max: Best Friend, Hero** by Jennifer Li Shotz Max is a highly trained military canine who has always protected his fellow soldiers. But when he loses his handler and best friend, Kyle, Max is traumatized and unable to remain in the service. He is sent home to America, and he is soon adopted by Kyle's family, essentially saving his life.

Queen of the Falls**Queen of the Falls** by Chris Van Allsburg

At the turn of the nineteenth century, a retired sixty-two-year-old charm school instructor named Annie Edson Taylor, seeking fame and fortune, decided to do something that no one in the world had ever done before—she would go over Niagara Falls in a wooden barrel.

A Really Short History of Nearly Everything (Young Adult)**A Really Short History of Nearly Everything** by Bill Bryson

Bill Bryson covers the “How?” and “Who?” of scientific wonder and mystery of time and space, the frequently bizarre and often obsessive scientists and the methods they used, and the mind-boggling fact that, somehow, the universe exists and against all odds, life came to be on this wondrous planet we call home.

Suggested Summer Reading List for Students Entering Grade 6

***Fiction***

Better Nate Than Ever**Better Nate than Ever** by Tim Federle

Nate Foster has big dreams. But how is he supposed to make his dreams come true when he’s stuck where no one appreciates a good show tune? Nate plans a daring escape to an open casting call for E.T. and his big-time stardom.

 **Charlie Hernandez and the League of Shadows** by Ryan Calejo

When Charlie begins to experience freaky bodily manifestations—ones all too similar to those described by his grandma in his favorite legend—he is suddenly swept up in a world where the mythical beings he’s spent his entire life hearing about seem to be walking straight into his life. Even stranger, they seem to know more about him than he knows about himself.

**The Cupcake Queen** by Heather Helper

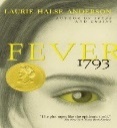
When her mother moves them from the city to a small town to open up a cupcake bakery, Penny's life is not what she expected. Her father has stayed behind. Then there is Charity, the girl who plays mean pranks almost daily. Just when it looks as though Penny is settling in, her parents ask her to make a choice that will turn everything upside down again.

**Escape from Mr. Lemoncello’s Library** by Chris Gaberstein (Mystery)

Kyle Keeley the class clown wins a spot to be one of the first twelve kids in the library for an overnight of fun, food, and lots and lots of games. Kyle and the other winners must solve every clue and every secret puzzle to find the hidden escape route. And the stakes are very high.

Echo**Echo** by Pam Munoz Ryan (Fantasy)

Finding a magic harmonica changes everything for lost and alone, Otto, who meets three mysterious sisters and suddenly finds himself in a puzzling quest involving a prophecy, a promise, and a harmonica.

**Fever 1793** by Laurie Halse Anderson (Historical Fiction)

In 1793 the streets of Philadelphia are filled with mosquitoes and rumors of fever. As the fever strikes home, fourteen– year-old Mattie struggles to build a new life that includes the fight to stay alive.

Fish In A Tree**Fish in a Tree** by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

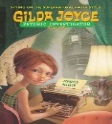
Ally has been smart enough to fool a lot of smart people. Her newest teacher Mr. Daniels sees the bright, creative kid underneath the trouble maker. Ally learns not to be so hard on herself and that dyslexia is nothing to be ashamed of.

Flunked (Fairy Tale Reform ...**Flunked** by Jan Calonita (Fantasy)

Twelve-year-old Gilly has a history she's not too sorry about and she gets tossed in reform school. But when she meets fellow students, she learns there's a battle brewing and she starts to wonder, can a villain really change?

The Fourteenth Goldfish**The Fourteenth Goldfish** by Jennifer L. Holm

One day eleven-year-old Ellie meets a strange boy who looks a lot like Ellie’s grandfather, a scientist who’s always been slightly obsessed with immortality. Could this pimply boy really be Grandpa Melvin?

**Gilda Joyce, Psychic Investigator** by Jennifer Allison

Ever since her father died, quirky Gilda Joyce has been working hard to sharpen her psychic skills. She's determined to communicate with spirits from the Other Side and become an investigator of spooky, twisted mysteries.

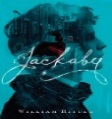
**Hold Fast** by Blue Balliet (Mystery) As danger closes in, Early, her mom, and her brother have to flee their apartment. They are forced to move into a city shelter. Because her father hasn't disappeared without a trace. Early might be the only one who can use them to track him down and make her way out of a very tough place.

Hook's Revenge (Hook's Reve...**Hook’s Revenge** by Heidi Schulz (Fantasy)

Twelve-year-old Jocelyn dreams of becoming every bit as daring as her infamous father, Captain Hook. On the other hand, Grandfather, intends to see her starched and pressed into a fine society lady.

Horten's Miraculous Mechani...**Horten’s Miraculous Mechanisms** by Lissa Evans (Mystery)

S. Horten reluctantly befriends the annoying triplets next door and finds himself in a magical quest to find his great-uncle who disappeared along with his magic workshop.

**Jackaby** by William Ritter (Mystery)

Newly arrived in New Fiddleham, New England, 1892, Abigail Rook meets R. F. Jackaby, an investigator of the unexplained with a keen eye for the extraordinary. Abigail has a gift for noticing ordinary but important details, which makes her perfect for the position of Jackaby’s assistant.

The Mark of the Dragonfly**The Mark of the Dragonfly** by Jaleigh Johnson (Fantasy)

Piper finds a girl in the wreckage of a caravan in the Meteor Fields with an intricate tattoo on her arm that is proof she's from the Dragonfly Territories and that she's protected by the king. Which means a reward for Piper if she can get the girl home.

Middle School: The Worst Ye...**Middle School, the Worst Years of My Life** by James Patterson

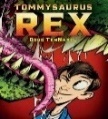
Rafe has enough problems at home without throwing his first year of middle school into the mix. But he has an ace plan for the best year ever, if only he can pull it off. Rafe’s plan to break every rule in the school handbook is soon out of his control.

The One and Only Ivan**The One and Only Ivan** by Katherine Applegate

Ivan, the only gorilla in a circus themed mall meets Ruby, a baby elephant, he decides to find her a better life.

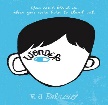
The Strange Case of Origami...**The Strange Case of Origami Yoda** by Tom Angleberger

Dwight, a sixth-grade oddball does a lot of weird things. One day he makes an origami finger puppet of Yoda. Origami Yoda can predict the future and suggest the best way to deal with a tricky situation.

 **Tommysaurus Rex** by Doug TenNapel (Graphic Novel)

When he finds a live, 40-foot Tyrannosaurus Rex trapped in a cave behind his grandfather's house, Ely embarks on an adventure to tame this seemingly friendly giant, convince the town his new pet isn't a threat.

**Ungifted** by Gordon Korman The word gifted has never been applied to a kid like Donovan. So when the troublemaker pulls a major prank at his middle school, he thinks he's finally gone too far. But thanks to a mix-up by one of the administrators. Donovan is sent to the Academy of Scholastic Distinction (ASD), a special program for gifted and talented students.

**Wonder** by R.J Palacio August born with a facial difference that, up until now, has prevented him from going to a mainstream school. Starting 5th grade at Beecher Prep, he wants nothing more than to be treated as an ordinary kid.

***Non-Fiction***

A Black Hole Is Not a Hole **A Black Hole Is Not A Hole** by Carolyn Cinami Dicristofano

What is a black hole? Where do they come from? How were they discovered? Can we visit one? Readers go on a ride through the galaxies, answering these questions and about the phenomenon known as a black hole.

**Crow Smarts: Inside the Brains of the World’s Brightest Bird** by Pamela S.Turner What does the crow know and what does it tell us about brain size, the evolution of intelligence, and just who is the smartest creature on the planet?

The Dolphins of Shark Bay **The Dolphins of Shark Bay** by Pamela S. Turner

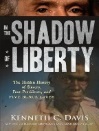
Ride alongside the author Pamela S. Turner and meet a cast of dolphin characters. You will fall in love with this crew, both human and finned, as they seek to answer the question, why are dolphins so smart?

The Fantastic Undersea Life of Jacques Cousteau**Fantastic Undersea Life of Jacques Cousteau** by Dan Yaccarino

Cousteau set sail aboard the Calypso to see the sea with his team of scientists and invented diving equipment and waterproof cameras. When he saw that pollution was taking its toll on the seas, Cousteau became our guide in how to protect the oceans.

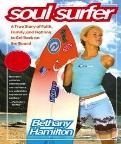
Haunted Histories: Creepy Castles, Dark Dungeons, and Powerful Palaces **Haunted Histories: Creepy Castles, Dark Dungeons, and Powerful Palaces** by J.H Everett

Guided by tween “ghostorian” Virgil, readers will discover fascinating facts about events throughout history as they explore castles, palaces, dungeons and those infamous figures associated with each.

**In the Shadow of Liberty: The Hidden History of Slavery, Four Presidents, and Five Black Lives** by Kenneth C. Daves Through the powerful stories of five enslaved people who were “owned” by four of our greatest presidents, this book helps set the record straight about the role slavery played in the founding of America.

Nurse, Soldier, Spy: The Story of Sarah Edmonds, a Civil War Hero**Nurse, Soldier, Spy: The Story of Sarah Edmonds, a Civil War Hero** by Marissa Moss

Sarah Emma Edmonds disguised herself as a man in order to fight in the Civil War. As Frank Thompson she joined a Michigan army regiment to battle the Confederacy.

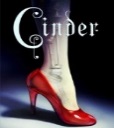
 **Soul Surfer: A True Story of Faith, Family and Fighting to Get Back on the Board** by Bethany Hamilton They say Bethany Hamilton has saltwater in her veins. How else could one explain the passion that drives her to surf? How else could one explain that nothing—not even the loss of her arm—could come between her and the waves? That Halloween morning in Kauai, Hawaii, Bethany responded to the shark’s stealth attack with the calm of a girl with God on her side. Pushing pain and panic aside, she began to paddle with one arm, focusing on a single thought: “Get to the beach....”

[Chains (Seeds of America, #1)](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/3002300-chains?from_search=true&search_version=service)**Chains** by Laurie Halse Anderson (Historical Fiction)

Suggested Summer Reading List for Students Entering Grade 7

***Fiction***

Thirteen-year-old Isabel is promised freedom upon the death of their owner, and in a cruel twist of fate becomes the property of a malicious New York City couple. When Isabel meets Curzon, a slave with ties to the Patriots, he encourages her to spy on her owners.

**Cinder** by Marissa Meyer (Science Fiction) Cinder, a gifted mechanic, is a cyborg. She’s a second-class citizen with a mysterious past, hated by her stepmother and blamed for her stepsister’s illness. Caught between duty and freedom, loyalty and betrayal, she must uncover secrets about her past in order to protect her world’s future.

Confetti Girl**Confetti Girl** by Diana Lopez

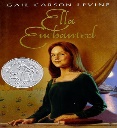
Apolonia "Lina" Flores is a sock enthusiast, a volleyball player, a science lover, and a girl who's just looking for answers. She's having trouble figuring why her dad seems to care about books more than her.

Counting By 7's**Counting By 7s** by Holly Goldberg Sloan

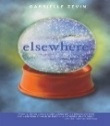
Willow Chance is a twelve-year-old genius, obsessed with nature and diagnosing medical conditions, and finds it comforting to count by 7s.Willow’s world is tragically changed when her parents both die in a car crash, leaving her alone in a baffling world.

Doll Bones**Doll Bones** by Holly Black (Mystery)

Zach’s father throws out all his toys, declaring he’s too old for them. Zach is furious, confused and embarrassed, and decides that the only way to cope is to stop playing. One night his friends pay Zach a visit, and tell him about a series of mysterious occurrences.

 **Ella Enchanted** by Gail Carson Levine (Fantasy)

Ella is inadvertently cursed by a fairy named Lucinda, who bestows on her the "gift" of obedience. Anything anyone tells her to do, Ella must obey. Instead of making Ella docile, Lucinda's curse made a rebel of her. When her mother dies, leaving her in the care of a mostly absent and avaricious father, and later, a loathsome stepmother and two treacherous stepsisters, Ella's life and well-being seem to be in grave peril.

**Elsewhere** by Gabrielle Zevin (Fantasy)

Elsewhere is where fifteen-year-old Liz ends up, after she has died. It is a place so like Earth, yet completely different. She wants to get her driver's license. And now that she's dead, Liz is being forced to live a life she doesn't want with a grandmother she has only just met. Is it possible that a life lived in reverse is no different from a life lived forward?

 **Ghost** by Jason Reynolds

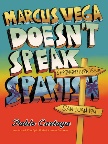
Running. That's all that Ghost (real name Castle Cranshaw) has ever known. But never for a track team. Nope, his game has always been ball. But when Ghost impulsively challenges an elite sprinter to a race -- and wins -- the Olympic medalist track coach sees he has something: crazy natural talent.

The Great Greene Heist**The Great Greene Heist** by Varian Johnson

Jackson Greene has reformed. He draws closer to Gaby when she decides to run for class President. Jackson realizes the election isn't the only thing he wants to win.

Heat**Heat** by Mike Lupica

Michael has a pitching arm that throws serious heat. Michael’s only family is his seventeen-year- old brother. With no way to prove his age, Michael’s secret world is blown wide open, and he discovers that family can come from unexpected sources.

 **Marcus Vega Doesn’t Speak Spanish** by Pablo Cartaya After a fight at school leaves him facing suspension, Marcus and his family decide to hit the reset button and regroup for a week in Puerto Rico. Marcus is more interested in finding his father, though, who is somewhere on the island. Through a series of misadventures that take Marcus all over Puerto Rico in search of the elusive Mr. Vega, Marcus meets a colorful cast of characters.  
Mark of the Thief (Mark of ...**Mark of the Thief** by Jennifer A. Nielsen (Fantasy)

When Nic, a slave of Rome, is forced to enter a sealed cavern containing the lost treasures of Julius Caesar, he finds much more than gold and gemstones.

Masterminds (Masterminds #1)**Masterminds** by Gordon Korman (Mystery)

Eli convinces his friends to investigate his friend Randy’s disappearance. Nothing is as it seems in his town. As the clues mount to reveal a shocking discovery, they realize they can trust no one.

**Peak** by Roland Smith

Fourteen-year-old Peak Marcello is arrested for scaling a New York City skyscraper, he's left with two choices: wither away in Juvenile Detention or go live with his long-lost father, who runs a climbing company in Thailand. For a climbing addict like Peak, tackling Everest is the challenge of a lifetime. But it's also one that could cost him his life.

The Raft**Raft** by S.A Bodeen

Robie is an experienced traveler and has taken the flight from Honolulu to the Midway Atoll many times. Until a storm hits during the flight and she is pulled onto the raft. No water, no food, only a bag of Skittles and no sign of help on the way.

Road Trip**Road Trip** by Gary Paulsen

Ben is expecting a simple trip with his dad to rescue a border collie, but when their truck breaks down Ben finds himself traveling in a school bus, along with its mechanic and a waitress they pick up who is escaping a tense situation.

[Scat](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/3276072-scat?from_search=true&search_version=service)**Scat** by Carl Hiassen (Mystery)

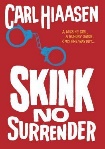
Bunny Scratch, the most feared biology teacher ever disappears after a school field trip to Black Vine Swamp. The principal tries to tell the students that Mrs. Starch has been called away on a "family emergency," Nick and Marta just don't buy it.

Sisters**Sisters** by Raina Telgmeier

Raina can't wait to be a big sister, but once Amara is born, things aren't quite how she expected. When a baby brother enters the picture something doesn't seem right between their parents.

The Saturday Boy**The Saturday Boy** by David Fleming

With one letter, Derek’s dad was sent back to Afghanistan to fly Apache helicopters for the U.S. army. Now all he has are his letters and they are the only things he reads more than once.

**Skink No Surrender** by Carl Hiaasen (Mystery)

When your cousin goes missing under suspicious circumstances, who do you call? There’s only one man for the job: a half-crazed, half-feral, one-eyed ex-governor named Skink. Skink joins 14-year-old Richard on a breakneck chase across Florida, undaunted by lightning storms, poisonous snakes, flying bullets, and giant gators.

A Song for Bijou**A Song for Bijou** by Josh Farrar

Life for Alex Schrader has never involved girls until he meets Bijou, a Haitian girl recently relocated to Brooklyn after the earthquake-and he is determined to win her heart.

Tesla's Attic (Accelerati, #1) **Tesla’s Attic** by Neal Shusterman and Eric Elfman (Fantasy)

Fourteen-year-old Nick, his younger brother, and their father move into a ramshackle Victorian house they've inherited. When Nick opens the door to his attic room, he's hit in the head by a toaster. That's just the beginning of his weird experiences with the old junk stored up there.

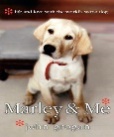
**Stargirl** - **Book 2 Love,** **Stargirl** by Jerry Spinelli From the day she arrives at quiet Mica High in a burst of color and sound. She sparks a school-spirit revolution with just one cheer. Then they turn on her. Stargirl is suddenly shunned for everything that makes her different, and Leo, panicked and desperate with love, urges her to become the very thing that can destroy her: normal.

**Picture Me Gone** by Meg Rosoffila (Mystery) Mila has an exceptional talent—sensing hidden facts and unspoken emotions from clues that others overlook. So when her father’s best friend, Matthew, goes missing from his upstate New York home. Mila and her father travel from London to find him. She collects information about Matthew—slowly piecing together the story everyone else has missed.

***Non-Fiction***

Lincoln's Grave Robbers**Lincoln’s Grave Robbers** by Steve Sheinkin

Secret Service agents raid the workshop of master counterfeiter Ben Boyd. Soon after Boyd is hauled to prison, members of his counterfeiting ring discuss how to spring their ringleader. Their plan: grab Lincoln's body from Springfield, stash it in the sand dunes near Lake Michigan, and demand, as a ransom, the release of Ben Boyd --and $200,000 in cash.

**Marley and Me: Life and Love with the World’s Worst Dog** by John Grogan

Marley quickly grew into a barreling, ninety-seven-pound streamroller of a Labrador retriever. He crashed through screen doors, gouged through drywall, flung drool on guests, stole women's undergarments, and ate nearly everything he could get his mouth around, including couches and fine jewelry. Obedience school did no good—Marley was expelled.

The Polar Bear Scientists **The Polar Bear Scientist** by Peter Lourie

Gearing up for polar bear capturing, all information is collected on the sea ice. Scientists locate bears from a helicopter, tranquilize them, and collect data, such as height, weight, and body fat measurements and samples such as blood, hair, feces, and even teeth. All this information goes into a large database studied by scientists.

The Port Chicago 50: Disast...**The Port Chicago 50: Disaster, Mutiny, and the Fight for Civil Rights** by Steve Sheinkin

On July 17, 1944, a massive explosion rocked the segregated Navy base at Port Chicago, California, killing more than 300 sailors who were at the docks, critically injuring off-duty men in their bunks, and shattering windows up to a mile away. On August 9th, 244 menOn July 17, 1944, a massive explosion rocked the segregated Navy base at Port Chicago, California, killing more than 300 sailors who were at the docks, critically injuring off-duty men in their bunks, and shattering windows up to a mile away. On August 9th, 244 men refused to go back to work until unsafe and unfair conditions at the docks were addressed.

Stolen into Slavery: The True Story of Solomon Northup, Free Black Man**Stolen into Slavery: The True Story of Solomon Northup, Free black Man** by Judith Bloom Fradin

Solomon Northup realized that he was handcuffed in a dark room and his feet were chained to the floor. He managed to slip his hand into his pocket to look for his free papers that proved he was one of 400,000 free blacks in a nation. They were gone.

Tillie Pierce: Teen Eyewitness to the Battle of Gettysburg**Tillie Pierce: Teen Eyewitness to the Battle of Gettysburg** by Tanya Anderson

Tillie Pierce, a normal teenager during the Civil War, and other girls like her found themselves trapped during this critical three-day battle in southern Pennsylvania. Without training they helped save the lives of countless wounded Union and Confederate soldiers.

Suggested Summer Reading List for Students Entering Grade 8

***Fiction***

**Boy in the Black Suit** by Jason Reynolds

Matt wears a black suit every day. No, not because his mom died. But he wears the suit for his gig at the local funeral home. Just when seventeen-year-old Matt thinks he can’t handle one more piece of terrible news, he meets a girl who’s dealt with a lot more—and who just might be able to clue him in on how to rise up when life keeps knocking him down.

[The Breadwinner Trilogy (Th...](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/6549997-the-breadwinner-trilogy?from_search=true&search_version=service)**The Breadwinner** by Deborah Ellis

Parvana lives with her family in Kabul. When her father is arrested for the crime of having a foreign education, the family is left with no money or resources. Forbidden to earn money as a girl, she must transform herself into a boy and become the breadwinner.

[The Christopher Killer (For...](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/386964.The_Christopher_Killer?from_search=true&search_version=service)**The Christopher Killer** by Alane Ferguson (Mystery)

Seventeen-year-old Cameryn persuades her father, the county coroner in sleepy Silverton, CO, to take her on as his assistant. But she never expects her first case to involve the death of a friend.

[The City of Ember: The Grap...](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/13414538-the-city-of-ember?from_search=true&search_version=service) **The City of Ember** by Dallas Middaugh

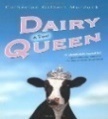
Many hundreds of years ago, the city of Ember was created by the Builders to contain everything needed for human survival. Now the storerooms are almost out of food, crops are blighted, corruption is spreading through the city and the lights are failing.

[Code Orange](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/44881.Code_Orange?from_search=true&search_version=service) **Code Orange** by Caroline Cooney

While conducting research on a school project on smallpox, Mitty finds an envelope with old smallpox scabs and fears he has infected himself and all of NYC.

[Crossing the Wire](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/588142.Crossing_the_Wire?from_search=true&search_version=service)**Crossing the Wire** by Will Hobbs

Falling crop prices threaten Victor’s family with starvation, so he heads north in an attempt cross into the US to find work and send money home. Victor must struggle to survive as he jumps trains, stows away on trucks, and hike grueling miles through the Arizona desert.

**Dairy Queen** by Catherine Gilbert Murdock

When you don’t talk, there’s a lot of stuff that ends up not getting said. Stuff like why her best friend, Amber, isn’t so friendly anymore. Or why her little brother, Curtis, never opens his mouth. Why her mom has two jobs and a big secret. Why her college-football-star brothers won’t even call home. Why her dad would go ballistic if she tried out for the high school football team herself. And why Brian is so, so out of her league.

[Death Cloud (Young Sherlock...](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/7600676-death-cloud?from_search=true&search_version=service)**Death Cloud** by Andy Lane (Mystery)

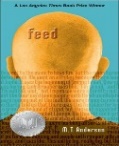
Fourteen- year-old Sherlock Holmes summers with family and discovers a dark cloud that floats from a corpse covered in red boils.

[Dogs of War](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/14830188-dogs-of-war?from_search=true&search_version=service)**Dogs of War** by Shiela Keenan (Historical Fiction Graphic Novel)

A Collection of three Stories of the canine military heroes of World War I, World War II, and the Vietnam War inspired by historic battles and real military practice.

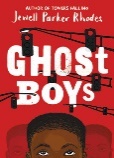
[Etiquette and Espionage (Fi...](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/18244920-etiquette-and-espionage?from_search=true&search_version=service)**Etiquette and Espionage** by Gail Carringer (Mystery)

Fourteen-year-old Sophronia is sent to Finishing Academy for Young Ladies of Quality where it trains young ladies in the finer arts of dance, dress, and etiquette, but also in the fine arts of death, diversion, deceit, espionage, and the modern weaponries.

**Feed** by M.T Anderson (Science Fiction) For Titus and his friends, it started out like any ordinary spring break trip to the moon. But that was before the crazy hacker caused all their feeds to malfunction, sending them to the hospital to lie around with nothing inside their heads for days. And it was before Titus met Violet, brainy teenage girl who has decided to fight the feed and its ability to categorize human thoughts and desires.

[Hero](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/8414756-hero?from_search=true&search_version=service) **Hero** by Mike Lupica (Fantasy)

Fourteen-year-old Zach can feel his senses change. His dad had been a hero and when he died the changes began in Zach. What Zach never knew was that his father was no ordinary man-he was a superhero, battling the world's evil.

 **Ghost Boys** by Jewell Parker Rhodes

Twelve-year-old Jerome is shot by a police officer who mistakes his toy gun for a real threat. As a ghost, he observes the devastation that has been unleashed on his family and community in the wake of what they see as an unjust and brutal killing. Soon Jerome meets another ghost: Emmett Till, a boy from a very different time but similar circumstances. Emmett helps Jerome process what has happened.

[I Kill the Mockingbird](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/18465605-i-kill-the-mockingbird?from_search=true&search_version=service) **I Kill the Mockingbird** by Paul Acampore

When Lucy and her friends receive their summer reading list, they are excited to see To Kill A Mockingbird included. Not everyone in their class shares the same enthusiasm, so they hatch a plan to get the entire town talking about the Harper Lee classic.

[The Iron Trial (Magisterium...](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/20578940-the-iron-trial?from_search=true&search_version=service) **The Iron Trial** by Holly Black (Fantasy)

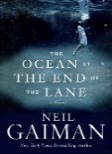
Call has been warned by his father to stay away from magic. If he succeeds at the Iron Trial he is sure it can only mean bad things for him, so he tries his best to do his worst.

**Legend** by Marie Lu (Dystopia)

What was once the western United States is now home to the Republic, a nation perpetually at war with its neighbors. Fifteen-year-old June is a prodigy being groomed for the Republic's highest military circles. Born into the slums, fifteen-year-old Day is the country's most wanted criminal. But his motives may not be as malicious as they seem.

**Maze Runner** by James Dashner (Dystopia)

Thomas wakes up in the lift, and the only thing he can remember is his name. He’s surrounded by boys whose memories are also gone. Then a girl arrives. The first girl ever. And the message she delivers is terrifying.

**Ocean at the End of the Lane** by Neil Gaiman (Fantasy)

A middle-aged man returns to his childhood home to attend a funeral. Although the house he lived in is long gone, he is drawn to the farm at the end of the road, where, when he was seven, he encountered a most remarkable girl, Lettie and her mother and grandmother.

The Screaming Staircase (Lo...**The Screaming Staircase** by Jonathan Stroud (Fantasy)

For more than fifty years the country has been affected by a horrifying epidemic of ghosts. The Psychic Investigations Agency, Lockwood & Co., has one last chance of redemption and it involves spending the night in one of the most haunted houses in England.

[The Summer I Turned Pretty ...](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/5821978-the-summer-i-turned-pretty?from_search=true&search_version=service) **The Summer I Turned Pretty** by Jenny Han

Belly measures her life in summers anything good happens between the months of June and August. One summer, one terrible and wonderful summer, the more everything changes, the more it all ends up just the way it should have been all along.

[Under a War-Torn Sky](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/875411.Under_a_War_Torn_Sky?from_search=true&search_version=service)**Under a War-Torn Sky** by Laura Elliott (Historical Fiction)

When Henry Forester is shot down during a bombing run over France, the World War II pilot finds himself trapped behind enemy lines. In constant danger of being discovered by German soldiers, Henry begins a remarkable journey to freedom.

. ***Non-Fiction***

**An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793** by Jim Murphy

In 1793 North America is devastated by an apparently incurable disease known as yellow fever. Murphy describes the toll it took on the city's residents, relating the epidemic to the major social and political events of the day and to 18th-century medical beliefs and practices.

The Boy on the Wooden Box**The Boy on the Wooden Box** by Leon Leyson

Leon Leyson (born Leib Lezjon) was only ten years old when the Nazis invaded Poland and his family was forced to relocate to the Krakow ghetto. Oskar Schindler saved Leon’s life, and the lives of his family by adding their names to his list of workers in his factory—a list that became Schindler’s List.

[Case Closed?: Nine Mysterie...](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/8793339-case-closed?from_search=true&search_version=service) **Case Closed? Nine Mysteries Unlocked** by Modern Science

Mysteries from ancient and modern times is accompanied by photos, maps, diagrams and illustrations, how modern science sheds new light on people, vessels and entire civilizations throughout history that simply vanished.

**[Courage Has No Color: The T...](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/15799010-courage-has-no-color?from_search=true&search_version=service)Courage Has No Color: The True Story of the Triple Nickles, America’s First Black Paratroopers** by Tanya Lee Stone

First Sergeant Walter Morris’s men serve as guards at Fort Benning, Georgia, Parachute School, while the white soldiers prepare to be paratroopers. For his men to be treated like soldiers, they have to train and act like them, but would the military elite and politicians recognize the potential of these men as well as their passion for serving their country.

[Facing the Lion: Growing Up...](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/127180.Facing_the_Lion?from_search=true&search_version=service)**Facing the Lion: Growing Up Maasai on the African** **Savanna** by Joseph Lemasolai Lekuton

Joseph is a member of a tribe of nomads whose livelihood centers on raising cattle on the Savanna. As a young Maasai cattle herder, Joseph combines exotic details of nomadic life with the universal experience and emotions of a growing boy.

 **Hawk: Occupation: Skateboarder** by Tony Hawk

Growing up in Sierra Mesa, California, Tony was a hyperactive demon child with an I44 IQ. He threw tantrums, terrorized the nanny until she quit, exploded with rage whenever he lost a game; this was a kid who was expelled from preschool. When his brother, Steve, gave him a blue plastic hand-me-down skateboard and his father built a skate ramp in the driveway, Tony finally found his outlet--while skating.

[World Without  Fish](http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/9423723-world-without-fish?from_search=true&search_version=service)**World Without Fish** by Mark Kurlansky

Scientists describe how the fish we most commonly eat could disappear within 50 years, and the domino effect it would have. It covers the effects of industrialized fishing, and how bottom-dragging nets are turning the ocean floor into a desert.

***Reading lists adapted from American Library Association and YALSA Notable Books 2019 and Goodreads***

***Updated 5/19 AP***