

## Suggested Summer Reading List for Middle School 2013

The books on the suggested reading list are just suggestions so students may read any age- and level-appropriate book of their choice. Please keep in mind that some content may be too mature for younger readers and therefore parental discretion is advised. See your public librarian for alternate titles, series, and authors as needed.

TITLES	AUTHOR	LEXILE	SUMMARY
<i>The Gollywhopper Games</i>	Jody Feldman	590	Twelve-year-old Gil Goodson competes against thousands of other children at extraordinary puzzles, stunts, and more in hopes of a fresh start for his family, which has been ostracized since his father was falsely accused of embezzling money from Golly Toy and Game Company.
<i>Out of My Mind</i>	Sharon (Mills) Draper	700	Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.
<i>Scat</i>	Carl Hiaasen	810	Nick and Marta are both suspicious when their biology teacher, the feared Mrs. Bunny Starch, disappears, and try to uncover the truth despite the police and headmaster's insistence that nothing is wrong.
<i>Swindle</i>	Gordon Korman	710	After unscrupulous collector S. Wendell Palomino cons him out of a valuable baseball card, sixth-grader Griffin Bing puts together a band of misfits to break into Palomino's heavily guarded store and steal the card back, planning to use the money to finance his father's failing invention, the SmartPick fruit picker.
<i>Summer Ball</i>	Mike Lupica	910	Thirteen-year-old Danny must prove himself all over again for a disapproving coach and against new rivals at a summer basketball camp.
<i>Artemis Fowl</i>	Eion Colfer	600	When a twelve-year-old evil genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll.
<i>The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe</i>	C.S. Lewis	970	Four English school children find their way through the back of a wardrobe into the magic land of Narnia and assist Aslan, the golden lion, to triumph over the White Witch who has cursed the land with eternal winter.
<i>Swiss Family Robinson</i>	Johann Wyss	1260	Relates the fortunes of a shipwrecked family as they adapt to life on an island with abundant animal and plant life.
<i>Crunch</i>	Leslie Connor	490	The oldest Mariss brother, fourteen-year-old Dewey, attempts to be the "embodiment of responsibility" as he juggles the management of the family's bicycle repair business while sharing the household and farm duties with his siblings after a sudden energy crisis strands their parents far from home.
<i>Dark Life</i>	Kat Falls	690	When fifteen-year-old Ty, who has always lived on the ocean floor, joins Topside girl Gemma in the frontier's underworld to seek and stop outlaws who threaten his home, they learn that the government may pose an even greater threat.
<i>Charlie Joe Jackson's Guide to Not Reading</i>	Tommy Greenwald	830	Middle schooler Charlie Joe is proud of his success at avoiding reading, but eventually his schemes go too far.
<i>Go Big or Go Home</i>	Will Hobbs	700	Fourteen-year-old Brady and his cousin Quinn love extreme sports, but nothing could prepare them for the aftermath of Brady's close encounter with a meteorite after it crashes into his Black Hills, South Dakota, bedroom.
<i>Nick of Time</i>	Ted Bell	950	Twelve-year-old Nick McIver tries to help his father and sister send vital information to England about imminent Nazi invasion, until he finds himself transported through time to help his ancestor stop a mutinous captain who is aiding the French fleet and endangering British sailors.

<i>Heat</i>	Mike Lupica	940	Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old and he has no parents to offer them proof.
<i>Robinson Crusoe</i>	Daniel Defoe	930	During one of his several adventurous voyages in the seventeenth century, an Englishman becomes the sole survivor of a shipwreck and lives for nearly thirty years on a desert island.
<i>Peeled</i>	Joan Bauer	620	In an upstate New York farming community, high school reporter Hildy Biddle investigates a series of strange occurrences at a house rumored to be haunted.
<i>The Limit</i>	Kristen Landon	690	When his family exceeds its legal debt limit, thirteen-year-old Matt is sent to the Federal Debt Rehabilitation Agency workhouse, where he discovers illicit activities are being carried out using the children who have been placed there.
<i>The Rock &amp; the River</i>	Kekla Magoon	550	In 1968 Chicago, fourteen-year-old Sam Childs is caught in a conflict between his father's nonviolent approach to seeking civil rights for African-Americans and his older brother, who has joined the Black Panther Party.
<i>Michael Vey: Prisoner of Cell 25</i>	Richard Paul Evans	500	Fourteen-year-old Michael discovers he has special electrical powers and, with the help of his best friends, becomes aware that there are other teens with similar powers, but something or someone is hunting them and, after Michael's mother is kidnapped, he will need to rely on his powers and his friends to rescue his mom, protect himself, and save the others.
<i>My Life in Pink and Green</i>	Lisa Greenwald	680	When the family's drugstore is failing, seventh-grader Lucy uses her problem-solving talents to come up with a solution that might resuscitate the business and help the environment.
<i>Close to Famous</i>	Joan Bauer	540	The residents of Culpepper, despite their grand aspirations, have made little progress toward achieving their goals, but unexpected events and surprises put the ambitions of the residents of Culpepper to the test.
<i>Divergent</i>	Veronica Roth	700	In a future Chicago, sixteen-year-old Beatrice Prior must choose among five predetermined factions to define her identity for the rest of her life, a decision made more difficult when she discovers that she is an anomaly who does not fit into any one group, and that the society she lives in is not perfect after all.
<i>One Crazy Summer</i>	Rita Williams-Garcia	750	In the summer of 1968, after travelling from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to spend a month with the mother they barely know, eleven-year-old Delphine and her two younger sisters arrive to a cold welcome as they discover that their mother, a dedicated poet and printer, is resentful of the intrusion of their visit and wants them to attend a nearby Black Panther summer camp.

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SERIES	AUTHOR	LEXILE	SUMMARY
<i>39 Clues</i>	multiple authors	550-730	Dan and Amy Cahill are given the choice of receiving a million dollars or uncovering the thirty-nine clues hidden around the world that will lead to the source of the family's power, but by taking on the clues, they end up in a dangerous race against their own family.
<i>Pendragon</i>	D.J. MacHale	680	Fourteen-year-old Bobby Pendragon, having learned he is a Traveler--someone who can ride "flumes" through time and space, is soon off to the alternative dimension of Denduron where he teams up with Loor, a girl his age from the warrior-territory of Zadaa, in an attempt to save the gentle Milago people from slavery.
<i>Theodore Boone</i>	John Grisham	840	Thirteen-year-old Theodore Boone, who knows every judge, police officer, and court clerk in the small town of Strattenburg, finds himself involved in a murder trial because of knowledge he might have about a cold-blooded killer.
<i>Maximum Ride</i>	James Patterson	680-770	After the mutant Erasers abduct the youngest member of their group, the "bird kids," who are the result of genetic experimentation, take off in pursuit and find themselves struggling to understand their own origins and purpose.
<i>Alex Rider</i>	Anthony Horowitz	610-780	After the death of the uncle who had been his guardian, fourteen-year-old Alex Rider is coerced to continue his uncle's dangerous work for Britain's intelligence agency, MI6.
<i>Skeleton Creek</i>	Patrick Carman	740-830	Although housebound following an eerie accident, teenaged Ryan continues to investigate the strange occurrences in his hometown of Skeleton Creek, recording his findings in a journal and viewing email video clips sent by fellow detective Sarah.
<i>Escape from Furnace</i>	Alexander Gordon Smith	950-1010	When fourteen-year-old Alex is framed for murder, he becomes an inmate in the Furnace Penitentiary, where brutal inmates and sadistic guards reign, boys who disappear in the middle of the night sometimes return weirdly altered, and escape might just be possible.
<i>The Maze Runner</i>	James Dashner	720-760	Sixteen-year-old Thomas wakes up with no memory in the middle of a maze and realizes he must work with the community in which he finds himself if he is to escape.
<i>Beautiful Creatures</i>	Kami Garcia	670	In a small South Carolina town, where it seems little has changed since the Civil War, sixteen-year-old Ethan is powerfully drawn to Lena, a new classmate with whom he shares a psychic connection and whose family hides a dark secret that may be revealed on her sixteenth birthday.
<i>Leviathan</i>	Scott Westerfeld	790-810	In an alternate 1914 Europe, fifteen-year-old Austrian Prince Alek, on the run from the Clanker Powers who are attempting to take over the globe using mechanical machinery, forms an uneasy alliance with Deryn who, disguised as a boy to join the British Air Service, is learning to fly genetically-engineered beasts.
<i>Midnighters</i>	Scott Westerfeld	740-810	Upon moving to Bixby, Oklahoma, fifteen-year-old Jessica Day learns that she is one of a group of people who have special abilities that help them fight ancient creatures living in an hour hidden at midnight; creatures that seem determined to destroy Jess.
<i>Dead is...</i>	Marlene Perez	580-630	Seventeen-year-old Daisy Giordano, daughter and sister of psychics, attempts to help her mother discover who is behind a series of bizarre attacks on teenage girls in their little town of Nightshade, California.

<i>The Uglies</i>	Scott Westerfeld	770	Just before their sixteenth birthdays, when they will be transformed into beauties whose only job is to have a great time, Tally's best friend runs away and Tally must find her and turn her in, or never become pretty at all.
<i>The Ranger's Apprentice</i>	John Flanagan	920	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.
<i>Strange Case of Origami Yoda</i>	Tom Angleberger	760	Sixth-grader Tommy and his friends describe their interactions with a paper finger puppet of Yoda, worn by their weird classmate Dwight, as they try to figure out whether or not the puppet can really predict the future. Includes instructions for making Origami Yoda.
<i>The Heir Chronicles (audio only at CCPL)</i>	Cinda Williams Chima	690-770	Sixteen-year-old Jack discovers that he is one of the last warriors of the Weirind, an underground society of magical people, and must fight to determine which house--the White Rose or the Red Rose--will rule the Weir.
<i>Tales of the Frog Princess</i>	E.D. Baker	710-920	After reluctantly kissing a frog, an awkward, fourteen-year-old princess suddenly finds herself a frog, too, and sets off with the prince to seek the means--and the self-confidence--to become human again.
<i>The Faerie Wars Chronicles</i>	Herbie Brennan	750-830	Troubled by family problems, Henry finds his life taking a whole new dimension when he and his friend, old Mr. Fogarty, become involved with Prince Pyrgus Malvae who has been sent from the faerie world in order to escape the treacherous Faeries of the Night.
<i>Warriors Series</i>	Erin Hunter	630-1120	Graystripe, deputy leader of ThunderClan, has finally returned to his forest home after being kidnapped by Twolegs, and finds that Firestar has appointed a new deputy leader.
<i>Nancy Drew</i>	Carolyn Keene	700	Nancy Drew is a mystery series in which the fictional character Nancy Drew solves a variety of different cases from theft to murder.
<i>Hardy Boys</i>	Franklin W. Dixon	700	In the Hardy Boys series, brothers Joe and Frank solve mysterious cases which appeal to teens.
<i>Sherlock Holmes</i>	Sir Arthur Conan Doyle	960-1090	Sherlock Holmes is a well-known detective who uses logical reasoning and a variety of disguises to solve crimes.

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AUTHORS			
Mike Lupica	Sports Fiction		
Sharon Draper	Teen Issues		
Walter Dean Myers	Teen Issues		
Scott Westerfeld	Sci Fi/Dystopia		
Gordon Korman	Adventure/Humor		
Rick Riordan	Fantasy		
Sharon Flake	Teen Issues		
Tim Green	Sports Fiction		
Hilari Bell	Fantasy		
Gary Paulsen	Adventure		
Jordan Sonnenblick	Teen Issues		
Meg Cabot	Teen Girl Fiction		
Anthony Horowitz	Adventure		
Lois Duncan	Mystery		
Joan Lowery Nixon	Mystery		
Mary Downing Hahn	Mystery/Suspense		
Chris Crutcher	Sports Fiction		
S.E. Hinton	Teen Issues		
Gordon Korman	Humor/Adventure		
Award Winners/Nominees			
<i>Because of Mr. Terupt</i>	R. Buyea		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
<i>Dancing Home</i>	A.F. Ada		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
<i>A Dog's Way Home</i>	B. Pyron		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
<i>Tuesdays at the Castle</i>	J.D. George		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
<i>The Familiars</i>	A.J. Epstein & A. Jacobson		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
<i>Pie</i>	S. Weeks		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
<i>The Apothecary</i>	M. Meloy		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
<i>Hidden</i>	J. Frost		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
<i>Maximilian: The mystery of the Guardian Angel: A Bilingual Lucha Libre Thriller</i>	X. Garcia		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
<i>Small as an Elephant</i>	J.R. Jacobson		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
<i>Wonder</i>	J.R. Palacio		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
<i>Better Than Weird</i>	A. Kerz		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
<i>A Tale Dark and Grimm</i>	A. Gidwitz		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
<i>Breadcrumbs</i>	A. Ursu		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
<i>Summer on the Moon</i>	A. Fogelin		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
<i>A Monster Calls</i>	P. Ness		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
<i>Okay for Now</i>	G. Schmidt		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
<i>Emerald Atlas</i>	J. Stephens		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
<i>Camo Girl</i>	K. Magoon		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
<i>The Boneshaker</i>	K. Milford		2013 Georgia Children's Book Award Nominees
			This is a citation awarded to an American publisher for a children's book considered to be the most outstanding of those books originally published in a foreign language in a foreign country, and subsequently translated into English and published in the United States.
			<a href="http://www.ala.org/awardsgrants/mildred-l-batchelder-award">http://www.ala.org/awardsgrants/mildred-l-batchelder-award</a>
			This is presented to a Latino/Latina writer and illustrator whose work best portrays, affirms, and celebrates the Latino cultural experience in an outstanding work of literature for children and youth.
			<a href="http://www.ala.org/awardsgrants/pura-belpre-award">http://www.ala.org/awardsgrants/pura-belpre-award</a>

<a href="http://www.ala.org/awardsgrants/john-newbery-medal-2">http://www.ala.org/awardsgrants/john-newbery-medal-2</a>		The Newbery Medal is awarded annually by the Association for Library Service to Children to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children
<a href="http://www.ala.org/awardsgrants/coretta-scott-king-book-awards">http://www.ala.org/awardsgrants/coretta-scott-king-book-awards</a>		The Coretta Scott King Book Awards annually recognize outstanding books for young adults and children by African American authors and illustrators that reflect the African American experience.
<a href="http://www.ala.org/awardsgrants/robert-f-sibert-informational-book-medal">http://www.ala.org/awardsgrants/robert-f-sibert-informational-book-medal</a>		The Sibert Award honors the most distinguished informational book published in English in the preceding year for its significant contribution to children's literature
<b>BIOGRAPHIES</b>		
<i>We Beat the Street</i>	Sampson Davis, George Jenkins, and Rameck Hunt	860 Shares anecdotes from the childhoods, teen years, and young adult lives of three men from Newark, New Jersey, who made a pledge to each other in high school to stay safe from drugs, gangs, and crime, and work to become doctors--a goal they have successfully achieved.
<i>Chicken Soup series</i>	multiple authors	860 Real life stories on a variety of topics