

## 6-8 Suggested Summer Reading 06

**Choldenko, Gennifer.** *Al Capone does my shirts.*

A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister

**Rennison, Louise.** *Angus, thongs and full-frontal snogging : confessions of Georgia Nicolson.*

Presents the humorous journal of a year in the life of a fourteen-year-old British girl who tries to reduce the size of her nose, stop her mad cat from terrorizing the neighborhood animals, and win the love of handsome hunk Robbie.

**Orwell, George.** *Animal farm.*

**Colfer, Eoin.** *Artemis Fowl : the Arctic incident*

Artemis receives an urgent video e-mail from Russia from his father.

**Ryan, Pam Munoz.** *Becoming Naomi Leon*

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

**Bunting, Eve.** *Blackwater.*

When a boy and girl are drowned in the Blackwater River, thirteen-year-old Brodie must decide whether to confess that he may have caused the accident.

**Horvath, Polly.** *The canning season.*

Thirteen-year-old Ratchet spends a summer in Maine with her eccentric great-aunts Tilly and Penpen, hearing strange stories from the past and encountering a variety of unusual and colorful characters.

**Mah, Adeline Yen.** *Chinese Cinderella : The True story of an unwanted daughter.*

Adeline Yen Mah returns to her roots to paint an authentic portrait of 20th-century China as well as to tell the story of her painful childhood and her courage and ultimate triumph over despair.

**Divakaruni, Chitra Banerjee.** *The Conch bearer.*

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

**Perkins, Lynne Rae.** *Criss cross.*

Teenagers in a small town in the 1960s experience new thoughts and feelings, question their identities, connect, and disconnect as they search for the meaning of life and love.

**Dickinson, John. *The Cup of the World.***

Phaedra, the willful daughter of a baron, sets off an unforeseeable chain of events and a battle between good and evil when she announces her intention to marry for love.

**Dickens, Charles and Rees, Roger. *David Copperfield.***

**Lester, Julius. *Day of tears : a novel in dialogue.***

Presents an historical fiction written in first-person format that follows Emma, the slave of Pierce Butler, through a series of events in her life as her master hosts the largest slave auction in American history in Savannah, Georgia in 1859 in order to pay off his mounting gambling debts.

**Haddix, Margaret Peterson. *Double identity.***

Thirteen-year-old Bethany's parents have always been overprotective, but when they suddenly drop out of sight with no explanation, leaving her with an aunt she never knew existed, Bethany uncovers shocking secrets that make her question everything she thought she knew about herself and her family.

**Dowell, Frances O'Roark. *Dovey Coe.***

Accused of murder in her North Carolina mountain town in 1928, Dovey Coe, strong-willed twelve-year-old girl, comes to a new understanding of others, including her deaf brother, as she attempts to clear her name.

**Abrahams, Peter. *Down the rabbit hole.***

Like her idol Sherlock Holmes, eighth-grader Ingrid Levin-Hill uses her intellect to solve the murder of an eccentric local woman in her hometown of Echo Falls.

**Yep, Laurence. *Dragon's gate.***

Otter flees his home in China to join his father and uncle in California and work on the transcontinental railroad. Brutal working conditions, bitter cold and disappointment drive him to undertake a.

**Farmer, Nancy. *The Ear, the Eye, and the Arm***

In 2194 in Zimbabwe, General Matsika's three children are kidnapped and put to work in a plastic mine, while three mutant detectives use their special powers to search for them.

**Card, Orson Scott. *Ender's shadow.***

At Battleschool Bean meets and befriends Ender.

**Cooney, Caroline B. *The face on the milk carton.***

As Janie Johnson glanced at the face of the ordinary little girl on the milk carton, she realized she was the girl who had been kidnapped twelve years ago.

**Lekuton, Joseph Lemasolai and Viola, Herman J. *Facing the lion : growing up Maasai on the African Savanna.***

A member of the Maasai people describes his life as he grew up in a northern Kenya village and traveled to America to attend college.

**Hiaasen, Carl. *Flush*.**

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

**Lowry, Lois. *Gathering blue*.**

Lame and suddenly orphaned, Kira is mysteriously removed from her squalid village to live in the palatial Council Edifice, where she is expected to use her gifts as a weaver to do the bidding of the all-powerful Guardians.

**Wayland, April Halprin and Clayton, Elaine. *Girl coming in for a landing : a novel in poems*.**

A collection of over 100 poems recounting the ups and downs of one adolescent girl's school year.

**Pullman, Philip. *The golden compass*.**

Originally published as Northern Lights. Accompanied by her daemon, Lyra sets out to prevent her best friend and other kidnapped children from becoming the subjects of experiments in the Far North.

**Giblin, James. *Good brother, bad brother : the story of Edwin Booth and John Wilkes Booth*.**

Tells the life stories of nineteenth-century actor Edwin Booth and his actor brother John Wilkes Booth, describing the differences between the two men, chronicling John's assassination of Abraham Lincoln, and examining the impact of John's crime on the Booth family for decades afterward.

**Creech, Sharon and Raschka, Chris. *Granny Torrelli makes soup*.**

With the help of her wise old grandmother, twelve-year-old Rosie manages to work out some problems in her relationship with her best friend, Bailey, the boy next door.

**Alexander, Lloyd. *Gypsy Rizka*.**

Living alone in her wagon on the outskirts of a small town while waiting for her father's return, Rizka, a Gypsy and a trickster, exposes the ridiculous foibles of some of the townspeople.

**Mazer, Harry. *Heroes don't run : a novel of the Pacific War***

To honor his father who died during the Japanese invasion of Pearl Harbor, seventeen-year-old Adam eagerly enlists in the Marines in 1944, survives boot camp, and faces combat on the tiny island of Okinawa.

**Adams, Douglas. *The hitchhiker's guide to the galaxy*.**

About the end of the world and the happy-go-lucky days that follow.

**Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. *Hitler Youth : growing up in Hitler's shadow*.**

A photo-illustrated look at the youth organizations Adolf Hitler founded and used to meet his sociopolitical and military ends; includes profiles of individual Hitler Youth members as well as young people who opposed the Nazis, such as Hans and Sophie Scholl.

**Whelan, Gloria. *Homeless bird.***

When thirteen-year-old Koly enters into an ill-fated arranged marriage, she must either suffer a destiny dictated by India's tradition or find the courage to oppose it.

**Hiaasen, Carl. *Hoot.***

Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site.

**Farmer, Nancy. *House of the scorpion.***

In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patron, the 140-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States.

**Skurzynski, Gloria and Armstrong, Stuart. *The hunted.***

The Landon family travels to Glacier National Park to investigate why grizzly bear cubs are disappearing and becomes involved with a ten-year-old Mexican runaway boy.

**Krakauer, Jon. *Into the wild.***

The story of Christopher McCandless, who hitchhiked to Alaska and walked alone into the wilderness north of Mt. McKinley to invent a new life for himself.

**Hautman, Pete. *Invisible.***

Doug and Andy are unlikely best friends--one a loner obsessed by his model trains, the other a popular student involved in football and theater--who grew up together and share a bond that nothing can sever.

**Ibbotson, Eva and Hawkes, Kevin. *Island of the aunts.***

As they get older, several sisters decide that they must kidnap children and bring them to their secluded island home to help with the work of caring for an assortment of unusual sea creatures.

**Kadohata, Cynthia. *Kira-Kira***

Chronicles the close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s, and despair felt when one sister becomes terminally ill.

**Almond, David. *Kit's wilderness.***

Thirteen-year-old Kit goes to live with his grandfather in the decaying coal mining town of Stoneygate, England, and finds both the old man and the town haunted by ghosts of the past.

**Giff, Patricia Reilly. *Lily's crossing.***

During a summer spent at Rockaway Beach in 1944, Lily's friendship with a young Hungarian refugee causes her to see the war and her own world differently.

**Lewis, C. S and Baynes, Pauline. *The lion, the witch and the wardrobe : a story for children***

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.

**Peck, Richard. *A long way from Chicago : a novel in stories.***

A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother.

**Salisbury, Graham. *Lord of the deep.***

Working for his stepfather on a charter fishing boat in Hawaii teaches thirteen-year-old Mikey about fishing, and about taking risks, making sacrifices, and facing some of life's difficult choices.

**Wolff, Virginia Euwer. *Make lemonade.***

In order to earn money for college, fourteen-year-old LaVaughn babysits for a teenage mother.

**Yee, Lisa. *Millicent Min, girl genius.***

In a series of journal entries, eleven-year-old child prodigy Millicent Min records her struggles to learn to play volleyball, tutor her enemy, deal with her grandmother's departure, and make friends over the course of a tumultuous summer.

**Myers, Walter Dean. *Monster.***

While on trial as an accomplice to a murder, sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon records his experiences in prison and in the courtroom in the form of a film script as he tries to come to terms with the course his life has taken.

**Lobel, Anita. *No pretty pictures : a child of war.***

The author, known as an illustrator of children's books, describes her experiences as a Polish Jew during World War II and for years in Sweden afterwards.

**Myers, Walter Dean and Grifalconi, Ann. *Patrol : an American soldier in Vietnam.***

A frightened American soldier faces combat in the lush forests of Vietnam.

**Birdsall, Jeanne. *The Penderwicks : a summer tale of four sisters, two rabbits, and a very interesting boy.***

While vacationing with their widowed father in the Berkshire Mountains, four lovable sisters, ages four through twelve, share adventures with a local boy, much to the dismay of his snobbish mother.

**Barry, Dave and Call, Greg. *Peter & the Starcatchers***

Soon after Peter, an orphan, sets sail from England on the ship Never Land, he befriends and assists Molly, a young Starcatcher, whose mission is to guard a trunk of magical stardust from a greedy pirate and the native inhabitants of a remote island.

**Fleischman, John. *Phineas Gage : a gruesome but true story about brain science.***

The true story of Phineas Gage, whose brain had been pierced by an iron rod in 1848, and who survived and became a case study in how the brain functions.

**Hale, Shannon. *Princess Academy*.**

While attending a strict academy for potential princesses with the other girls from her mountain village, fourteen-year-old Miri discovers unexpected talents and connections to her homeland.

**Jacques, Brian and Chalk, Gary. *Redwall*.**

When the peaceful life of ancient Redwall Abbey is shattered by the arrival of the evil rat Cluny and his villainous hordes, Matthias, a young mouse, determines to find the legendary sword of Martin the Warrior which, he is convinced, will help Redwall's inhabitants destroy the enemy.

**Hobbs, Will. *River Thunder*.**

Sequel to Downriver. Despite some reservations, sixteen-year-old Jessie joins her companions from the previous year's adventure on the Colorado River for a legal rafting trip through the Grand Canyon.

**Cushman, Karen. *Rodzina*.**

A twelve-year-old Polish American girl is boarded onto an orphan train in Chicago with fears about traveling to the West and a life of unpaid slavery.

**Van Draanen, Wendelin. *Sammy Keyes and the hotel thief*.**

Thirteen-year-old Sammy's penchant for speaking her mind gets her in trouble when she involves herself in the investigation of a robbery at the "seedy" hotel across the street from the seniors' building where she is living with her grandmother.

**Konigsburg, E. L. *Silent to the bone*.**

When he is wrongly accused of gravely injuring his baby half-sister, thirteen-year-old Branwell loses his power of speech and only his friend Connor is able to reach him and uncover the truth about what really happened.

**Horowitz, Anthony. *Skeleton key*.**

Reluctant teenage-spy Alex Rider, on a routine mission at the Wimbledon tennis championships, gets caught up in Chinese gangs, illegal nuclear weapons, and the suspect plans of his Russian host, General Sarov.

**Korman, Gordon. *Son of the mob*.**

When teenage Vince Luca--whose family connections make dating difficult--finally finds a girl worth pursuing, her father turns out to be the FBI agent whose life's goal is to take out Vince's mob boss dad.

**Spinelli, Jerry. *Stargirl*.**

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

**Tolan, Stephanie S. *Surviving the Applewhites*.**

Jake, a budding juvenile delinquent, is sent for home schooling to the arty and eccentric Applewhite family's Creative Academy, where he discovers talents and interests he never knew he had.

**DiCamillo, Kate. *The tiger rising***

Rob, who passes the time in his rural Florida community by wood carving, is drawn by his spunky but angry friend Sistine into a plan to free a caged tiger.

**Wolff, Virginia Euwer. *True believer.***

Living in the inner city amidst guns and poverty, fifteen-year-old LaVaughn learns from old and new friends, and inspiring mentors, that life is what you make it--an occasion to rise to.

**Salisbury, Graham. *Under the blood-red sun.***

Tomikazu Nakaji's biggest concerns are baseball, homework, and a local bully, until life with his Japanese family in Hawaii changes drastically after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December 1941.

**Paratore, Coleen. *The wedding planner's daughter.***

Willa, a romantic girl who wants a father, tries to find a husband for her mother, Cape Cod's most popular wedding planner.

**Crutcher, Chris. *Whale talk.***

Intellectually and athletically gifted, TJ, a multiracial, adopted teenager, shuns organized sports and the gung-ho athletes at his high school until he agrees to form a swimming team and recruits some of the school's most popular students.

**Anderson, M. T. *Whales on stilts.***

Racing against the clock, shy middle-school student Lily and her best friends, Katie and Jasper, must foil the plot of her father's conniving boss to conquer the world using an army of whales.

**Holt, Kimberly Willis. *When Zachary Beaver came to town.***

During the summer of 1971 in a small Texas town, thirteen-year-old Toby and his best friend Cal meet the star of a sideshow act, 600-pound Zachary, the fattest boy in the world.

**Fleischman, Paul. *Whirligig.***

While traveling to each corner of the country to build a whirligig in memory of the girl whose death he causes, sixteen-year-old Brian finds forgiveness and atonement.

**Armstrong, Alan W. *Whittington.***

Whittington, a feline descendant of Dick Whittington's famous cat of English folklore, appears at a rundown barnyard plagued by rats and restores harmony while telling his ancestor's story.

**Hesse, Karen. *Witness.***

A series of poems express the views of various people in a small Vermont town, including a young black girl and a young Jewish girl, during the early 1920s when the Ku Klux Klan is trying to infiltrate the town.

