

Entering 7th Grade Summer Reading List (2013)

Pick any TWO (2) books from the following list that you have not read before.

Fantasy

***Ella Enchanted* by Gail Carson Levine Not sold at the Book Fair**

In this novel, based on the story of Cinderella, Ella struggles against the childhood curse that forces her to obey any order given to her.

***The City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau \$6.99**

The city of Ember was built as a last refuge for the human race. Two hundred years later, the great lamps that light the city are beginning to flicker. When Lina finds part of an ancient message, she's sure it holds a secret that will save the city. She and her friend Doon must decipher the message before the lights go out on Ember forever! This stunning debut novel offers refreshingly clear writing and fascinating, original characters.

OR if you have read *City of Ember*

***The People of Sparks* by Jeanne DuPrau \$6.99**

Having escaped to the Unknown Regions, Lina and the others seek help from the village people of Sparks.

***Redwall* by Brian Jacques \$8.99**

As the inhabitants of Redwall Abbey bask in the glorious summer of the Late Rose, all is quiet and peaceful. But things are not as they seem. Cluny the Scourge, the evil one-eyed rat warlord, is bent on destroying the tranquility as he prepares to fight a bloody battle for the ownership of Redwall.

***Inkheart* by Cornelia Funke \$9.99**

Meggie's father Mo has an interesting talent: when he reads aloud, things, and sometimes people, come out of their stories and into the real world! But now the evil Capricorn wants to use Mo's talents to bring himself great wealth and power. Then Meggie discovers that maybe Mo isn't the only one who can read things to life.

Science Fiction

***Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card Not sold at the Book Fair**

Aliens have attacked Earth twice and almost destroyed the human species. To make sure humans win the next encounter, the world government has taken to breeding military geniuses -- and then training them in the arts of war... The early training, not surprisingly, takes the form of 'games'... Ender Wiggin is a genius among geniuses; he wins all the games... He is smart enough to know that time is running out. But is he smart enough to save the planet?

***Among the Hidden* by Margaret Haddix \$6.99**

In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke has lived all his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm, until another "third" convinces him that the government is wrong.

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Historical Fiction and Nonfiction

***Jefferson's Sons* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley \$5.99** (Some Mature Content - Parents can contact Mr. DiSalle with questions. jasondisalle@wbschools.com)

Jefferson's Sons is a fictionalized account of what life might have been like for Thomas Jefferson's four children from his slave Sally Hemings. The story tells a darker piece of America's history from an often unseen perspective. As each child grows up and tells his story, the contradiction between slavery and freedom becomes starker, calling into question the real meaning of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

***Lincoln's Grave Robbers* by Steve Sheinkin \$9.99**

In the late 19th century, counterfeiting is a major problem in the United States and arresting counterfeiters and keeping them behind bars is proving difficult for the Secret Service. Agents catch a break when they capture Benjamin Boyd but his counterfeiting ring wants him back. They come up with a wild plan to steal Abraham Lincoln's body. But a secret service agent gets wind of it. Read about the wild climax that takes place on election night, November 7, 1876.

***Tituba of Salem Village* by Ann Petry \$5.99**

Several girls have been taken with fits, and there is only one explanation - someone in the village has been doing the devil's work. All eyes are on Tituba, the one person who can tell fortunes with cards, and who can spin a thread so fine it must be magic. Could she actually be hanged for practicing witchcraft?

Mystery

***Locked in Time* by Lois Duncan Not sold at the Book Fair**

Nore arrives at her stepmother's Louisiana plantation to find her new family odd and an aura of evil and mystery about the place.

***Down A Dark Hall* by Lois Duncan \$7.99**

Suspicious and uneasy about the atmosphere at her new boarding school, fourteen-year-old Kit slowly realizes why she and the other three students at the school were selected.

Realistic Fiction

***White Fang* by Jack London \$5.99**

Part wolf and part dog, orphaned White Fang relies on his instincts as well as his inborn strength and courage to survive in the Yukon wilderness despite both animal and human predators, but eventually comes to make his peace with man.

***Hoot* by Carl Hiaasen \$6.99**

The Mother Paula's All-American Pancake House is scheduled to be built over a burrow of miniature owls; the owls' unlikely allies--three middle school kids determined to beat the screwed-up adult system.

***Wonder* by RJ Palacio \$15.99 Hardcover**

August Pullman is not an ordinary ten-year-old. August was born with a craniofacial abnormality - a genetic defect that caused his facial features to be deformed. Despite his differences August and his parents decide to transition him from home school to private school now that he's entering fifth grade. Will he make friends? Will he decide to stay at the school? This book takes an insightful look at how one person's differences can affect the lives of so many others.

You will be reading TWO (2) books over the summer.

Entering 8th Grade Summer Reading List (2013)

Choose two (2) books from this list.

Realistic Fiction

***The Lottery Rose* by Irene Hunt \$4.99**

Abused by his mother and her boyfriend, Georgie Burgess learns to hide his hurt. He withdraws into a safe and secret world of beautiful gardens filled with roses—just like those in the library book he treasures. When Georgie wins a small rosebush in a grocery store lottery he gives it all the love and caring he's never had. Georgie's life begins to open up for him when the courts send him to a home for boys where he will be safe. Slowly, and not without pain, Georgie learns to give—and to receive—love...

***Red Kayak* by Priscilla Cummings Not sold at the Book Fair**

Brady loves life on the Chesapeake Bay with his friends J.T. and Digger. But developers and rich families are moving into the area, and while Brady befriends some of them, like the DiAngelos, his parents and friends are bitter about the changes. Tragedy strikes when the DiAngelos' kayak overturns in the bay, and Brady wonders if it was more than an accident. Brady discovers the terrible truth behind the kayak's sinking, and it will change the lives of those he loves.

***Romiette and Julio* by Sharon Draper Not sold at the Book Fair**

When Romiette Cappelle meets Julio Montague, she feels as though she has met the soul mate who can rescue her from her recurring nightmare about fire and water. But like the Shakespearean characters whose names echo theirs, Romiette and Julio discover that not everyone approves of their budding romance. In their case, it is because Romiette is African-American and Julio is Hispanic, and the Devildogs, a dangerous local gang, violently oppose their interracial relationship. When the Devildogs threaten to teach them a lesson, Romiette and Julio come up with a risky plan to escape from the gang's fearsome shadow. But things go terribly awry, and the two find themselves caught up in a deadly reality more frightening than Romiette's nightmare -- and in a desperate struggle to avoid the tragic fate of Shakespeare's famous young lovers.

***Storm Warriors* by Elisa Carbone Not sold at the Book Fair**

Driven from his home by the Ku Klux Klan and still reeling from the death of his mother, Nathan moves with his father and grandfather to the desolate Pea Island on the Outer Banks of North Carolina to start a new life. Fortunately, life on Pea Island at the end of the 19th century is far from quiet. The other island residents include the surfmen--the African American crew of the nearby U.S. Life-Saving Station--and soon Nathan is lending an extra hand to these men as they rescue sailors from sinking ships. Working and learning alongside the courageous surfmen, Nathan begins to dream of becoming one himself. But the reality of post-Civil War racism starts to show itself as he gradually realizes the futility of his dream. And then another dream begins to take shape, one that Nathan refuses to let anyone take from him.

***Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech \$6.99**

To trace the path of her missing mother, Sal embarks on a journey from Ohio to Idaho with her grandparents. On the road, Sal tells the strange and exciting story of her friend Phoebe. As the miles pass, Phoebe's tale becomes more and more outrageous, while Sal's own story begins to emerge. In unraveling Phoebe's mystery, Sal comes ever closer to finding out the truth behind her own bittersweet journey. What will she find at the end of the road?

***Tears of a Tiger* by Sharon Draper \$6.99**

When Gerald was a child he was fascinated by fire. But fire is dangerous and powerful, and tragedy strikes. His substance-addicted mother is taken from him. Then he loses the loving generosity of a favorite aunt. A brutal stepfather with a flaming temper and an evil secret makes his life miserable. The one bright light in Gerald's life is his little half sister, Angel, whom he struggles to protect from her father, Jordan Sparks, who abuses her, and from their mother, whose irresponsible behavior forces Gerald to work hard to keep the family together. As a teenager, Gerald finds success as a member of the Hazelwood Tigers basketball team, while Angel develops her talents as a dancer. Trouble still haunts them, however, and Gerald learns, painfully, that young friends can die and old enemies must be faced. In the end he must stand up to his stepfather alone in a blazing confrontation.

***Under a War Torn Sky* by Laura Elliott \$5.99**

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 discovery by German soldiers, Henry begins a remarkable journey to freedom. Relying on the kindness of strangers, Henry moves from town to town--traveling by moonlight, never asking questions, or even the names of the people who help him along the way. Through his journey, Henry gains an understanding of the French and their struggle; and of his own place in a war that will change the face of Europe forever.

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***Touching Spirit Bear* by Ben Mikaelson Not sold at the Book Fair**

Cole Matthews has been fighting, stealing, and raising hell for years. So his punishment for beating Peter Driscall senseless is harsh. Given a choice between prison and Native American Circle Justice, Cole chooses Circle Justice: He'll spend one year in complete isolation on a remote Alaskan island. In the first days of his banishment, Cole is mauled by a mysterious white bear and nearly dies. Now there's no one left to save Cole, but Cole himself.

Adventure/Fantasy/Science Fiction

Hero by Mike Lupica \$7.99

Zach Harriman knew that his dad was something of a hero, a man trusted by the president to solve international crises at a moment's notice. Suddenly people are telling him he has powers - people who know much more about his father than Zach ever did. But there are the Bads, who appear out of nowhere and attack him and his best friend. One thing is clear: he can do things ordinary people cannot. Evil is about to strike in a very big way. Zach Harriman is his father's son. And he, too, is a hero.

***The House of the Scorpion* by Nancy Farmer \$9.99**

Matteo Alacrán was not born; he was harvested. His DNA came from El Patrón, lord of a country called Opium. Matt's first cell split and divided inside a petri dish. Then he was placed in the womb of a cow, where he continued the miraculous journey from embryo to fetus to baby. He is a boy now, but most consider him a monster. El Patrón loves Matt as he loves himself, because Matt is himself. As Matt struggles to understand his existence, he is threatened by a sinister cast of characters, and he is surrounded by a dangerous army of bodyguards. Escape is the only chance Matt has to survive. But escape is no guarantee of freedom, because Matt is marked by his difference in ways he doesn't even suspect.

***Mistmantle Chronicles Book 1: Urchin of the Riding Stars* by M.I. McAllister Not sold at the Book Fair**

The island of Mistmantle is in turmoil. The king and queen are losing authority over their people and behind the scenes a wicked pair are determined to take control. With a cruel regime of culling the weak and depriving the whole population of basic necessities, this scheming husband and wife team look set to realize their ambitions. But to ignore the power of the people is a big mistake. Ancient prophecies combine with radical action to ensure that Lord Husk and Lady Aspen do not achieve their wicked goals.

***Wee Free Men* by Terry Pratchett \$6.99**

Armed with only a frying pan and her common sense, young witch-to-be Tiffany Aching must defend her home against the monsters of Fairyland. Luckily she has some very unusual help: the local Nac Mac Feegle—aka the Wee Free Men—a clan of fierce, sheep-stealing, sword-wielding, six-inch-high blue men. Together they must face headless horsemen, ferocious grimhounds, terrifying dreams come true, and ultimately the sinister Queen of the Elves herself.

Nonfiction

Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage by Alfred Lansing Not sold at Book Fair

Alfred Lansing's scrupulously researched and brilliantly narrated book about Shackleton's polar voyage has long been acknowledged as the definitive account of the Endurance's fateful trip. To write their authoritative story, Lansing consulted with ten of the surviving members and gained access to diaries and personal accounts by eight others.

We Beat the Street: How a Friendship Pact Led to Success

by Sampson Davis, George Jenkins, Rameck Hunt, and Sharon Draper \$6.99

Growing up on the rough streets of Newark, New Jersey, Rameck, George, and Sampson could easily have followed their childhood friends into drug dealing, gangs, and prison. When a presentation at their school made the three boys aware of the opportunities available to them in the medical and dental professions, they made a pact among themselves that they would become doctors. It took a lot of determination and support, and despite hardships, the three succeeded.

***Left for Dead* by Pete Nelson \$8.95**

Just after midnight on July 30, 1945, the USS *Indianapolis* was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine. The ship sank in 14 minutes. More than 1,000 men were thrown into shark-infested waters. Those who survived the fiery sinking struggled to stay afloat as they waited for rescue. The United States Navy did not even know they were missing, and needed a scapegoat for this disaster. It court-martialed the captain for "hazarding" his ship. The survivors of the *Indianapolis* knew that their captain was not to blame. For 50 years they worked to clear his name. The navy would not budge until an 11-year-old boy named Hunter Scott entered the picture. His history fair project on the *Indianapolis* became a crusade to restore the captain's good name and the honor of the men who served under him.

***For Freedom: Story of a French Spy* by Kimberly Bradley Brubaker \$5.50**

Suzanne David's everyday life is suddenly shattered in 1940 when a bomb drops on the main square of her hometown, the city of Cherbourg, France, killing a pregnant neighbor right in front of her. Until then the war had seemed far away, not something that would touch her or her teenage friends. Now Suzanne's family is kicked out onto the street as German soldiers take over their house as a barracks. Suzanne clings to the one thing she really loves--singing. Her voice is so amazing that she is training to become an opera singer. As Suzanne travels around for rehearsals, costume fittings, or lessons, she learns more about what the Nazis are doing and about the people who are "disappearing." Her travels are noticed by someone else, an organizer of the French Resistance. Soon Suzanne is a secret courier, a spy fighting for France and risking her own life for freedom.

Memoirs

***Bad Boy* by Walter Dean Myers \$8.99**

As a boy, Walter Dean Myers was quick-tempered and physically strong, always ready for a fight. He also read voraciously--he would check out books from the library and carry them home, hidden in brown paper bags in order to avoid other boys' teasing. He aspired to be a writer. But growing up in a poor family in Harlem, his hope for a successful future diminished as he came to realize fully the class and racial struggles that surrounded him. He began to doubt himself and the values that he had always relied on, attending high school less and less, turning to the streets and his books for comfort. In a memoir that is gripping, funny, and ultimately unforgettable, Walter Dean Myers travels back to his roots in Harlem during the 1940s and 1950s.

***My Thirteenth Winter: A Memoir* by Samantha Abeel Not sold at the Book Fair**
Samantha Abeel couldn't tell time, remember her locker combination, or count out change at a checkout counter -- and she was in seventh grade. For a straight-A student like Samantha, problems like these made no sense. She dreaded school, and began having anxiety attacks. In her thirteenth winter, she found the courage to confront her problems, and was diagnosed with a learning disability. Samantha's life began to change again as she discovered she was stronger than she'd ever thought possible, and hope is closer than you think.

Mystery

***Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie* by Alan Bradley Not sold at the Book Fair**

It is the summer of 1950--and at the once-grand mansion of Buckshaw, young Flavia de Luce, an aspiring chemist with a passion for poison, is intrigued by a series of inexplicable events: A dead bird is found on the doorstep, a postage stamp bizarrely pinned to its beak. Then, hours later, Flavia finds a man lying in the cucumber patch and watches him as he takes his dying breath.

Historical Fiction

***Mississippi Trial, 1955* by Chris Crowe \$5.99**

At first Hiram is excited to visit his hometown in Mississippi. But soon after he arrives, he crosses paths with Emmett Till, a black teenager from Chicago who is also visiting for the summer, and Hiram sees firsthand how the local whites mistreat blacks who refuse to "know their place." When Emmett's tortured dead body is found floating in a river, Hiram is determined to find out who could do such a thing. But what will it cost him to know? *Mississippi Trial, 1955* is a gripping read, based on true events that helped spark the Civil Rights Movement.

***The Book Thief* by Martin Zusak \$12.99**

Set during World War II in Germany, Markus Zusak's new novel is the story of Liesel Meminger, a foster girl living outside of Munich. Liesel scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist--books. With the help of her foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement before he is marched to Dachau.

***Witness* by Karen Hesse \$6.99**

These characters are among the unforgettable cast inhabiting a small Vermont town in 1924. This town turns against its own when the Ku Klux Klan moves in. No one is safe, especially the two youngest, twelve-year-old Leanora, an African-American girl, and six-year-old Esther, who is Jewish.

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