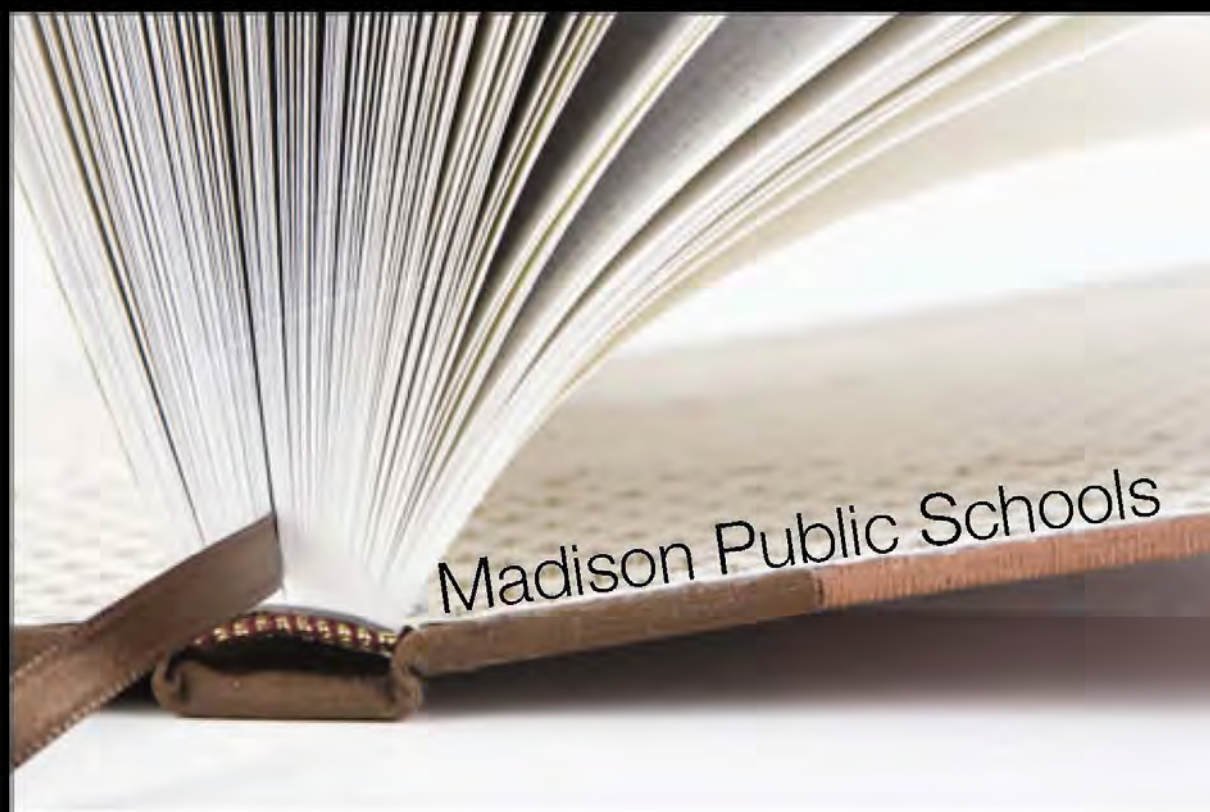


Express
Yourself
at
Your Library



2009
Grades K-12

Summer Reading List

Madison Public Schools

Excellence In Education

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Greetings from the Central Office.

I am pleased to share with you the 2009 Summer Reading List that has been compiled through the collaborative efforts of many individuals, including the Madison Public Schools' library media specialists and staff, language arts / English coordinators and teachers, reading consultants, and Jane Ash, Children's Librarian and Chris Angeli, Young Adult Librarian from Scranton Memorial Library. All have been truly dedicated to developing a compelling list of titles that will appeal to our students.

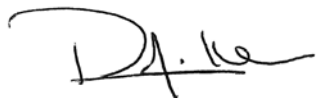
The Summer Reading List is a roster of suggested titles, except where noted. All those involved in its development acknowledge that the list of titles, although covering a wide variety of genre, is limited. We do not intend to discourage students' sampling of other books or magazines and periodicals not on the list. We do intend to encourage your child(ren) to read books that you recommend. Please ask librarians or representatives from local book stores for assistance in suggesting more titles. Everyone is ready to contribute ideas that help young people develop a love of reading.

This year's list has been updated to include many new titles and it also contains "mini-lists" of librarian picks, student favorites, and selected titles from Connecticut authors. In addition, there is a list of the Nutmeg Award nominees and winners. In January, students may vote for their favorite nominee to win the coveted state award. These titles were selected by the Connecticut Nutmeg Committee.

Books available in audio format at Scranton Library are also noted along with information about Scranton Library's Summer Programs, such as Nutmeg Discussion groups and the Teen Summer Reading Incentive. For a schedule of events at Scranton Library, go to www.scrantonlibrary.org.

By working together, we can make reading an important activity in our young people's lives. Best wishes for an enjoyable and relaxing summer being transformed by these wonderful books. Should you like to explore reading lists for other grades, visit the Madison Public Schools' website at www.madison.k12.ct.us.

Sincerely,



David J. Klein
Superintendent of Schools

2009 Summer Reading List Committee:

Madison Public Schools:

Sandra Bizier	Island Avenue Elementary School
Dawn Fiorelli	Walter C. Polson Middle School
Larry Halpern	J.M. Jeffery Elementary School
Noel Heimer	Dr. R.H. Brown Lower Middle School
George Petrakopoulos	Daniel Hand High School; Library Media Substitute
Anita Rutlin	Assistant Superintendent of Schools
John Wiggins-Strada	K.H. Ryerson Elementary School

Scranton Memorial Library:

Jane Ash	Children's Librarian
Chris Angeli	Young Adult Librarian

Thank you to the Language Arts / English Coordinators and faculty, the reading teachers, and the library paraprofessionals for their assistance in creating this document.

Cover Design: Madeleine I. Heimer, graphic design, third year, Drexel University

The annotations in this guide are used with generous permission from the following:
Follett Library Resources, McHenry, Illinois
LION (Libraries On-Line) IPAC, Middletown Connecticut, who credits
Syndetic Solutions, Inc., Portland, Oregon
Select authors

2009 Summer Reading Grades K-4

General Instructions

On the following pages is the suggested Summer Reading List for students entering Grades K-4 in the fall of 2009. Books used for core instruction during the school year are not on this list. **Students are encouraged to read at least five books this summer.** A selected book may be one that can be read by the child, with the child, or to the child.

While the summer reading list should serve as a guide, reading need not be limited to these titles. If the suggested book title is not available, try another by the same author. Additional authors are also listed. Please remember that each child's reading ability varies; therefore, you are welcome to choose a title from another grade level, if it seems appropriate. The library media specialists, classroom teachers, and reading teachers in each school, as well as the children's librarian at Scranton Library, will be happy to assist you and your child in choosing the best books for you to read to your child or for your child to read independently. Scranton Library has several resources (listed below) that may help you find a particular book. A list of periodicals is also included as part of this summer reading packet. Students are encouraged to enjoy this form of reading as well. Additional reading lists are available online at www.madison.k12.ct.us, at your child's school web site, at Scranton Library, and at local book stores.

It is expected that students will complete the recording sheet for grades K-4 found at the end of the list. **Please return the sheets to the school's library media specialist in September.**

Suggested Periodicals for Students

[American Girl](#)
[Appleseeds](#)
[Cobblestone](#)
[Jack and Jill](#)
[Kids Discover](#)
[Ladybug](#)

[National Geographic Kids](#)
[Ranger Rick](#)
[Spider](#)
[Sports Illustrated Kids](#)
[Zoo Books](#)

Resources for Parents

Books:

Backes, Laura: [Best Books for Kids Who Think They Hate to Read](#)
Miles, Betty: [Hey! I'm Reading!](#)
Ragi, Esme: [How to Get Your Child to Love Reading](#)
Baxter, Kathleen A: [Gotcha for Guys!](#)

Periodicals:

[Parents](#) [Parenting](#) [Family Fun](#)

Helpful Web Sites

Scranton Library Children's Section
www.scrantonlibrary.org/children

Connecticut Nutmeg Award
<http://www.nutmegaward.org/>

Recommended Reading for Children
www.kidsreads.com

Reading Is Fundamental
www.rif.org

Books for Boys
<http://www.geocities.com/talestoldtall/index.html>

Summer Programs at Scranton Memorial Library

Nutmeg Discussion Groups for Grades 4-6 will meet from 6:30 – 7:30 P.M. on Mondays, June 29th through August 31st.

Be Creative @ Your Library Summer Reading Program

What's behind the museum doors?
Come into our library and explore.
Play our game board, read and dream.
Win some prizes including ice cream!

Registration begins June 14 at the Scranton Memorial Library. Each half hour you read takes you on an adventurous journey through many types of museums, including science, art, sports and more (**Grades K - 6**).

Kindergarten

If the suggested title is not available, try another by the same author.

A selected book may be one that can be read by the child, with the child, or to the child. You are welcome to choose a title from another grade level to read aloud to your child.

Students are asked to complete and return a recording sheet(s) to the school's library media specialist in September.

FICTION: Picture Book

Anholt, Catherine and Laurence: **Monkey Around with Chimp and Zee**

Crimi, Carolyn: **Don't Need Friends**

Cronin, Doreen: **Diary of a Fly**

Davis, Katie: **I'm Telling You, Dex, Kindergarten Rocks**

Feiffer, Jules: **Bark George, I Lost My Bear**

Fleming, Denise: **Buster**

Fox, Mem: **Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes**

Heide Parry, Florence: **Some Things are Scary**

LaRochelle, David: **The Best Pet of All**

McCarty, Peter: **Hondo and Fabian**

Portis, Antoinette: **Not a Stick, Not a Box**

Rathmann, Peggy: **The Day the Babies Crawled Away**

Rohmann, Eric: **My Friend Rabbit, A Kitten's Tale**

Seeger, Laura Vaccaro: **First the Egg, One Boy**

Schlein, Miriam: **Little Raccoon's Big Question**

Silverman, Erica: **Don't Fidget a Feather**

Stevenson, James: **Don't Make Me Laugh**

Swanson, Susan Marie: **The House in the Night**
2009 Caldecott Medal

Willems, Mo: **Knuffle Bunny Too: A Case of Mistaken Identity**

Wilson, Karma: **A Frog in the Bog**

Authors: Jan Brett, Eric Carle, Ezra Keats, David Shannon, Rosemary Wells, Ted Arnold, Audrey Wood, Lois Ehlert

NON-FICTION: Picture Book

Brett, Jan: **The Three Snow Bears**

Cowley, Joy: **Chameleon, Chameleon**

Demuth, Patricia: **Snakes**

Dodson, Peter: **An Alphabet of Dinosaurs**

Driscoll, Laura: **All About Dogs and Puppies**

Dussling, Jennifer: **Planets**

Egielski, Richard: **The Gingerbread Boy**

Frost, Helen: **Dogs**

Gillis, Jennifer Blizin: **Cats**

Hall, Margaret: **Ladybugs**

Macken, JoAnn Early: **Horses**

McKay, Sindy: **About Dinosaurs**

Ransom, Candice F.: **Big Rigs**

Singer, Marilyn: **Fireflies at Midnight**

Authors: Allan Fowler, Gail Gibbons, David M. Schwartz

Grades 1 and 2

A selected book may be one that can be read by the child, with the child, or to the child. You are welcome to choose a title from another grade level to read aloud to your child.

If the suggested title is not available, try another by the same author. At the end of the Grades 1-2 list, look for the most popular books under "Student Picks!" Also, at the end of the K-4 list, you will find selected titles by Connecticut authors.

Students are asked to complete and return a recording sheet(s) to the school's library media specialist in September.

☺ LIBRARIAN PICKS!

These books are the librarians' favorites. Try one!

AUDIO FORMAT AVAILABLE

These books are available at Scranton Library as a sound cassette📻, CD📀, playaway™📖, or downloadable audiobook📱. To access the audiobook collection, you must make one trip to Scranton Library to create a free account. After that, everything can be done remotely at www.scrantonlibrary.org.

FICTION: Picture Books

Binkow, Howard: **Howard B. Wigglebottom Learns About Bullies**

Howard B. Wigglebottom learns a valuable lesson in bravery after he makes the decision to confide in his teacher about how the Snorton twins have been bullying him.

☺ Child, Lauren: **But Excuse Me That is My Book**
When Lola's favorite book is not on the library's shelf, her older brother, Charlie, tries to find another book she will enjoy.

☺ Cole, Henry: **On Meadowview Street**
Upon moving to a new house, young Caroline and her parents encourage wildflowers to grow and birds and animals to stay in their yard, which soon has the whole suburban street living up to its name.

Davis, Katie: **Mabel the Tooth Fairy**
Relates how Mabel Becaharovic's failure to brush or floss her own teeth turned her from an ordinary fairy into the Tooth Fairy.

Donaldson, Julia: **The Gruffalo**

A clever mouse uses the threat of a terrifying creature to keep from being eaten by a fox, an owl, and a snake--only to have to outwit that creature as well.

☺ Elya, Susan Middleton: **Bebe Goes Shopping**
Rhyming text describes a trip to the grocery store for a mama and her baby boy. Includes a glossary of Spanish words used in the story.

Fleishman, Paul: **Sidewalk Circus**
A young girl watches as the activities across the street from her bus stop become a circus.

Frazer, Marla: **A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever**
Friends James and Eamon enjoy a wonderful week at the home of Eamon's grandparents during summer vacation.

Graham, Bob: **How to Heal a Broken Wing**
When Will finds a bird with a broken wing, he takes it home and cares for it, hoping in time it will be able to return to the sky.

Grey, Mini: **Traction Man Meets Turbodog**
Traction Man braves the evil bin things in order to save Scrubbing Brush, who had been thrown away by the little boy's father and replaced with a battery-operated dog.

Grogan, John: **Bad Dog, Marley!**
Marley, a rambunctious puppy, causes lots of trouble in his new home--and feels very sad about it--but then proves beyond a doubt that he is a valuable member of the household.

☺ Helakoski, Leslie: **Big Chickens**
While trying to escape from a wolf, four frightened chickens keep getting themselves into the very predicaments they are trying to avoid.

☺ Jacobson, Jennifer: **Andy Shane and the Pumpkin Trick**

Andy Shane, with help from Grandma Webb and some marbles, tricks the people who keep stealing his friend Dolores Starbuckle's Halloween pumpkin.

Keller, Laurie: **Arnie the Doughnut**
Arnie the talking doughnut convinces Mr. Bing that not all doughnuts are meant to be eaten.

Madison, Alan: **Velma Gratch & the Way Cool Butterfly**

First grade does not go very well for Velma, whose older sisters were practically perfect students, until her class takes a trip to a butterfly conservatory and a monarch butterfly demands to be her friend.

McMullan, Kate & Jim: **I'm Bad!**

A hungry Tyrannosaurus rex searches for food in the prehistoric forest but is thwarted in its attempts to find something to eat.

By the same author of **I Stink!** and **I'm Dirty!**

O'Neill, Alexis: **The Recess Queen**

Mean Jean is the biggest bully on the school playground until a new girl arrives and challenges Jean's status as the Recess Queen.

Palatini, Margie: **Tub-boo-boo**

Henry gets his toe stuck in the tub spout while taking a bath and everyone who tries to free him gets stuck as well.

☺ Rex, Adam: **Pssst!**

The animals at the zoo have some unusual requests for a little girl who goes to visit, and mischief ensues when she decides to help them.

Reynolds, Peter: **Ish**

Ramon loses confidence in his ability to draw, but his sister gives him a new perspective on things.

Scieszka, Jon: **The True Story of the Three Little Pigs**

The wolf gives his own outlandish version of what really happened when he tangled with the three little pigs.

Sierra, Judy: **Mind Your Manners, B.B. Wolf**

When B.B. Wolf, who now lives in the Villain Villa Retirement Residence, is invited to the library for a storybook tea, he is careful to follow the advice of his crocodile friend and impresses everyone with how polite he can be.

Simon, James: **Baby Brains and RoboMom**

Baby Brains, "the smartest baby in the universe," creates a robot--RoboMom--to help his parents with their chores around the house; her help proves to be a little bit problematic.

☺ Schwarz, Viviane: **Timothy and the Strong Pajamas: A Superhero Adventure**

"This is the story of Timothy Smallbeast. He wasn't big. And he wasn't strong. (But he really, really wished he was.)" After his mother mends his favorite pajamas, Timothy finds that he has super strength and decides to

use it to help others; when the pajamas rip again, he loses his strength just when he needs it most.

Wiesner, David: **Flotsam**

2007 Caldecott Medal

A colorful wordless picture book that features a young, science-minded boy who goes to the beach to collect and examine anything floating that has been washed ashore and discovers an underwater camera that contains a collection of unusual pictures.

☺ Yarrow, Peter: **Puff the Magic Dragon**

The adventures of a boy and his dragon friend are recounted in this classic song from the 1960s.

Authors: Janell Cannon, James Marshall, Susan Meddaugh, Katharine Holabrid, Marilyn Moss, Carol Carrick, Mo Willems, Audrey Wood, Jonathan London, William Steig, Victoria Kann, Kevin Henkes

FICTION: Chapter Books

Blume, Judy: **Cool Zone with the Pain and the Great One**

More adventures at school and at home with Jake, a first-grader, and his older sister Abigail, known to each other as the Pain and the Great One.

Byers, Betsy: **My Brother Ant**

In four separate stories, Ant's older brother gets rid of the monster under Ant's bed, forgives Ant for drawing on his homework, tries to read a story, and helps Ant write a letter to Santa.

Cushman, Doug: **Aunt Eater Loves a Mystery**

Aunt Eater loves mystery stories so much that she sees mysterious adventures wherever she looks.

George, Jean Craighead: **Goose and Duck**

A young boy becomes the "mother" to a goose, who becomes "mother" to a duck, as they learn about the rhythms of nature together.

Guest, Elisssa Haden: **Iris and Walter and Baby Rose**

Mills, Elizabeth: **Belle**

Emmy has just moved from the country and had to leave her beloved horse behind, but Belle, an American quarter horse on which she takes riding lessons, helps her get used to city life.

Maccarone, Grace: **Itchy, Itchy Chicken Pox**
Peppy rhymes present the humorous side to a common ailment.

Ormerod, Jan: **Ballet Sisters: The Duckling and the Swan**
Sylvie and her older sister dance their way through make-believe adventures.

Rylant, Cynthia: **Poppleton**
Poppleton the pig makes a friend, reads a library book about adventure, and helps a sick friend get better.

Sachar, Louis: **Marvin Redpost: Alone In His Teacher's House**
Marvin is pleased when his teacher asks him to take care of her dog while she's away, but he soon finds that there's more pressure involved than he likes.

FICTION: Series

Arnold, Tedd: **Fly Guy**

Brown, Jeff: **Flat Stanley**

Chaconas, Dori: **Cork & Fuzz**

DiCamillo, Kate: **Mercy Watson**

Giff, Patricia Reilly: **The Kids of the Polk Street School**

Higginson, Hadley: **Keeker**

Howe, James: **Pinky and Rex**

Klein, Abby: **Ready, Freddy!**

Lakin, Patricia: **Max & Mo**

Meadows, Daisy: **Rainbow Fairies**

McDonald, Megan: **Stink**

Pilkey, Dav: **Ricky Ricotta**

📖 Roy, Ron: **A to Z Mysteries**

📖 Rylant, Cynthia: **Henry and Mudge**

Shields, Gillian: **Mermaid S.O.S.**

Thaler, Mike: **Black Lagoon**

© Willems, Mo: **Elephant & Piggie**

NON-FICTION: General (includes folktales)

Alfano, Maria B.: **How to Draw the Newest Pokemon**
Presents step-by-step instructions for drawing the newest kinds of Pokemon.

Bishop, Nic: **Butterflies and Moths**

Ballard, Robert D.: **Finding the Titanic**
Describes the voyage of the Titanic, the accident that caused it to sink, the rescue of those who survived and the 1986 expedition to find the sunken ship.

Clements, Andrew: **A Million Dots**
Illustrations and fun facts demonstrate what one million dots look like.

Fleischman, Paul: **Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: A Worldwide Cinderella**
A retelling of the "Cinderella" story based on a variety of folk traditions, including elements from Mexico, Iran, Korea, Russia, Appalachia, and other countries and regions.

Gibbons, Gail: **Frogs**

Gibbons, Gail: **Nature's Green Umbrella Tropical Rain Forests**
Describes the climatic conditions of the rain forest as well as the different layers of plants and animals that comprise the ecosystem.

Jenkins, Steve: **Prehistoric Actual Size**
Provides facts especially about the sizes of various dinosaurs and other prehistoric animals.

Johnstone, Michael: **NASCAR**

Kramer, Stephen: **Tornado**

Larson, Kirby: **Two Bobbies: A True Story of Hurricane Katrina, Friendship, and Survival**
Tells the true story of Bobbie the dog and Bob Cat, two pets who bonded together and were able to survive the devastation of Hurricane Katrina.

Latta, Sara L: **What Happens in Summer?**
Simple text and photographs describe the things animals and people do in the summer, how the summer helps plants to grow, and what makes the summer warm.

McLeese, Don: **Babe Ruth**

Mclimans, David: **Gone Wild: An Endangered Animal Alphabet**
2007 Caldecott Honor
Presents the alphabet in capital letters designed to look like endangered animals.

Neye, Emily: **All About Cats and Kittens**

Ross, Kathy: **Crafts for Kids Who Are Learning About Insects**
Contains full color, illustrated instructions for creating twenty-two projects that help kids learn about insects.

Ross, Kathy: **Crafts for Kids Who Are Learning About Community Workers**
Provides a collection of activities to illustrate what the different members of a community do, including firefighters, policemen, shopkeepers, doctors, teachers, bakers, and more.

Schultz, Sam: **Animal Antics: The Beast Jokes Ever**
A collection of jokes and riddles about all kinds of animals.

Sebel, Syl: **How the U.S. Government Works**

Swinburne, Stephen R.: **Bobcat: North America's Cat**

Taylor, Barbara: **Oxford First Book of Dinosaurs**

Todd, Traci: **A is for Astronaut: Space Exploration From A to Z**
Photographs and illustrations help children learn the alphabet by describing a number of things about space including the planets, astronauts and what they wear and eat, space shuttles, and the International Space Station.

VanCleave, Janice: **Play and Find Out About Science**

Walker, Sally M.: **Dolphins**

Wyler, Rose: **Magic Secrets**
Easy magic tricks for the aspiring young magician.

Authors: John F. Prevost, Stuart A. Kallen, Paul O. Zelinsky

NON-FICTION: Series

Carroll, Colleen: **How Artists See**

Hoberman, Mary Ann: **You Read to Me, I'll Read to You**

Various Authors: **American Symbols**

Various Authors: **Bugs, Bugs, Bugs**

Various Authors: **First Facts Series: Community Helpers at Work**

Various Authors: **First Facts Series: The Solar System**

Various Authors: **How to Draw Series**

POETRY

Dakos, Kall: **Mrs. Cole on an Onion Roll and Other School Poems**

Florian, Douglas: **Beast Feast, Bow Wow Meow Meow: It's Rhyming Cats and Dogs**

George, Kristine O'Connell: **Toasting Marshmallows: Camping Poems**

Grossman, Bill: **Timothy Tunny Swallowed a Bunny**

Hopkins, Lee Bennett: **Extra Innings Baseball Poems**

Janecko, Paul B.: **Dirty Laundry Pile: Poems in Different Voices**

Larios, Julie Hofstrand: **Yellow Elephant: A Bright Bestiary**

Shore, Diane ZuHone: **This is the Feast**


Authors: Brod Bagert, J. Patrick Lewis, Jane Yolen

Student Picks: 1st & 2nd Grade

Boelts, Maribeth: **Before You Were Mine**

DiCamillo, Kate: **The Mercy Watson Series**

Himmelman, John: **Tudley Didn't Know**

 Marshall, Edward: **Fox on Wheels**

Shannon, David: **Too Many Toys**

Grades 3 and 4

A selected book may be one that can be read by the child, with the child, or to the child. You are welcome to choose a title from another grade level to read aloud to your child. The text of many picture books is at an advanced level for older students. Try the ones listed below!

If the suggested title is not available, try another by the same author. At the end of the Grades 3-4 list, look for the most popular books under "Student Picks!" Also, at the end of the K-4 list, you will find selected titles by Connecticut authors.

Students are asked to complete and return a recording sheet(s) to the school's library media specialist in September.

☺ **LIBRARIAN PICKS!**

These books are the librarians' favorites. Try one!

AUDIO FORMAT AVAILABLE

These books are available at Scranton Library as a sound cassette, CD, playaway, or downloadable audiobook. To access the audiobook collection, you must make one trip to Scranton to create a free account. After that, everything can be done remotely at <http://www.scrantonlibrary.org/>.

FICTION: Picture Books

Beaty, Andrea: **Iggy Peck, Architect**

Ever since he was a baby, Iggy Peck has built towers, bridges, and buildings, which come in handy when his second grade class is stranded on an island during a picnic.

Bunting, Eve:

Fly Away Home, The Wednesday Surprise, The Bones of Fred McFee, The Wall

A boy and his father come from far away to visit the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington and find the name of the boy's grandfather, who was killed in the conflict.

Faulkner, Matt: **A Taste of Colored Water**

Curious about the colored water they have heard about coming from a fountain in town, Lulu and Jelly set out to get a taste of it for themselves. Things don't go as planned when the two kids learn what the description really means.

Hegamin, Tonya: **Most Loved in All the World**

Even though Mama is an agent on the Underground Railroad, in order to help others she must remain a slave, but she teaches her daughter the value of freedom through a gift of love and sacrifice.

Kerby, Mona: **Owney, the Mail Pouch Pooch**

In 1888, Owney, a stray terrier puppy, finds a home in the Albany, New York, post office and becomes its official mascot.

Levine, Ellen: **Henry's Freedom Box**

A fictionalized account of how in 1849 a Virginia slave, Henry "Box" Brown, escapes to freedom by shipping himself in a wooden crate from Richmond to Philadelphia.

Polacco, Patricia:

When Lightning Comes in a Jar, My Rotten Redheaded Older Brother, The Bee Tree, Thunder Cake, Meteor! The Keeping Quilt

A homemade quilt ties together the lives of four generations of an immigrant Jewish family. It remains a symbol of their enduring love and faith.

Schotter, Roni: **Doo-Wop Pop**

A school janitor teaches children to sing and have confidence in themselves.

Shulevitz, Uri: **How I Learned Geography**

2009 Caldecott Honor

As he spends hours studying his father's world map, a young boy escapes the hunger and misery of refugee life.

Van Allsburg, Chris:

The Sweetest Fig, Zathura, The Garden of Abdul Gasazi, The Stranger, The Wretched Stone, Jumanji, Probuditi!

Weatherford, Carole Boston: **Dear Mr. Rosenwald**

Young Ovella rejoices as her community comes together to raise money and build a much-needed school in the 1920s, with matching funds from the president of Sears, Roebuck, and Company and support from Professor James of the Normal School.

☺ Woodson, Jacqueline: **The Other Side**

Two girls, one white and one African-American, gradually get to know each other as they sit on the fence that divides their town.

FICTION: Chapter Books

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.

Byars, Betsy Cromer: **Dog Diaries: Secret Writings of the WOOF Society**

At the first annual meeting of WOOF--Words of Our Friends--assorted dogs preserve their heritage by sharing tales of canines throughout history.

Cassels, Jean: **The Mysterious Collection of Dr. David Harleyson**

When world-famous artist David Harleyson disappears, his nephew pieces together the clues found on the backs of a group of portraits, which feature characters from Mother Goose, Grimm, and Aesop, to decipher where he went.

☺ 🗨️ Clements, Andrew: **No Talking**

The noisy fifth grade boys of Laketon Elementary School challenge the equally loud fifth grade girls to a "no talking" contest.

Davies, Jacqueline: **The Lemonade War**

Evan and his younger sister, Jesse, react very differently to the news that they will be in the same class for fourth grade. As the end of summer approaches, they battle it out through lemonade stands, each trying to be the first to earn 100 dollars.

Delaney, M. C.: **The Great Sockathon**

Sabrina, contacted by a desperate ghost, enlists her friends Megan, Connie, and Daisy to help her mount an ambitious fundraiser in an attempt to keep the dying Balm of Gilead tree in which the ghost girl lives from being cut down.

🖼️ 🗨️ DiCamillo, Kate: **The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess, Some Soup, and a Spool of Thread**

The adventures of Despereaux Tilling, a small mouse of unusual talents, the princess that he loves, the servant girl who longs to be a princess and a devious rat determined to bring them all to ruin.

Dowd, Siobhan: **The London Eye Mystery**

When Ted and Kat's cousin Salim disappears from the London Eye ferris wheel, the two siblings must work

together--Ted with his brain that is "wired differently" and impatient Kat--to try to solve the mystery of what happened to Salim.

Fellowes, Julian: **The Curious Adventures of the Abandoned Toys**

When Doc the bear arrives at the dump from his former home, he isn't sure about what awaits him, but his new friends are determined to make his new home a welcoming one.

Jenkins, Emily: **Toys Go Out: Being the Adventures of a Knowledgeable Stingray, a Toughy Little Buffalo, and Someone Called Plastic**

Six stories relate the adventures of three best friends, who happen to be toys.

Korman, Gordon: **Swindle**

After unscrupulous collector S. Wendell Palamino 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; he plans to use the money to finance his father's failing invention, the Smart Pick fruit picker.

Potter, Ellen: **Olivia Kidney**

Twelve-year-old Olivia explores her new apartment building and finds a psychic, talking lizards, a shrunken ex-pirate, an exiled princess, ghosts, and other unusual characters.

St. George, Judith: **The Ghost, the White House and Me**

When eleven-year-old KayKay Granger learns that the White House is haunted and uses that knowledge to play a prank on her family, she lands in big trouble with her mother, the United States President.

Selznick, Brian: **The Invention of Hugo Cabret: A Novel in Words and Pictures**

2008 Caldecott Medal

When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toy seller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

Weeks, Sarah: **Oggie Cooder**

Quirky fourth-grader Oggie Cooder goes from being shunned to everyone's best friend when his uncanny ability to chew slices of cheese into the shapes of states wins him a slot on a popular television talent show. He soon learns the perils of being a celebrity--and having a neighbor girl as his manager.

Wojciechowska, Maia: **Shadow of a Bull**
Manolo Olivar has to make a decision: to follow in his famous father's shadow and become a bullfighter, or to follow his heart and become a doctor.

FICTION: Series

Baglio, Ben M.: **Animal Ark**

Barrows Annie: **Ivy + Bean**

Coville, Bruce: **Moongobble and Me**

Greenberg, Dan: **Zack Files**

☺ Gutman, Dan: **Baseball Card Adventures Series**
Gutman, Dan: **My Weird School**

📖 Kinney, Jeff: **Diary of a Wimpy Kid**

Korman, Gordon: **Island; Dive; Everest**

Mazer, Anne: **The Amazing Days of Abby Hayes**

📖 Pennypacker, Sara: **Clementine**

Reiche, Dietlof: **Golden Hamster Saga**

☺ ☹ 📖 Riordan, Rick: **Percy Jackson and the Olympians**

📖 Sachar, Louis: **Sideways Stories from Wayside School**

📖 Scieszka, Jon: **The Time Warp Trio**

☹ Stilton, Geronimo: **Various Titles**

Van Draanen, Wendelin: **Shredderman**

Winkler, Henry: **Hank Zipzer**

📖 📖 Various Authors: **American Girl**

Various Authors: **The Maze of Bones**

Authors: Judy Blume, Matt Christopher, Beverly Cleary, Roald Dahl, Andrew Clements, Gary Paulsen, Judith St. George

NON-FICTION: General (includes folktales)

☺ Adler, David A: **Calculator Riddles**

By solving math problems on a calculator and turning it upside down to view the answer, riddles can be solved in this collection of calculator riddles.

Agee, Jon: **Palindromania!**

Presents illustrations, comic strips, and monologues that all revolve around palindromes--words or phrases that read the same backward and forward.

Buckley, Carol: **Just for Elephants**

Describes the Elephant Sanctuary in Hohenwald, Tennessee, where elephants have complete freedom to roam the spacious grounds and live much as they would in the wild.

☹ Dillon, Leo: **Jazz on a Saturday Night**

A crowd gathers on a Saturday night to groove to an evening of jazz played by a "Dream Team" of musicians including Miles Davis on trumpet, Max Roach on drums, Charlie Parker on alto saxophone, John Coltrane on his sax, Thelonius Monk on piano, Stanley Parker on bass, and Ella Fitzgerald at the microphone.

Fradin, Dennis B.: **Let It Begin Here! Lexington & Concord: First Battles of the American Revolution**

Presents a short history of the Battles of Lexington and Concord, and describes how the rebel leaders were warned of the approaching British as well as the standoff between seventy Lexington militiamen and two hundred fifty British regulars.

HatKoff, Juliana: **Looking for Miza**

When a gorilla named Miza is left alone in the jungles of Virunga National Park after her mother disappears, her father Kabirizi--with help from Congolese rangers--searches for her and eventually returns her to the endangered population of mountain gorillas.

McCullough, David (editor): **Our White House: Looking In, Looking Out**

"Created by 108 renowned authors and illustrators and the National Children's Book and Literacy Alliance": A collection of essays, personal accounts, historical fiction, and poetry that traces the history of the White House through the eyes of the children who have lived and visited there.

☺ Pye, Claire: **The Wild World of the Future**

Companion book to the Discovery Channel series: The Future is Wild. Based on evolutionary and biological principles, scientists explore what animals and the earth will look like in 5 million years, 100 million years, and 200 million years.

Sheinkin, Steve: **King George: What Was His Problem? Everything Your Schoolbooks Didn't Tell You About the American Revolution**

Presents an informal history of the American Revolution covering the Stamp Act, Paul Revere, and the battle of Ticonderoga, and includes extracts from letters, memorable quotes, and line illustrations.

Authors: Russell Freedman, Jean Fritz, David Maccauly, Patrick O'Brien

NON-FICTION: Series

Herge: **Tintin**

Holm, Jennifer: **Babymouse**

Jones, Jen: **Snap Books: Cheerleading**

Smith, Jeff: **Bone**

Various authors: **Native American Life**

Various authors: **Edge Books: War Planes**

Various authors: **Inside the NFL**

POETRY

Bryant, Jennifer: **A River of Words: The Story of William Carlos Williams**

Dakos, Kalli: **If You're Not Here, Please Raise Your Hand: Poems About School**

Fleischman, Paul: **Joyful Noise**

Fletcher, Ralph J: **Moving Day**

Fletcher Ralph: **Relatively Speaking: Poems About Family**

Florian, Douglas: **Insectlopedia**

Janeczko, Paul: **Wing Nuts: Screwly Haiku**

Authors: Jack Prelutsky, Shel Silverstein

Student Picks: 3rd & 4th Grade

Kinney, Jeff: **Diary of a Wimpy Kid**

Abbott, Tony: **Secrets of Droon** series

Dahl, Roald: **The Witches**

Farley, Walter: **The Black Stallion**

Horowitz, Anthony: **Alex Rider** series

Hunter, Erin: **The Warriors** series

McCaughrean, Geraldine: **Peter Pan in Scarlet**



Books by Connecticut Authors

Davis, Katie: **Party Animals, Who Hops?**

Giff, Patricia Reilly: **Pictures of Hollis Woods, Kids of the Polk Street** series

Hoberman, Mary Ann: **Seven Silly Eaters**

Kline, Suzy: **Herbie Jones Series, Horrible Harry Series**

Wallace, Nancy Elizabeth: **The Kindness Quilt**

Wells, Rosemary: **Noisy Nora, McDuff series, Yoko's Paper Cranes**

Connecticut Nutmeg Children's Book Award

The Nutmeg Book Award encourages children in grades 4-6 to read quality literature and to choose their favorite from a list of ten nominated titles. Jointly sponsored by the Connecticut Library Association (CLA) and the Connecticut Educational Media Association (CEMA), the Nutmeg Committee is comprised of children's librarians, school library media specialists, teachers, and student readers.

All books nominated for the award must be:

1. A work of fiction, with appeal for readers in grades 4-6;
2. Written by an author who currently resides in the United States;
3. Copyrighted in the United States, and first published no more than five years from date of selection;
4. Currently in print, and available in paper back as well as hard cover;

5. Well-written, with strong characterization, a vivid setting, striking language, a well-constructed plot, and a plausible conclusion.

(Adapted from <http://www.nutmegaward.org/>)

The 2010 Nominees for Grades 4 - 6

Archer's Quest by Linda Sue Park. Twelve-year-old Kevin is quietly doing his homework in 1999 when a fully-armed archer tumbles through space and time and into his bedroom. Upon verifying that the intruder is Chu-mong, a Korean king and folk hero from the ancient past, he works to find a way to send Chu back before history is altered forever.

Attack of the Turtle: A Novel by Drew Carlson. During the Revolutionary War, fourteen-year-old Nathan joins forces with his older cousin, the inventor David Bushnell, to secretly build the first submarine.

A Dog's Life: An Autobiography of a Stray by Ann Martin. A stray puppy named Squirrel relates her life story, beginning with her nurturing mother; providing details of her experiences with both nice and mean humans, busy highways, and the seasons; and ending with her meeting two friends.

Double Identity by Margaret Peterson Haddix. 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.

DRITA, My Homegirl by Jenny Lombard. When ten-year-old Drita and her family, refugees from Kosovo, move to New York, Drita is teased about not speaking English well. After a popular student named Maxine is forced to learn about Kosovo as a punishment for teasing Drita, the two girls soon bond.

The Ghost's Grave by Peg Kehret. Apprehensive about spending the summer in Washington State with his Aunt Ethel when his parents get overseas jobs, twelve-year-old Josh soon finds adventure when he meets the ghost of a coal miner.

Paint the Wind by Pam Munoz Ryan. After her overprotective grandmother has a stroke, eleven-year-old Maya, an orphan, leaves her extremely restricted life in California to stay with her mother's family on a remote Wyoming ranch, where she discovers a love of horses

and encounters Artemisia, a wild mare that her mother once rode.

Rules by Cynthia Lord. Frustrated at life with an autistic brother, twelve-year-old Catherine longs for a normal existence. Her world is further complicated by a friendship with a young paraplegic. (2007 Newberry Honor)

Stumptown Kid by Carol Gorman. In a small Iowa town in 1952, eleven-year-old Charlie Nebraska, whose father died in the Korean War, learns the meaning of both racism and heroism when he befriends Luther Peale, a young man who once played for the old Negro Baseball League.

The Year of the Dog: A Novel by Grace Lin. Frustrated at her seeming lack of talent for anything, a young Taiwanese American girl sets out to apply the lessons of the Chinese Year of the Dog, those of making best friends and finding oneself, to her own life.

Connecticut Nutmeg Children's Book Award

Former Winners for Grades 4 - 6:

- 2009 Evans, Douglas: **MVP * Magellan Voyage Project**
- 2008 Riordan, Rick: **The Lightning Thief**
- 2007 Harlow, Joan Hiatt: **Thunder from the Sea**
- 📖 2006 DuPrau, Jeanne: **The City of Ember**
- 2005 Bruchac, Joseph: **Skeleton Man**
- 2004 Gutman, Dan: **Babe and Me**
- 📖 2003 DiCamillo, Kate: **Because of Winn Dixie**
- 2002 Haddix, Margaret Peterson: **Among the Hidden**
- 2001 Wardlee, Lee: **101 Ways to Bug Your Parents**
- 2000 Gutman, Dan: **Million Dollar Shot**

Nutmeg Book Discussion

Scranton Memorial Library
Grades 4 – 6
Mondays, 6:30 – 7:30

- June 29 **Archer's Quest**
 by Linda Sue Park
- July 6 **A Dog's Life: The Autobiography of a Stray**
 by Ann M. Martin
- July 13 **The Ghost's Grave**
 by Peg Kehret
- July 20 **Drita, My Homegirl**
 by Jenny Lombard
- July 27 **Paint the Wind**
 by Pam Munoz Ryan
- August 3 **Rules**
 by Cynthia Lord
- August 19 **The Stumptown Kid**
 by Carol Gorman and Ron Findley
- August 17 **Attack of the Turtle**
 by Drew Carlson
- August 18 **Double Identity**
 by Margaret Peterson Haddix
- August 31 **Year of the Dog**
 by Grace Lin



Madison Public Schools' Summer Reading List
Grades K – 4 RECORDING SHEET

Please return this form to your **Library Media Specialist** no later than the first week of **September 2009**.
Use additional lined paper if necessary.

Student Name: _____ **Total Number of Titles Read** _____

Teacher's Name: _____

Please circle: Boy or Girl / Grade in September: K 1 2 3 4

AUTHOR	TITLE
#1	
#2	
#3	
#4	
#5	
#6	

#7	
#8	
#9	
#10	
#11	
#12	
#13	
#14	
#15	

2009 Summer Reading Grades 5-8

General Instructions

On the following pages is the suggested Summer Reading List for students entering Grades 5-8 in the fall of 2009. Books used for core instruction during the school year are not on this list. **Students in grades 5 and 6 are encouraged to read at least five books this summer. Students in grades 7 and 8 are encouraged to read a minimum of four books, at least one of which must come from the list that specifies required reading.** Students must complete the recording sheet that can be found at the end of the grades 5-8 list. **Please return the sheets to your Language Arts teacher.**

While the summer reading list should serve as a guide, reading need not be limited to these titles, except for the required reading noted above. If the suggested book title is not available, try another by the same author. Students are encouraged to read from a variety of genres, and additional authors are listed for each genre. Reading ability varies; therefore, students are welcome to choose a title from another grade level, if it seems appropriate. The library media specialists, classroom teachers, and reading teachers in each school, as well as the librarians at Scranton Library, will be happy to assist you in choosing the best books to read. A list of periodicals is included as part of this summer reading booklet, and students are encouraged to enjoy this form of reading. Any magazine that you read regularly throughout the summer or any graphic novel you read will be considered one of the works. Graphic novels can be found in the 741.593 section of Scranton Library. Madison Summer Reading Lists are available online at www.madison.k12.ct.us and at Scranton Library, local bookstores and chain bookstores.

Assignment for Grades 7 and 8

Each student is expected to complete summer reading before school begins. When you begin your English class, you should be prepared for some type of assessment on the book that you read from the list of **required reading for grades 7 and 8** that follows. **Please see the Grades 7 and 8 section for the list of required books and information about the assessment.**

Suggested Periodicals

The Hartford Courant	Teen Ink	Justine
National Geographic	Time	Newsweek
Electronic Gaming Monthly	Transworld	Skateboarding

Helpful Web Sites

Scranton Library Children's Section
www.scrantonlibrary.org/children

Scranton Library Teen Section
www.scrantonlibrary.org/teen

Novelist (Go to Databases)
www.scrantonlibrary.org

Best Books for Young Adults
www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists/bbya

Connecticut Nutmeg Award
<http://www.nutmegaward.org/>

Guys Read
<http://www.guysread.com/>



Summer Programs at Scranton Memorial Library

Nutmeg Discussion Groups for Grades 4 – 6
Meet from 6:30 – 7:30
Mondays, June 29 through August 31.

Nutmeg Discussion Groups for Grades 7 – 8
Meet from 7:00 – 8:00
Tuesdays, June 30, July 14, July 28,
August 11, August 25

Register for the Nutmeg Programs at Scranton Memorial Library. Details can be found at the end of the Nutmeg lists that follow the Summer Reading List.

Grades 5 and 6

All students are asked to read at least **five** books. If the suggested title is not available, try another by the same author. At the end of the Grades 5-6 list, look for the most popular books under "Student Picks!"

Students are asked to return their recording sheets to their language arts teachers who will in turn forward them to the library media specialist during library orientation classes at the beginning of the year.

The Symbols

★ **MRS. HEIMER'S PICKS!** These books are some of my favorites. Try a few of them!

📖 **FORMER NUTMEG NOMINEES**

🎧 **AUDIO FORMAT AVAILABLE**

These books are available at Scranton Library as either a: sound cassette 📼, CD 📀, playaway™ 🎧, or downloadable audiobook 📖.

To access the audiobook collection, you must make one trip to Scranton Library to create a free account. After that, you can get downloads on line at <http://www.scrantonlibrary.org/>.

To help you know what title comes in which format, we will tell you which format: compact disk (CD), cassette tape (tape), Playaway™, or download.



FICTION: Realistic / Contemporary/Adventure – Stories about people like you and me.

★ Barry, Dave: **Science Fair: A Story of Mystery, Danger, International Suspense, and a Very Nervous Frog**

The president of Kprshtskan is plotting to infiltrate the science fair at Hubble Middle School in Maryland in order to take over the United States government. When Toby Harbinger, an ordinary student, makes up his mind finally to win the fair, the terrorists' plans go awry.

📖 Broach, Elise: **Shakespeare's Secret**

Named after a character in a Shakespeare play, misfit sixth-grader Hero becomes interested in exploring this unusual connection because of a valuable diamond supposedly hidden in her new house, an intriguing neighbor, and the unexpected attention of the most popular boy in school.

Connor, Leslie: **Waiting for Normal**

Twelve-year-old Addie tries to cope with her mother's erratic behavior and being separated from her beloved stepfather and half-sisters when she and her mother go to live in a small trailer by the railroad tracks on the outskirts of Schenectady, New York. 📖

📖 Corbett, Sue: **Free Baseball**

Eleven-year-old Felix becomes a bat boy for a minor league baseball team, hoping to someday be like his father, a famous Cuban outfielder.

Creech, Sharon: **Hate That Cat**

Jack is studying poetry again in school, and he continues to write poems reflecting his understanding of famous works and how they relate to his life.

📖 Evans, Doug: **MVP*: *Magellan Voyage Project**

Twelve-year-old Adam Story is challenged by the deposed ruler of Babababad and his mongoose companion to become the first youngster to travel around the world in forty days without an adult.

Gutman, Dan: **Getting Air**

After foiling a terrorist hijacking aboard their airplane, fourteen-year-old Jimmy, his younger sister, and two skateboarding friends crash-land the plane and try to survive in a forest wilderness until help arrives.

Hiassen, Carl: **Scat**

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.

Kehret, Peg: **Escaping the Giant Wave**

When an earthquake creates a tsunami while thirteen-year-old Kyle is babysitting his sister during a family vacation at a Pacific Coast resort, he tries to save himself, his sister, and a boy who has bullied him for years. Includes an author's note which provides factual information on tsunamis.

★ Kinney, Jeff. **Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Last Straw**

Middle-schooler Greg Heffley nimbly sidesteps his father's attempts to change Greg's wimpy ways until his father threatens to send him to military school.

📖 Ritter, John: **The Boy Who Saved Baseball**

The fate of a small California town rests on the outcome of one baseball game, and Tom Gallagher hopes to lead his team to victory with the secrets of the now disgraced player, Dante Del Gato.

Spinelli, Jerry: **Smiles to Go**

Will Tupponce's life has always been ruled by science and common sense but in ninth grade, shaken up by the discovery that protons decay, he begins to see the entire world differently and gains new perspective on his relationships with his little sister and two closest friends.

📖 Stewart, Jennifer: **Close Encounters of a Third World Kind**

Twelve-year-old Annie is reluctant to travel to a village in Nepal for her father's two-month medical mission; but once there, she assists at the clinic, makes friends with a local girl, and has adventures that change her life.

Authors: Louisa May Alcott, Sharon Creech, Robert Holland, Lois Lowry, Linda Sue Park, Daniel Pinkwater



FICTION: Fantasy / Science Fiction/Supernatural - Stories about other worlds or worlds in the future.

★ Aguiar, Nadia: **The Lost Island of Tamarind**

Thirteen-year-old Maya, who has spent her life at sea with her marine biologist parents, yearns for a normal life. When a storm washes her parents overboard, life becomes anything but normal for Maya, her younger brother and baby sister, as they land at a mysterious, uncharted island filled with danger.

Appelt, Kathi: **The Underneath**

An old hound that has been chained up at his hateful owner's run-down shack, and two kittens born underneath the house, endure separation, danger, and many other tribulations in their quest to be reunited and free.

📖 Arnold, Louise: **Golden & Grey: (An Unremarkable Boy and a Rather Remarkable Ghost)**

When a downhearted ghost becomes the "invisible friend" of an eleven-year-old boy who is an outcast in his new school, the two help each other find their place in their respective worlds.

★ Colfer, Eoin: **Artemis Fowl: The Time Paradox**

Artemis's fairy friends help him travel back in time to find a cure for his mother's rare disease which can only be cured by the brain fluid of now-extinct African lemurs. He is shocked to discover that it was actually his younger self who was responsible for bringing about the animal's extinction.

★ Collier, James Lincoln: **The Dreadful Revenge of Ernest Gallen**

When Eugene starts hearing a voice inside his head telling him to do awful things, it leads him to look into his small town's past before the Depression, and to discover long-hidden secrets about his neighbors and his town.

DuPrau, Jeanne: **The Prophet of Yonwood**

While visiting the small town of Yonwood, North Carolina, eleven-year-old Nickie makes some decisions about how to identify both good and evil when she witnesses the townspeople's reactions to the apocalyptic visions of one of their neighbors.

📖 Fox, Helen: **Eager**

In late-twenty-first-century England, the Bell family, looking to replace their malfunctioning robot, buys Eager, who is programmed to learn through trial and error like humans and who, with the Bell children, comes to see that something is not right with the BDC4s, a sleek, alarmingly clever line of robots the Bells could not afford.

★ Funke, Cornelia: **Inkdeath**

Sequel to: Inkspell. As Bluejay--Mo's fictitious double--tries to keep the Book of Immortality from unraveling, Adderhead kidnaps all the children in the kingdom, and demands that Bluejay either surrender or doom the children to slavery in the silver mines.

★ Gaiman, Neil: **The Graveyard Book**

The orphan Bod, short for Nobody, is taken in by the inhabitants of a graveyard as a child of eighteen months and raised lovingly and carefully to the age of eighteen years by the community of ghosts and otherworldly creatures.

📖 Gutman, Dan: **The Homework Machine**

Four fifth-grade students--a geek, a class clown, a teacher's pet, and a slacker--as well as their teacher and mothers, relate events surrounding a computer programmed to complete homework assignments. 📖

Haddix, Margaret Peterson: **Palace of Mirrors**

Fourteen-year-old Cecilia has always known she is the true princess of Suala, but when she and her best friend, Harper, decide to speed up her ascendancy to the throne, they find danger and many imposters who challenge her claim. 📖

★ Hale, Shannon: **Book of a Thousand Days**
Fifteen-year-old Dashti, sworn to obey her sixteen-year-old mistress, the Lady Saren, shares Saren's years of punishment locked in a tower, then brings her safely to the lands of her true love, where both must hide who they are as they work as kitchen maids.

Higson, Charles: **Hurricane Gold: A James Bond Adventure**

Young James Bond embarks on a deadly chase through the Mexican jungle as he tries to recover a stolen safe.

Hunter, Erin: **Warriors Volume I: The Rise of Scourge**

An encounter with some wild forest cats leads Tiny to leave his life as a pampered pet behind and become the revenge-seeking Scourge.

Jacques, Brian: **Doomwyte**

The Redwallers face some of their most dangerous villains yet in a treacherous hunt for long-lost treasure.



Lowry, Lois: **Gossamer**

While learning to bestow dreams, a young dream giver tries to save an eight-year-old boy from the effects of both his abusive past and the nightmares inflicted on him by the frightening Sinisteads.

★ Park, Linda Sue, et al.: **Click**

Stories within a story, written as separate chapters by a number of noted authors who each contribute to the life of the mysterious George "Gee" Keane, photographer, soldier, and adventurer.

★ Pullman, Phillip: **The Golden Compass**

Accompanied by her daemon, Lyra Belacqua sets out to prevent her best friend and other kidnapped children from becoming the subject of gruesome experiments in the Far North.

★ Rowling, J.K.: **Tales of Beedle the Bard**

The wizard and the hopping pot -- The Fountain of Fair Fortune -- The warlock's hairy heart -- Babbitty Rabbitty and her cackling stump -- The tale of the three brothers. Contains five illustrated moral tales for children from the world of Harry Potter, reportedly discovered and translated by young witch Hermione Granger, with an introduction and commentary from Albus Dumbledore, headmaster of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

Riordan, Rick: **Battle of the Labyrinth**

When demonic cheerleaders invade his high school, Percy Jackson hurries to Camp Half Blood, from whence he and his demigod friends set out on a quest through the Labyrinth, while the war between the Olympians and the evil Titan lord Kronos draws near.

★ Scott, Michael: **The Magician. (Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel)**

Fifteen-year-old twins Sophie and Josh Newman continue their magical training in Paris with Nicholas Flamel, Scatty, and the Comte de Sant Germaine, pursued by Doctor Dee and the immortal Niccolo Machiavelli. The third book, **Sorceress**, is to be released in late May.

★ Skelton, Michael: **Endymion Spring**

Having reluctantly accompanied his academic mother and pesky younger sister to Oxford, twelve-year-old Blake Winters is at loose ends until he stumbles across an ancient and magical book, secretly brought to England in 1453 by Gutenberg's mute apprentice to save it from evil forces, and which now draws Blake into a dangerous and life-threatening quest.

👉 Vande Velde, Vivian: **Three Good Deeds**

Caught stealing some goose eggs from a witch, Howard is cursed for his heartlessness and turned into a goose himself. He can only become human again by performing three good deeds.

Series: Baum, Frank S.:

The Oz Books

DiTerlizzi, Tony:

Spiderwick Chronicles

Hunter, Erin:

The Warriors

Rowling, J.K.:

The Harry Potter Books

Authors: E.D. Baker, Eoin Colfer, Lemony Snicket, Roald Dahl, Cornelia Funke, Anthony Horowitz, Erin Hunter, Eva Ibbotsen, T.H. White, Laurence Yep, Jane Yolen

FICTION: Mystery / Suspense – Stories about things unknown and sometimes scary.

★ Fardell, John: **The Flight of the Silver Turtle**

Ben, Zara, Sam, and Marcia begin their summer vacation by helping Professor Ampersand and a new friend build the Silver Turtle, a futuristic airplane; but on the day the first test flight is planned, a strange woman steals the airplane with the children inside.

Feinstein, John: **Cover-Up**

Two teenagers learn that every player on a professional football team--which is supposed to play in the Super Bowl--has failed their drug test and the owner has covered up the results. Now they must find a way to prove it.

★ Higgins, F. E.: **The Bone Magician**

"The paraquel to the black book of secrets". With his father, a fugitive, falsely accused of multiple murders and the real serial killer stalking the wretched streets of Urbs Umida, Pin Carpue, a young undertaker's assistant, investigates and finds that all of the victims may have attended the performance of a stage magician who claims to be able to raise corpses and make the dead speak.

★ Holland, Robert: **AMOK!**

The Spooks and the hoods are back on Martha's Vineyard and Charles Olive Jones is right in the middle as always, only this time the hoods are represented by a man named Orsina, the Boston crime boss, who has decided to retire to Martha's Vineyard. He calls on Charlie because he believes he has seen an Amok and wants Charlie's help. The spooks are after the papers left to Charlie's father by Abby and Henry Waters, perhaps the two most accomplished spies the country ever produced. This time the ante has been raised. And, of course, there is the matter of the last high school football game that Charlie and Pete will ever play and this one is for the state championship.

Pearson, Ridley: **Kingdom Keepers II. Disney at Dawn**

When the evil Overtakers gain control of a computer server at the Magic Kingdom, allowing them to put the holographic hosts into permanent comas if they should fall asleep, Finn and the others race against time to find the missing Jez and foil the plan.

★ Sedgewick, Marcus: **My Swordhand is Singing**

In the dangerous dark of winter in an Eastern European village during the early seventeenth century, Peter learns from a gypsy girl that the Shadow Queen is behind the recent murders and reanimations, and his father's secret past may hold the key to stopping her.

Series: Horowitz, Anthony: **Alex Rider**

Holland, Robert: **Mysteries for Boys**

Authors: David A. Adler, Cynthia C. DeFelice, Bruce Hale, Odo Hirsch, James Howe, Gloria Skurzynski



FICTION: Historical – Stories set in times/ places long ago.

Avi: **Iron Thunder: The Battle Between the Monitor & the Merrimac: A Civil War Novel**

Thirteen-year-old Tom Carroll takes his place as head of the family after his father dies fighting for the Union; but his job at the local ironworks, where he helps build an iron ship for the Union army, and his loyalty come into question when he is approached by Confederate spies to sell secrets about the ship to the South.

📖 Blackwood, Gary: **The Shakespeare Stealer**

A young orphan boy is ordered by his master to infiltrate Shakespeare's acting troupe in order to steal the script of "Hamlet," but he discovers instead the meaning of friendship and loyalty. 📖

★ Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker: **The Lacemaker and the Princess**

Eleven-year-old Isabelle, living with her lacemaker grandmother and mother near the palace of Versailles in 1788, becomes close friends with Marie Antoinette's daughter, Princess Therese, and finds their relationship complicated not only by their different social class but by the growing political unrest and resentment of the French people.

Bruchac, Joseph: **March Toward Thunder**

Louis Nollette, a fifteen-year-old Abenaki Indian, joins the Irish Brigade in 1864 to fight for the Union in the Civil War.

📖 Carbone, Elisa: **Blood on the River: Jamestown 1607**

Traveling to the New World in 1606 as the page to Captain John Smith, twelve-year-old orphan Samuel Collier settles in the new colony of Jamestown, where he must quickly learn to distinguish between friend and foe.

📖 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.

📖 Crisp, Marty: **White Star: A Dog on the Titanic**

Twelve-year-old Sam, a passenger on the Titanic's maiden sea voyage, volunteers to help care for the dogs in the ocean liner's kennel and becomes fast friends with the Irish setter of J. Bruce Ismay, the ship's owner.

📖 Curtis, Christopher Paul: **Elijah of Buxton**

Eleven-year-old Elijah Freeman, the first free-born child in Buxton, Canada, which is a haven for slaves fleeing the American South in 1859, uses his wits and skills to try to bring to justice the lying preacher who has stolen money that was to be used to buy a family's freedom. 📖

★ Ferris, Jean: **Underground**

Charlotte Brown, a slave who is a maid at Mammoth Cave Hotel in 1839, is drawn to the adventurous spirit of eighteen-year-old tour guide Stephen Bishop, a slave whose knowledge of the Kentucky cave system has given him a measure of freedom. She hopes her trust in him is not misplaced when she learns that runaway slaves are arriving at the hotel in need of help. 📖

★ Lawrence, Caroline: **Charioteer of Delphi**

Flavia and her friends go to Rome to celebrate the Festival of Jupiter at Senator Cornix's town house, where they befriend the young charioteer, Scopas, and quickly find themselves embroiled in a campaign to sabotage one of the rival racing factions.

📖★ Paver, Michelle: **Chronicles of Ancient Darkness: Outcast**

Cast out of the Raven clan, Torak heads to the reedbeds at Lake Axehead, where he is hunted by the hidden people and must do battle with an ancient evil.

📖📖 Schmidt, Gary D.: **Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy**

In 1911, Turner Buckminster hates his new home of Phippsburg, Maine, but things improve when he meets Lizzie Bright Griffin, a girl from a poor, nearby island community founded by former slaves that the town fathers--and Turner's--want to change into a tourist spot. 📖

★ Scieszka, Jon: **Oh Say, I Can't See**

After arriving in Pennsylvania during the winter of 1776, time travelers Joe, Fred, and Samantha inspire General George Washington, "the man on the one dollar bill," to carry out a surprise attack on Hessian troops in Trenton, New Jersey, that will change the course of the Revolutionary War.

Selznick, Brian.: **The Invention of Hugo Cabret**

When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toyseller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

Wall Patricia Q.: **Child Out of Place: A Story for New England**

Just because she has her freedom documents, doesn't make her the same as white folks, and she won't be protected from kidnapping slavers either, Matty's great uncle tells her. A sheltered servant child finally must face reality and learn the full story of her ancestors. Through Matty, we learn some of the mostly hidden chapter of slavery in New England and gain insight into an era never mentioned in schoolbooks.

📖 Woodruff, Elvira: **The Ravenmaster's Secret: Escape from the Tower of London**

The eleven-year-old son of the Ravenmaster at the Tower of London befriends a Jacobite rebel being held prisoner there.

Woodson, Jacqueline: **Show Way**

A mother passes on the tradition of making quilts, or "Show ways", that serve as secret maps for freedom seeking slaves.

Series: Scholastic Publisher: **Dear America, Royal Diaries**

Authors: Karen Cushman, Marguerite De Angeli, Patricia Reilly Giff, Karen Hesse, Mary Hooper, Kathryn Lasky, Donna Jo Napoli, Gary Paulsen, Ann Rinaldi, Cynthia Rylant, Jean Van Leeuwen, Gloria Whelan.



GRAPHIC NOVELS: Great stories in books more heavily illustrated, but have grade appropriate reading levels.

Goscinny, R. and Uderzo, A.: **Asterix and Obelix All at Sea** After Obelix drinks a potion that turns him to stone, Asterix sets out to find a cure, and along the way he finds himself on the continent of Atlantis.

★ Hergé.: **The Adventures of Tin Tin**

A wildly popular series of global adventures of a boy and his dog, Fluffy. Tin Tin has been translated into dozens of languages.

Smith, Jeff: **Bone 1: Out from Boneville**

Fone Bone, Phoney Bone, and Smiley Bone are run out of their home, Boneville, and become separated in the wilds. Better fortune begins when the three cousins reunite at a farmstead in a deep forested valley, where Fone meets a young girl named Thorn. Start here!

NON-FICTION: Biography, Autobiography, Memoir – Stories about real people.

Dahl, Roald: **Boy: Tales of Childhood**

Presents humorous anecdotes from the author's childhood, including his summer vacations in Norway and life at an English boarding school.

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.

Harrison, Paul: **David Beckham**

Presents a short biography of British soccer star David Beckham, and chronicles his childhood in England, early interest in sports, and successful career in professional soccer.

Hawk, Tony: **Hawk: Occupation: Skateboarder**

Internationally known American skateboarding champ Tony Hawk chronicles his life and his very eventful involvement with the sport.

Mahaney, Ian: **Kevin Jones: Snowboarding Champion**

Presents a short biography of snowboarding champion Kevin Jones describing his childhood in California and his entrance into professional snowboarding as well as his gold-medal win at the 2001 Winter X Games.

★ Ntozake Shange: **Ellington was Not a Street**

Presents an illustrated poem in which Ntozake Shange recalls her childhood growing up in the company of W.E.B. Du Bois, Dizzy Gillespie, Paul Robeson, and other great African-American men who were instrumental in changing American culture and society.

Savage, Jeff: **Yao Ming: Basketball's Big Man**

Presents a children's biography on Houston Rockets center Yao Ming who was drafted in 2002 and brought to the United States from China to play in the NBA.

★ Sis, Peter: **The Tree of Life: A Book Depicting the Life of Charles Darwin, Naturalist, Geologist & Thinker**

Presents the life of the famous nineteenth-century naturalist using text from Darwin's writings and detailed drawings by Sis.

Thimmesh, Catherine: **Madam President**

An introduction to women, some better known than others, who have influenced politics and policies in the United States and in the world.

★ Winter, Jeannette: **The Librarian of Basra: A True Story from Iraq**

During the Iraq War of 2003, librarian Alia Muhammad saves thirty thousand new and old books in her Basra library from destruction.

Authors: James Lincoln Collier, Tomie De Paola, Dennis B. Fradin, Jean Fritz, Nikki Grimes, Eric A. Kimmel, Walter Dean Myers, Andrea Davis Pinkney.

NON-FICTION: GENERAL

Adams, Brian: **Medieval Castles**

Describes the various types of castles that were built during the Middle Ages, why they were built, how they were defended, and the daily lives of those who lived in the castle.

Anderson, Neil: **Music Madness**

Explores aspects of the making and marketing of popular music and discusses why and how to think critically about its messages.

Boonyadhistarn, Thiranut: **Stamping Art**

Presents step-by-step instruction for stamping projects, and includes directions on making stamps from household supplies.

Bulion, Leslie: **Hey There, Stink Bug!**

Uses poetic text to describe various types of insects, and includes a glossary of terms and notes on poetic forms.

D'Aulaire, Ingrid and Edgar Parin: **Ingri and Edgar Parin D'Aulaire's Book of Greek myths.**

Presents illustrated retellings of the myths of the gods and goddesses of ancient Greece and their mortal descendants.

★ Freedman, Russell: **Who Was First?**

Before Columbus -- Admiral of the ocean sea -- Did China discover America? -- Leif the lucky -- The not-so-new world. Who really discovered America? Examines the evidence that indicates others may have traveled to the Americas before Columbus in 1492 including Viking ruins, Mayan stonework, and other mysterious objects found in New England that date before Columbus.

Greenberg, Jan: **Christo and Jeanne-Claude: Through The Gates and Beyond**

Examines the lives and work of the Christo and Jeanne-Claude, a married couple who create environmental art installations, and features "The Gates," which was on displayed in New York City's Central Park in the winter of 2005.

Goldish, Meish: **The Fossil Feud**

Recounts the rivalry between two competing paleontologists Othniel Charles Marsh and Edward Drinker Cope, and how their bitter feud eventually destroyed their careers.

Hoffman, Mary Ann: **Hurricane Katrina**

Examines the effects of Hurricane Katrina which hit parts of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama in August of 2005; and contains a number of facts about hurricanes.

Houghton, Gillian: **Guts: The Digestive System**

Illustrations and simple text teach young students how the digestive system works, describes the functions and makeup of the mouth, esophagus, stomach, intestines, and glands.

Koll, Hilary: **Using Math to Design a Roller Coaster**

Examines the importance of math in designing roller coasters, and uses that format to foster an understanding of numbers, measurements, shapes, charts, and diagrams. Includes data-gathering and problem solving.

Lappi, Megan: **The Sahara Desert: The Largest Desert in the World**

Photographs and text provide an introduction to the Sahara Desert, the largest desert in the world, looking at its location, how it formed, the desert's climate, plants, people, and animals, the history of exploration, and the dangers posed by desertification.

Leardi, Jeanette: **The Great Pyramid: Egypt's Tomb for All Time**

Explores the three pyramids of Giza including the Great Pyramid, who built them and why, the process of mummification, and archaeological efforts to unlock the secrets of the pharaohs.

Lunis, Natalie: **A T. Rex Named Sue: Sue Hendrickson's Huge Discovery**

Describes the discovery and excavation of the famous Tyrannosaurus named Sue, and explains how the dinosaur came to belong to the Chicago Field Museum.

McKellar, Danika: **Math Doesn't Suck: How to Survive Middle School Math Without Losing Your Mind or Breaking a Nail**

Danica McKellar offers girls the motivation and explanations they need to master pre-algebra, with step-by-step instructions explaining how to complete basic equations, practice problems with detailed solutions, real-world examples, and more.

Mehlman, Barbara: **Babysitting Jobs: The Business of Babysitting**

Offers advice to prospective baby-sitters on how to find and keep jobs, sharing ideas for gaining experience, getting hired, making a good impression, getting paid, and expanding the business.

Millard, Anne: **World of Pyramids**

Photographs, illustrations, maps, and text describe the pyramids of Egypt, how and why they were built, how the pharaohs were prepared for burial, daily life in Egypt, and other pyramids worldwide.

Morris, Ting: **No-Cook Cookery**

Provides step-by-step instructions for making a variety of no-cook recipes, including muesli, cheese boats, coconut bars, frozen fruit pops, and other snacks and drinks, and includes food-related facts.

Myers, Walter Dean: **Jazz**

A collection of illustrated poems that celebrate the roots and various styles of jazz music, such as ragtime, bebop, and swing.

★ O'Connor, Jane: **The Emperor's Silent Army: Terracotta Warriors of Ancient China**

Describes the archaeological discovery of thousands of life-sized terracotta warrior statues in northern China in 1974, and discusses the emperor who had them created and placed near his tomb.

Our White House: Looking In, Looking Out

A collection of essays, personal accounts, historical fiction, and poetry that traces the history of the White House through the eyes of the children who have lived and visited there.

Riffin, Frances E.: **Medical Detective Dogs**

Describes a number of canine medical detectives discussing how various dogs are trained to detect certain types of cancer or know when their owners are having a diabetic or epileptic seizure.

Sepehri, Sandy: **How the Peacock Got Its Feathers: Based on a Mayan Tale**

Presents an ancient Mayan folktale that describes how the peacock got its beautiful feathers.

Sereno, Paul C.: **SuperCroc: Paul Sereno's Dinosaur Eater**

Follows paleontologist Paul Sereno as he unearths the fossil remains of a giant crocodile in the African country of Niger; and contains facts about how this giant animal lived during prehistoric times.

Spadaccini, Stephanie: **The Big Book of Rules: Board Games, Kids' Games, Card Games, from Backgammon and Bocce to Tiddlywinks and Stickball**

Contains entries that explain the rules for more than three hundred games, each with information on equipment, number of players, the object of the game, setup, and variations; grouped by category.

Woodson, Jacqueline: **Locomotion**

Inspired by his teacher, eleven-year-old Lonnie begins to write about his life in a series of poems in which he discusses his feelings about his friends, his foster mom, his little sister Lili, and the death of his parents.

Series: DK Publisher: **Eyewitness Books**
Kingfisher Publishing: **Kingfisher Books**

Authors: Russell Freedman, Dan Gutman, Virginia Hamilton, Toni Morrison, Chris Oxlade, Edgar Allan Poe, Jack Prelutsky, Alvin Schwartz, Art Spiegelman



Book Fair Best Sellers:

Aguiar, Nadia: **The Lost Island of Tamarind**

Barry, Dave: **Science fair: A Story of Mystery, Danger, International Suspense, and a Very Nervous Frog**

Colfer, Eoin: **The Airman**

Collier, James Lincoln: **The Dreadful Revenge of Ernest Gallen**

Gaiman, Neil: **The Graveyard Book**

Hiaasen, Carl: **Scat**

Higgins, F. E.: **Bone Magician**

Holland, Robert: **Old Simon's Bones**

Kinney, Jeff: **Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Last Straw**

Paver, Michelle: **Wolf Brother**

Scott, Michael: **The Magician**

Zevin, Gabrielle: **Elsewhere**



Connecticut Nutmeg Children's Book Award

The Nutmeg Book Award encourages children in grades 4-6 (and 7-8) to read quality literature and to choose their favorite from a list of ten nominated titles. Jointly sponsored by the Connecticut Library Association

(CLA) and the Connecticut Association of School Librarians (CASL), the Nutmeg Committee is comprised of children's librarians, school library media specialists, teachers, and student readers.

All books nominated for the award must be:

1. A work of fiction, with appeal for readers in grades 4-6;
2. Written by an author who currently resides in the United States;
3. Copyrighted in the United States, and first published no more than five years from date of selection;
4. Currently in print, and available in paper back as well as hard cover;
5. Well-written, with strong characterization, a vivid setting, striking language, a well-constructed plot, and a plausible conclusion.

Adapted from <http://www.nutmegaward.org/>

The 2010 Nominees for Grades 4 - 6:

📖 Carlson, Drew: **Attack of the Turtle**
During the Revolutionary War, fourteen-year-old Nathan joins forces with his older cousin, the inventor David Bushnell, to secretly build the first submarine used in naval warfare.

📖 Gorman, Carol: **Stumptown Kid**
In a small Iowa town in 1952, eleven-year-old Charlie Nebraska, whose father died in the Korean War, learns the meaning of both racism and heroism when he befriends Luther Peale, a young man who once played for the old Negro Baseball League.

📖 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.

📖 Kehret, Peg: **The Ghost's Grave**
Apprehensive about spending the summer in Washington State with his Aunt Ethel when his parents get overseas jobs, twelve-year-old Josh soon finds adventure when he meets the ghost of a coal miner.

📖 Lin, Grace: **The Year of the Dog: A Novel**
Frustrated at her seeming lack of talent for anything, a young Taiwanese American girl sets out to apply the lessons of the Chinese Year of the Dog, those of making best friends and finding oneself, to her own life.

📖 Lombard, Jenny: **Drita, My Homegirl**

When ten-year-old Drita and her family, refugees from Kosovo, move to New York, Drita is teased about not speaking English well, but after a popular student named Maxine is forced to learn about Kosovo as a punishment for teasing Drita, the two girls soon bond.

📖 Lord, Cynthia: **Rules**

Frustrated at life with an autistic brother, twelve-year-old Catherine longs for a normal existence, but her world is further complicated by a friendship with a young paraplegic.

📖 Martin, Ann M.: **A Dog's Life: The Autobiography of a Stray**

Squirrel, a stray puppy, tells her life story, from her nurturing mother and brother to making her own way in the world, facing busy highways, changing seasons, and humans both gentle and brutal.

📖 Park, Linda Sue: **Archer's Quest**

Twelve-year-old Kevin Kim helps Chu-mong, a legendary king of ancient Korea, return to his own time.

📖 Ryan, Pam Munoz: **Paint the Wind**

After her overprotective grandmother has a stroke, eleven-year-old Maya, an orphan, leaves her extremely restricted life in California to stay with her mother's family on a remote Wyoming ranch, where she discovers a love of horses and encounters Artemisia, a wild mare that her mother once rode.



**Connecticut Nutmeg
Children's Book Award**

Former Winners for Grades 4 – 6

- 2009 Evans, Douglas: **MVP*: Magellan Voyage Project**
- 2008 Riordan, Rick: **The Lightning Thief**
- 2007 Harlowe, Joan Hiatt: **Thunder from the Sea**
- 2006 Duprau, Jeanne: **The City of Ember** ⓘ
- 2005 Bruchac, Joseph: **Skeleton Man**

This Summer at Scranton:

Nutmeg Book Discussion

Grades 4 – 6

**Scranton Memorial Library
Mondays, 6:30 – 7:30**

- June 29** **Archer's Quest**
By Linda Sue Park
- July 6** **A Dog's Life: the Autobiography of a Stray**
By Ann M. Martin
- July 13** **The Ghost's Grave**
By Peg Kehret
- July 20** **Drita, My Homegirl**
By Vivian Van Velde
- July 27** **Paint the Wind**
By Pam Munoz Ryan
- August 3** **Rules**
By Cynthia Lord
- August 10** **The Stumptown Kid**
By Carol Gorman and Ron Findley
- August 17** **Attack of the Turtle**
By Drew Carlson
- August 24** **Double Identity**
By Margaret Peterson Haddix
- August 31** **The Year of the Dog**
By Grace Lin

2009 Summer Reading

Grades 7 and 8

General Instructions

All students are asked to read a minimum of **four** books. **At least one of the titles must come from the list of required reading below.** Please see the general instructions page for a discussion of assessments on the Summer Reading. If the suggested title is not available, try another by the same author. At the end of the Grades 7-8 list, look for the most popular books under "Student Picks!"

Assessments for Grades 7 and 8

Each student is expected to complete summer reading before school begins. When you begin your English class, you should be prepared for some type of assessment on the book that you read from the list of **required reading for grades 7 and 8** that follows. This assessment may include a written and/or oral assignment. For this reason, you are encouraged either to take notes while reading this book or to discuss its content with another in order to develop your thoughts.

Students are asked to return their recording sheets to their English teacher or to the Library Media Specialist at the beginning of the year.

AUDIO FORMAT AVAILABLE

These books are available at Scranton Library in the following formats:

📻 sound cassette

📀 CD

🎧 Playaway™

📱 Downloadable audiobook.

To access the audiobook collection, you must make one trip to Scranton to create a free account. After that, everything can be done remotely at

<http://www.scrantonlibrary.org/>.

IMPORTANT!

Required Reading for Grades 7 and 8

You must read at least one title from the grade appropriate list below as one of your four books. **If you have reading difficulties, you should discuss the possibility of selecting an alternate title with your Special Education teacher, English teacher, or Reading teacher.**

Incoming 7th Graders:

You are required to read at least one of the six books listed below as one of your four books:

Evangelista, Beth: **Gifted**

Arrogant, mentally gifted George Clark has dreaded the eighth-grade class camping trip and its inevitable bullying, but a hurricane and a friend's loyalty make him realize what is important in life.

Park, Linda Sue: **When My Name Was Keoko**

With national pride and occasional fear, a brother and sister face the increasingly oppressive occupation of Korea by Japan during World War II, which threatens to suppress Korean culture entirely.

📻 Paulson, Gary: **Woodsong**

For a rugged outdoor man and his family, life in northern Minnesota is a wild experience involving wolves, deer, and the sled dogs that make their way of life possible. Includes an account of the author's first Iditarod, a dogsled race across Alaska.

Shusterman, Neal: **Full Tilt**

When sixteen-year-old Blake goes to a mysterious, by-invitation-only carnival, he somehow knows that it could save his comatose brother; but he soon learns that much more is at stake if he fails to meet the challenge presented there by the beautiful Cassandra.

Staples, Suzanne Fisher: **Under the Persimmon Tree**

A young Afghan girl, Najmah, befriends an American woman, Nusrat in Peshawar, Pakistan, after Najmah flees her native Afghanistan during the 2001 war; together they begin a long journey to locate their missing loved ones.

Yen Mah, Adeline: **Chinese Cinderella: The True Story of an Unwanted Daughter**

The author tells the story of her painful childhood in China where she lived until the age of 14 with her father, step-mother, and siblings, all of whom considered her bad luck because her mother died shortly after giving birth to her.

Incoming 8th Graders:

You are required to read at least one of the eight books listed below as one of your four books:

📻 Adams, Richard: **Watership Down**

Chronicles the adventures of a group of rabbits searching for a safe place to establish a new warren where they can live in peace.

☉ Collins, Suzanne: **Hunger Games**

In a future North America, where the rulers of Panem maintain control through an annual televised survival competition pitting young people from each of the twelve districts against one another, sixteen-year-old Katniss's skills are put to the test when she voluntarily takes her younger sister's place.

Evans, Paul Richard: **The Locket**

Michael, an employee at the Arcadia nursing home, befriends Esther, a reclusive elderly woman mourning for her youth and lost love. Michael also loses his love, Faye, and faces other challenges. Esther, and her gift of a locket, teaches Michael many important lessons. From the author of *The Christmas Box*.

📖 ☉ 📖 Farmer, Nancy: **The House of the Scorpion**

In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patron, the 142-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States.

📖 ☉ 📖 Kidd, Sue Monk: **The Secret Life of Bees**

Fourteen-year-old Lily and her companion, Rosaleen, an African-American woman who has cared for Lily since her mother's death ten years earlier, flee their home after Rosaleen is victimized by racist police officers, and find a safe haven in Tiburon, South Carolina at the home of three beekeeping sisters, May, June, and August.

📖 ☉ Mikaelson, Ben: **Touching Spirit Bear**

After his anger erupts into violence, fifteen year-old Cole, in order to avoid going to prison, agrees to participate in a sentencing alternative based on the Native American Circle Justice, and he is sent to a remote Alaskan Island.

📖 ☉ Smith, Betty: **A Tree Grows in Brooklyn**

Young Francie Nolan experiences the problems of growing up in a Brooklyn, New York slum.

📖 Zusak, Mark: **The Book Thief**

Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel--a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.

You must read a minimum of 3 books in addition to the required book. You may select from the list below or read a title of your own choosing.

SUGGESTED TITLES

FICTION: Realistic / Contemporary – Stories about teens like you!

📖 Alexie, Sherman: **The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian**

Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Native American is the school mascot.

Brashares, Ann: **Three Willows: The Sisterhood Grows**

Ama, Jo, and Polly, three close friends from Bethesda, Maryland, spend the summer before ninth grade learning about themselves, their families, and the changing nature of their friendship.

Coulombis, Audrey: **Say Yes**

In her efforts to hang on following the disappearance of her stepmother, Casey resorts to anything, including robbery.

Cummings, Priscilla: **Red Kayak**

Living on Maryland's Eastern Shore, thirteen-year-old Brady and his friends J.T. and Digger find their friendship tested, as well as their ideas about right and wrong.

☉ Curtis, Christopher Paul: **Bucking the Sarge**

Deeply involved in his cold and manipulative mother's shady business dealings in Flint, Michigan, fourteen-year-old Luther keeps a sense of humor while running the Happy Neighbor Group Home For Men, all the while dreaming of going to college and becoming a philosopher.

Friend, Natasha: **Bounce**

Thirteen-year-old Evyn's world is turned upside-down when her father, widowed since she was a toddler, suddenly decides to marry a woman with six children, move with Ev and her older brother from Maine to Boston, and enroll her in private school.

Gauthier, Gail: **Happy Kid!**

After his mother bribes him into reading a self-help book on how to form satisfying relationships and enjoy a happy life, cynical eighth-grader Kyle finds there may be more to the book than he realized.

Koss, Amy Goldman: **Side Effects**

Everything changes for Isabelle, not quite fifteen, when she is diagnosed with lymphoma; eventually she survives and even thrives.

Lockhart, E.: **The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks**

Sophomore Frankie starts dating senior Matthew Livingston. When he refuses to talk about the all-male secret society that he and his friends belong to, Frankie infiltrates the society in order to enliven their mediocre pranks.

Lupica, Mike: **The Big Field**

When fourteen-year-old baseball player Hutch feels threatened by the arrival of a new teammate named Darryl, he tries to work through his insecurities about both Darryl and his remote and silent father, who was once a great ballplayer too

Other suggested titles: **Travel Team, Summer Ball and Heat.**

Murdock, Catherine: **The Off Season**

Sequel to **Dairy Queen**. High school junior D. J. Schwenk staggers under the weight of caring for her badly injured brother, her responsibilities on the dairy farm, a changing relationship with her friend Brian, and her own athletic aspirations.

Paulsen, Gary: **Lawn Boy**

Things get out of hand for a twelve-year-old boy when a neighbor convinces him to expand his summer lawn mowing business.

Pixley, Marcella Fleischman: **Freak**

Twelve-year-old Miriam, poetic, smart, and quirky, is considered a freak by the popular girls at her middle school, and she eventually explodes in response to their bullying, revealing an inner strength she did not know she had.

Sonnenblich, Jordan: **Zen and the Art of Faking It**

When thirteen-year-old San Lee moves to a new town and school for the umpteenth time, he is looking for a way to stand out when his knowledge of Zen Buddhism, gained in his previous school, provides the answer--and the need to quickly become a convincing Zen master.

Van Draanen, Wendelin: **Flipped**

In alternating chapters, two teenagers describe how their feelings about themselves, each other, and their families have changed over the years.

Woods, Brenda: **Emako Blue**

Monterey, Savannah, Jamal, and Eddie have never had much to do with each other until Emako Blue shows up at chorus practice; just as the lives of the five Los Angeles high school students become intertwined, tragedy tears them apart.

REALISTIC FICTION SERIES:

Brashares, Ann: **The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants Series**

- 📖 🌀 📖 **Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants**
- 📖 **Second Summer of the Sisterhood**
- 🌀 📖 **Girls in Pants**
- 📖 **Forever in Blue**

Harrison, Lisi: **The Clique series**

- The Clique**
- Best Friends for Never**
- Revenge of the Wannabees**
- ...and many more!

AUTHORS: Sharon Creech, Ellen Wittlinger, Joan Bauer, Cathy Hopkins, Terry Trueman, Angela Johnson, Chris Crutcher, Kevin Brooks, Gordon Korman, Caroline Cooney

FICTION: Fantasy / Science Fiction

Bell, Hilari: **The Goblin Wood**

A young Hedgewitch, an idealistic knight, and an army of clever goblins fight against the ruling hierarchy that is trying to rid the land of all magical creatures.

📖 Clements, Andrew: **Things Hoped For**

Sequel to **Things Not Seen**. Seventeen-year-old Gwen, who has been living with her grandfather in Manhattan while she attends music school, joins with another music student to solve the mystery when her grandfather suddenly goes missing.

🌀 Cornish, D.M.: **Foundling**

The second title in the planned **Monster Blood Tattoo** Trilogy; Rossamund Bookchild's sheltered life takes a surprising turn when he is recruited to help the Emperor, sending Rossamund on a journey across the Half-Continent that teaches him not everyone can be trusted.

Gaiman, Neil: **The Graveyard Book**

Nobody Owens is a normal boy, except that he has been raised by ghosts and other denizens of the graveyard.

Goodman, Alison: **Eon: Dragon Eye Reborn**

Eon has disguised herself as a boy in order to study Dragon Magic and become a Dragoneye, one of a select group that forms a conduit to the power of energy dragons, but if the secret of her sex comes out, she will be killed.

📖 Haddix, Margaret Petersen: **Found**

When thirteen-year-olds Jonah and Chip, who are both adopted, learn they were discovered on a plane that appeared out of nowhere, full of babies with no adults on board, they realize that they have uncovered a mystery involving time travel and two opposing forces, each trying to repair the fabric of time.

Landon, Dena: **Shapeshifter's Quest**

To atone for the misdeed of an ancestor, teen-aged Syanthe, a shape-shifter, journeys outside the safety of the forest where she has always lived to learn the secret of the evil king's magic.

Marr, Melissa: **Ink Exchange**

Seventeen-year-old Leslie wants a tattoo as a way of reclaiming control of herself and her body, but the eerie image she selects pulls her into the dangerous Dark Court of the faeries, where she draws on inner strength to make a horrible choice. Sequel to **Wicked Lovely**

Murdoch, Catherine: **Princess Ben: Being a Wholly Truthful Account of her Various Discoveries and Misadventures, Recounted to the Best of her Recollection, in Four Parts**

A girl is transformed, through instruction in life at court, determination, and magic, from sullen, pudgy, graceless Ben into Crown Princess Benevolence, a fit ruler of the kingdom of Montagne as it faces war with neighboring Drachensbett.

📖 📖 Oppel, Kenneth: **Airborn**

Matt, a young cabin boy aboard an airship, and Kate, a wealthy young girl traveling with her chaperone, team up to search for the existence of mysterious winged creatures reportedly living hundreds of feet above the Earth's surface.

📖 Paver, Michelle: **Wolf Brother**

6,000 years in the past, twelve-year-old Tarak and his guide, a wolf cub, set out on a dangerous journey to fulfill an oath the boy made to his dying father--to travel to the Mountain of the World Spirit seeking a way to destroy a demon-possessed bear that threatens all the clans.

Pearson, Mary: **The Adoration of Jenna Fox**

In the not-too-distant future, when biotechnological advances have made synthetic bodies and brains possible but illegal, a seventeen-year-old girl, recovering from a serious accident and suffering from memory lapses, learns a startling secret about her existence.

Pierce, Tamora: **Bloodhound**

With danger brewing in Tortall's capital, Beka Cooper, a full-fledged and skilled Dog, knows it will be difficult to keep the peace as new shady gamblers arrive, counterfeit money is passed, and tensions rise on the street with people seeking justice by way of revenge. Sequel to **Terrier**.

📖 Pratchett, Terry: **Nation**

After a devastating tsunami destroys all that they have ever known, Mau, an island boy, and Daphne, an aristocratic English girl, together with a small band of refugees, set about rebuilding their community and all the things that are important in their lives.

Reeve, Phillip: **Here Lies Arthur**

When her village is attacked and burned, Gwyna seeks protection from the bard Myrddin, who uses Gwyna in his plan to transform young Arthur into the heroic King Arthur.

Rowling, J.K.: **Tales of Beedle the Bard**

The Tales of Beedle the Bard, a Wizarding classic, first came to Muggle readers' attention in the book known as Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows. Now, thanks to Hermione Granger's new translation from the ancient runes, we present this stunning edition with an introduction, notes, and illustrations by J. K. Rowling, and extensive commentary by Albus Dumbledore. Never before have Muggles been privy to these richly imaginative tales.

Shusterman, Neal: **Unwind**

Three teens embark upon a cross-country journey in order to escape from a society that salvages body parts from children ages thirteen to eighteen. Other popular titles include: **The Schwa Was Here**

📖 Zevin, Gabrielle: **Elsewhere**

After fifteen-year-old Liz Hall is hit by a taxi and killed, she finds herself in a place that is both like and unlike Earth, where she must adjust to her new status and figure out how to "live."

FANTASY SERIES:

Constable, Kate: **Chanters of Tremaris Trilogy**
The Singer of All Songs
The Waterless Sea
The Tenth Power

Delaney, Joseph: **Last Apprentice series**
Revenge of the Witch
Curse of the Bane
Night of the Soul-Stealer
Attack of the Fiend

Meyer, Stephenie: **Twilight series**
☉ 📖 **Twilight**
☉ 📖 **New Moon**
☉ 📖 **Eclipse**
☉ 📖 **Breaking Dawn**

Patterson, James: **Maximum Ride series**
The Angel Experiment.
☉ 📖 **Maximum Ride: School's Out-
Forever**
📖 **Saving the World and Other
Extreme Sports**
The Final Warning

AUTHORS: G.P. Taylor, Terry Pratchett, Eoin Colfer, Donna Jo Napoli, Tamora Pierce, Orson Scott Card, Erin Hunter, Meredith Pierce

FICTION: Mystery / Suspense

Abrahams, Peter: **Into the Dark: An Echo Falls Mystery**
Thirteen-year-old Sherlock Holmes aficionado Ingrid Levin-Hill tries to clear her grandfather's name when he is accused of murdering an environmental activist found dead on his farm.

☉ Anderson, M.T: **The Game of Sunken Places**
When two boys stay with an eccentric relative they discover a board game that draws them into a mysterious adventure.

Carter, Ally: **Cross My Heart and Hope to Spy**
Cammie Morgan is a CIA legacy and attends the premier school in the world - for spies. The school hosts some mysterious guests with the code name Blackthorne. When Cammie is blamed for a security breach that threatens to expose the school's top secret status, she and her friends face danger to clear Cammie's name and learn the truth about Blackthorne. Sequel to **I'd Tell You I Love You, But Then I'd Have to Kill You.**

☉ Coben, Harlan: **Tell No One**
Eight years after his beloved wife, Elizabeth, was supposedly murdered by a serial killer, Beck receives information that suggests she may still be alive; his search for the truth could mean setting himself up as the prime suspect in a number of crimes.

Cooney, Caroline. B.: **Burning Up**
When a girl she had met at an inner-city church is murdered, fifteen-year-old Macey channels her grief into a school project that leads her to uncover prejudice she had not imagined in her grandparents and their wealthy Connecticut community.

Dowd, Siobhan: **The London Eye Mystery**
When Ted and Kat's cousin Salim disappears from the London Eye ferris wheel, the two siblings must work together--Ted with his brain that is "wired differently" and impatient Kat--to try to solve the mystery of what happened to Salim.

McCaughrean, Geraldine: **White Darkness**
Taken to Antarctica by the man she thinks of as her uncle for what she believes to be a vacation, Symone--a troubled fourteen year old--discovers that he is dangerously obsessed with seeking Symme's Hole, an opening that supposedly leads into the center of a hollow Earth.

Moriarty, Jaclyn: **The Murder of Bindy Mackenzie**
Class brain Bindy Mackenzie has alienated her entire high school but when she realizes someone is trying to kill her, she has to make friends in order to get help.

☉ Stewart, Trenton: **The Mysterious Benedict Society**
After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules.

Thompson, Kate: **The New Policeman**
Fifteen-year-old musician J.J. Liddy leaves his small, Irish town and travels to the land of the fairies to search for time so he can give it to his busy mother. When he gets there, he discovers that the inhabitants are in trouble and learns about his family's secret history.

MYSTERY & SUSPENSE SERIES:

Higson, Charlie: **Young Bond series**

- 📖 **Silverfin**
- 📖 **Blood Fever**
- 📖 **Double or Die**

📖 Horowitz, Anthony: **Alex Rider Adventures series**

- 📖 📖 **Stormbreaker**
- 📖 **Point Blank**
- 📖 **Skeleton Key**
- 📖 **Eagle Strike**
- 📖 **Scorpia**
- 📖 **Ark Angel**
- 📖 **Snakehead**

AUTHORS: Joan Lowery Nixon, Caroline Cooney, Nancy Werlin, Vivian Vande Velde, Robert Cormier, Lois Duncan, Michael Cadnum, Mary Higgins Clark

FICTION: Historical

Anderson, Laurie Halse: **Chains**

After being sold to a cruel couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War.

Boyne, John: **The Boy in the Striped Pajamas: A Fable**

Bored and lonely after his family moves from Berlin to a place called "Out-With" in 1942, Bruno, the son of a Nazi officer, befriends a boy in striped pajamas who lives behind a wire fence.

Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker: **For Freedom: The Story of a French Spy**

Despite the horrors of World War II, a French teenager pursues her dream of becoming an opera singer, which takes her to places where she gains information about what the Nazis are doing--information that the French Resistance needs.

📖 Bruchac, Joseph: **Code Talker: A Novel About the Navajo Marines of World War II**

After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.

Colfer, Eoin: **Airman**

In the 1890s on an island off the Irish coast, Conor Broekhart is falsely imprisoned and passes the solitary months by scratching designs of flying machines into the

walls, including one for a glider with which he dreams of escape.

Cooney, Caroline B.: **Goddess of Yesterday**

Taken from her home on an Aegean island as a six-year-old girl, Anaxandra calls on the protection of her goddess while she poses as two different princesses over the next six years, before ending up as a servant in the company of Helen and Paris as they make their way to Troy.

📖 Gratz, Alan: **Samurai Shortstop**

While obtaining a Western education at a prestigious Japanese boarding school in 1890, sixteen-year-old Toyo also receives traditional samurai training which has profound effects on both his baseball game and his relationship with his father.

📖 Haddix, Margaret Peterson: **Uprising**

In 1927, at the urging of twenty-one-year-old Harriet, Mrs. Livingston reluctantly recalls her experiences at the Triangle Shirtwaist factory, including miserable working conditions that led to a strike, and the fire that took the lives of her two best friends, when Harriet, the boss's daughter, was only five years old.

📖 Kadohata, Cynthia: **Weedflower**

Twelve-year-old Sumiko and her Japanese-American family are relocated from their flower farm in southern California to an internment camp on a Mojave Indian reservation in Arizona.

📖 Lester, Julius: **Day of Tears**

Emma has taken care of the Butler children since Sarah and Frances's mother, Fanny, left. Emma wants to raise the girls to have good hearts, as a rift over slavery has ripped the Butler household apart. Now, to pay off debts, Pierce Butler wants to cash in his slave "assets", possibly including Emma.

Miller, Sarah: **Miss Spitfire: Reaching Helen Keller**

At age twenty-one, partially-blind, lonely but spirited Annie Sullivan travels from Massachusetts to Alabama to try and teach six-year-old Helen Keller, deaf and blind since age two, self-discipline and communication skills.

📖 Myers, Walter Dean: **Sunrise Over Fallujah**

Robin Perry, from Harlem, is sent to Iraq in 2003 as a member of the Civilian Affairs Battalion, and his time there profoundly changes him.

📖 Peck, Richard: **The River Between Us**

During the early days of the Civil War, the Pruitt family takes in two mysterious young ladies who have fled New Orleans to come north to Illinois.

Rabin, Staton: **Betsy and the Emperor**

In 1815 on the remote island of Saint Helena, fourteen-year-old Betsy Balcombe develops a friendly relationship with Napoleon Bonaparte who, after his defeat at Waterloo, is brought there as an exile and is housed with her family.

Selznick, Brian: **The Invention of Hugo Cabret**

When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toyseller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

Schmidt, Gary D.: **The Wednesday Wars**

During the 1967 school year, on Wednesday afternoons when all his classmates go to either Catechism or Hebrew school, seventh-grader Holling Hoodhood stays in Mrs. Baker's classroom where they read the plays of William Shakespeare; Holling learns much of value about the world he lives in.

Venkatraman, Padma: **Climbing the Stairs**

In India, in 1941, when her father becomes brain-damaged in a non-violent protest march, fifteen-year-old Vidya and her family are forced to move in with her father's extended family and become accustomed to a totally different way of life.

Wells, Rosemary: **Red Moon at Sharpsburg**

Even though the odds are against her and the Civil War has ruined her home and given her a view of the darker side of humanity, thirteen-year-old India Moody continues to aspire to become a scientist and attend Oberlin College.

AUTHORS: Ann Rinaldi, Will Hobbs, Karen Cushman, James Lincoln Collier, Gary Paulsen, Kathryn Lasky, Theodore Taylor, Carol Matas

NON-FICTION: Biography, Autobiography, Memoir

Coppola, Meredith (compiled by): **Made a Difference for That One: A Surgeon's Letters Home from Iraq**

This is a compilation of letters written by Madison native, Dr. Chris Coppola, a military surgeon, during his time in the Iraqi war zone.

Hickam, Homer H: **October Sky: A Memoir**

Homer Hickam, the introspective son of a mine superintendent and a mother determined to get him out of Coalwood, West Virginia forever, nurtures a dream to send rockets into outer space--an ambition that changes

his life and the lives of everyone living in Coalwood in 1957.

Krull, Kathleen: **Leonardo da Vinci**

A biography of Leonardo da Vinci focusing on his scientific rather than his artistic work.

Rappoport, Ken: **Profiles in Sports Courage**

Contains biographies of twelve famous athletes from a variety of sports including gymnast Kerri Strug and cycling champion Lance Armstrong.

Zenatti, Valerie: **When I Was a Soldier**

Presents the memoirs of Valerie Zenatti, who at eighteen, enlisted in the Israeli army, endured harsh conditions and surroundings, and participated in top secret missions for the Israeli Secret Service, and describes her French-Jewish heritage and personal struggles.

GENERAL:

Carle, Megan: **Teens Cook: How to Make What You Want to Eat**

Presents seventy-five quick and easy recipes for teens, and includes information on ingredients, and general cooking tips and short-cuts.

Janeczko, Paul B.: **Top Secret: A Handbook of Codes, Ciphers, and Secret Writing**

Presents a guide to codemaking, codebreaking, and their role in history, describing different types of codes and ciphers, discussing codebreaking and concealment techniques, and including brief stories about exciting moments in the history of the art.

Karres, Erika V. Shearin: **Mean Chicks, Cliques, and Dirty Tricks: A Real Girl's Guide to Getting Through the Day with Smarts and Style**

Provides teenage girls with tips and advice to help them get through the school day and deal with bullies, cliques, and mean girls.

McKellar, Danica: **Math Doesn't Suck: How to Survive Middle School Math without Losing Your Mind or Breaking a Nail**

Actress and math theorem coauthor Danica McKellar teaches math concepts introduced in middle school, the period when many young girls lose interest in math.

Mortenson, Greg: **Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Journey to Change the World, One Child at a Time**

Traces how the author, having been rescued and resuscitated by Himalayan villagers after a failed attempt to climb K2, worked to build schools that would benefit the young girls who were forbidden an education by Taliban restrictions.

Roberts, David, Leslie, Jeremy: **Pick Me Up: Stuff You Need to Know**

A reference book for modern kids and teens that presents fun information about history, science, nature, geography, and culture.

Schlosser, Eric: **Chew On This: Everything You Don't Want to Know About Fast Food**

A look at fast food: what's in it, how it's made, and what it does to our bodies.

Seckel, Al: **Optical Illusions: The Science of Visual Perception**

Contains over 275 optical illusions, each with an explanation, and includes information on the science of visual perception.

Walker, Sally: **Secrets of a Civil War Submarine**

Tells the story of the "H. L. Hunley," the Confederate submarine that in 1864, became the first to ever sink an enemy ship but lay missing on the ocean floor for more than a century, describing its creation, its discovery, skeletons and objects found onboard, and facial reconstructions of several crew members by forensic anthropologists.

Wolf, Allan: **Immersed in Verse: An Informative, Slightly Irreverent & Totally Tremendous Guide to Living the Poet's Life**

Contains a guide to writing poetry, providing advice, ideas, writing activities, and encouragement from a working poet, presenting poems by a variety of poets from the unknown to the famous, including Langston Hughes, e.e. cummings, Eve Merriam, and more.

Zincenko, David: **Eat This, Not That, for Kids: Be the Leanest, Fittest, Family on the Block.**

Shares nutritional information that addresses growing trends in childhood weight disorders, providing advice on how to make informed choices while grocery shopping or dining out, in a guide that lists top-selected chain restaurants, popular "healthy" foods with hidden disadvantages, and recommended foods for everyday consumption.

Polson's Student Picks:

Asher, Jay: **Thirteen Reasons Why**
Harrison, Lisi: **The Clique** series
Kinney, Jeff: **Diary of a Wimpy Kid**
McNaughton, Janet: **Secret Under My Skin**
Pauch, Randy: **Last Lecture**
Paver, Michael: **Ancient Darkness** series
Shepard, Sara: **Pretty Little Liars** series
Von Ziegesar, Cecily: **Gossip Girl** series
Westerfeld, Scott: **Uglies** series

Connecticut Nutmeg Book Award

The Nutmeg Book Award encourages children in grades 7 and 8 to read quality literature and to choose their favorite from a list of ten nominated titles. Jointly sponsored by the Connecticut Library Association (CLA) and the Connecticut Association of School Librarians (CASL), the Nutmeg Committee is comprised of children's librarians, school library media specialists, teachers, and student readers.

All books nominated for the award must be:

1. A work of fiction, with appeal for readers in grades 7-8;
2. Written by an author who currently resides in the United States;
3. Copyrighted in the United States, and first published no more than five years from date of selection;
4. Currently in print, and available in paper back as well as hard cover;
5. Well-written, with strong characterization, a vivid setting, striking language, a well-constructed plot, and a plausible conclusion.(Adapted from <http://www.nutmegaward.org/>)

*****Parents are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the books in order to help your child make an age appropriate selection.**

The 2010 Nominees for Grades 7 - 8:

Soto, Gary: **Accidental Love**

Boy meets girl (accidentally); girl falls for boy (love). But they're from two different schools, two different neighborhoods, and truly two different worlds. The odds of them making it are slim to none in this well-crafted story.

Cooney, Caroline: **Code Orange**

While completing his infectious disease report for science class, Mitty fears he may have contracted smallpox. When he searches the internet for information about this disease, he alerts a terrorist group who plans to kidnap him and use him as a biological weapon against the people of New York City.

Coy, John: **Crackback**

Miles can't remember why football was fun after being sidelined by a new coach, criticized by his father, and shunned by his best friend for avoiding performance enhancing drugs.

☉ Sonnenblick, Jordan: **Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie**

What is the most annoying thing in the world? For Steven, the answer is obvious - his little brother Jeffrey. When Steven finds out that Jeffrey is sick, however, he must use all of his skills as a drum-playing, girl-crushing, friend-finding, parent-manipulating teenager to help his family keep laughing through this heartbreaking year.

Kostick, Conor: **Epic**

Epic is a fantasy role-playing game that is more than just a game—it's New Earth's government and economy. Everyone has always played Epic the same way, by slowly accumulating wealth, but no one can rival the Committee, the world's tyrannical ruling group.

☉ Salisbury, Graham: **Eyes of the Emperor**

It is 1941. Eddy Okubo is 16 years old, a Japanese American, and enlists in the US Army to protect the country he loves. The Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor, and suddenly Eddy is the enemy. He and 24 other Japanese American soldiers are sent on a terrifying secret mission that will test their loyalty and courage.

Maas, Wendy: **Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life**

If before your 13th birthday, you received a quadrupled-locked, mysterious box engraved "The Meaning of Life", lovingly handcrafted by your dead father, what do you do? You run around all of Manhattan with your best friend, trying to find the missing four keys.

☉ Pfeffer, Susan Beth: **Life as We Knew It**

Miranda, a sixteen year old high school sophomore, is looking forward to getting her license, junior year, and just being a teenager. She doesn't give a second thought to the news of a meteor speeding towards the moon, until it hits. Life as she knew it will never return.

Bryant, Jen: **Pieces of Georgia**

Artistic loner Georgia McCoy writes a series of letters to her dead mother in the hope of understanding her father's sadness, her friend's curiosity about drugs, and her own feelings of loneliness. When she receives an anonymous membership to the local art museum, Georgia's life changes dramatically.

Landy, Derek: **Skulduggery Pleasant**

When Stephenie's uncle dies and includes her in his will, she meets Skulduggery Pleasant and quickly enters a world of secrets, magic, and danger. Can Stephenie and Skulduggery work together to defeat the evil powers of Serpine?

Connecticut Nutmeg Book Award

Former Winners for Grades 7 - 8:

2009 ☉ Zevin, Gabrielle: **Elsewhere**



This novel asks the question: What happens to us when we die? When Liz Hall dies at fifteen, she discovers Elsewhere, an afterlife where people and animals age backwards until they are reborn again. But Liz desperately wants to grow up, fall in love, and get her driver's license, not rewind to fourteen!

2008 ☉ ☉ Riordan, Rick: **The Lightning Thief**

Percy, expelled from six schools for being unable to control his temper, learns the truth from his mother that his father is the Greek god Poseidon, and is sent to Camp Half Blood where he is befriended by a satyr and the demigod daughter of Athena who join him in a journey to the Underworld to retrieve Zeus's lightning bolt and prevent a catastrophic war.
Fantasy.

2007 ☉ Rees, Douglas: **Vampire High**

When his family moves from California to New Sodom, Massachusetts and Cody enters Vlad Dracul Magnet School, many things seem strange, from the dark-haired, pale-skinned, supernaturally strong students to Charon, the wolf who guides him around campus on the first day.
Fantasy.

2006   Hiassen, 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. Realistic fiction.

Nutmeg Book Discussions
Grades 7 – 8
Scranton Memorial Library

Tuesday, June 30 (7:00-8:00)
“The World as we know it – Not!”
Epic / Conor Kostick
Life as We Knew It / Susan Beth Pfeffer

Tuesday, July 14 (7:00-8:00)
“The Meaning of Life”
Pieces of Georgia / Jen Bryant
Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life / Wendy
Mass

Tuesday, July 28 (7:00-8:00)
“History Alive”
Eyes of the Emperor / Graham Salisbury
Code Orange / Caroline B. Cooney

Tuesday, August 11 (7:00-8:00)
“School, Life and Other Problems”
Crackback / John Coy
Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie / Jordan
Sonnenblick

Tuesday, August 25 (7:00-8:00)
“What a Pair!”
Accidental Love / Gary Soto
Skulduggery Pleasant / Derek Landy



Madison Public Schools' Summer Reading List
Grades 5 – 8 RECORDING SHEET

Please return this form to your English teacher or to the Library Media Specialist no later than the first week of September 2009.

Student Name: _____

PLEASE CIRCLE: Male or Female / Grade 5 6 7 8

AUTHOR	TITLE	
#1		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#2		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#3		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#4		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#5		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#6		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#7		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography

#8		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#9		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#10		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#11		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#12		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#13		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#14		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#15		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography
#16		<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry <input type="checkbox"/> Biography

2009 Summer Reading Grades 9-12

General Instructions

On the following pages is the suggested Summer Reading List for students entering Grades 9-12 in the fall of 2009. Students must read at least four books this summer. At least one of the four books must come from this list in order to comply with the assessments in English class (see below). While the summer reading list should serve as a guide, reading need not be limited to these books except for one title that must come from this list. We have also included suggested authors in each list. If the suggested title is not available, try another by the same author. A magazine that you read regularly throughout the summer or any graphic novel you read will be considered one of the free choice works. Graphic novels can be found in the Teen Department of Scranton Library. You will find a list of suggested periodicals below.

Course Specific Requirements in English and Social Studies

Students taking the following courses in the fall have special summer reading requirements that follow the regular summer reading list. These titles count as part of the four book total.

English	Social Studies
<u>Literature and Composition</u>	<u>AP U.S. History</u>
<u>World Literature Honors</u>	<u>AP Psychology</u>
<u>American Literature</u>	<u>AP European History / Western Civilization</u>
<u>AP English</u>	

English Assessments

Each student is expected to complete summer reading before school begins. When you begin your English class, your teacher will provide instructions and guidance for the summer reading assessment activities during the first few days of class. You are encouraged to prepare yourself for this assessment by keeping notes. The following guidelines may be useful in taking notes or you may wish to utilize a journal.

1. There are several problems or conflicts that develop in this book. Choose one conflict that stands out and explain why you think it is important.
2. Choose one short but significant passage from the book and write it out. Explain why you think it is significant; discuss what it says about the characters in the story as well as about people in general.
3. Relate the story or novel to other characters in literature, to events or people in real life, or to situations (real or imaginary), such as those in films or on television.

Suggested Periodicals

Art News	Macworld
Business Week	Runner's World
Car and Driver	Wired
Discover	The New York Times

Web Sites

...for finding lists of recommended books

Novelist
www.scrantonlibrary.org (Go to Research)

Best Books for Young Adults
www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists/bbya

Outstanding Books for the College Bound
www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists/obcb

Scranton Library Teen Section
www.scrantonlibrary.org/teens

Summer Programs at Scranton Memorial Library

Teen Summer Reading Incentive: Win a Flip Video Camcorder at Scranton Library this summer!

Register to earn raffle tickets for every 100 pages read throughout the summer. A raffle drawing will be held for prizes such as DVDs, gift certificates, and the grand prize – Flip Video Camcorder! (**Grades 7-12**)




Check the Scranton Library website, www.scrantonlibrary.org/teens, for the schedule of movies, book discussions, and programs specifically for students in grades 7-12!

Grades 9 and 10

All students are asked to read **four** books. **At least one of the four titles must come from this list.** Please see the first page of the high school list for a discussion of assessments on the Summer Reading. At the end of the 9-12 list, look for the most popular authors/titles last year.

Students are asked to return their recording sheets to their English teachers during the first week of school. If they don't have English class during the first trimester, then they must give them to the Library Media Specialist.

AUDIO FORMAT AVAILABLE

Some of these books are available at Scranton Library as a sound cassette , CD , or downloadable audiobook . To access the audiobook collection, you must make one trip to Scranton to create a free account. After that, everything can be done remotely at <http://www.scrantonlibrary.org/>.

FICTION: Realistic

Acampora, Paul: **Defining Dulcie**

When sixteen-year-old Dulcie's father dies, her mother makes a decision to move them to California, where Dulcie makes an equally radical decision to steal her dad's old truck and head back home.

Anderson, Laurie Halse: **Twisted**

After finally getting noticed by someone other than school bullies and his ever-angry father, seventeen-year-old Tyler enjoys his tough new reputation and the attentions of a popular girl, but when life starts to go bad again, he must choose between transforming himself or giving in to his destructive thoughts. By the author of **Speak** and **Prom**.

Dessen, Sarah: **Along for the Ride**

It's been so long since Auden slept at night - ever since her parents' divorce, or since the fighting started. Now she has the chance to spend a carefree summer with her dad and his new family in the charming beach town where they live. By the author of **Just Listen**.

Green, John: **Paper Towns**

One month before graduating from his Central Florida high school, Quentin "Q" Jacobsen basks in the predictable boringness of his life until the beautiful and exciting Margo Roth Spiegelman, Q's neighbor and classmate, takes him on a midnight adventure and then mysteriously disappears.

Levithan, David: **Boy Meets Boy**

Paul's simple high-school life is confused by his desire for another boy who seems unattainable, until Paul's friends help him find the courage to pursue him.

McCaughrean, Geraldine: **The White Darkness**

Taken to Antarctica by the man she thinks of as her uncle for what she believes to be a vacation, Symone--a troubled fourteen year old--discovers that he is dangerously obsessed with seeking Symme's Hole, an opening that supposedly leads into the center of a hollow Earth.

Murdock, Catherine Gilbert: **The Off Season**

Sequel to **Dairy Queen**. High school junior D. J. Schwenk staggers under the weight of caring for her badly injured brother, her responsibilities on the dairy farm, a changing relationship with her friend Brian, and her own athletic aspirations.

Picoult, Jodi: **Change of Heart**

June Nealon's life is shattered when Shay Bourne murders her husband and daughter, but when her eleven-year-old daughter, Claire, needs a heart transplant, Bourne decides that his only chance at redemption is to give Claire his heart after he is put to death, leaving June to decide if she wants to let the man who destroyed her life save her daughter's. By the author of **My Sister's Keeper**.

Portman, Frank: **King Dork**

High school loser Tom Henderson discovers that **The Catcher in the Rye** may hold the clues to the many mysteries in his life.

☞ Reinhardt, Dana: **A Brief Chapter in My Impossible Life**

Sixteen-year-old atheist Simone Turner-Bloom's life changes in unexpected ways when her parents convince her to make contact with her biological mother, an agnostic from a Jewish family who is losing her battle with cancer.

☞ Smith, Roland: **Peak**

A fourteen-year-old boy attempts to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mount Everest.

Sonnenblick, Jordan: **Notes from the Midnight Driver**

After being assigned to perform community service at a nursing home, sixteen-year-old Alex befriends a cantankerous old man who has some lessons to impart about jazz guitar playing, love, and forgiveness.

Zevin, Gabrielle: **Memoirs of a Teenage Amnesiac**

After a nasty fall, Naomi realizes that she has no memory of the last four years and finds herself reassessing every aspect of her life. By the author of **Elsewhere**.

Authors: Alex Flinn, Chris Crutcher, Jaclyn Moriarty, Ann Brashares, Julia Alvarez, Mike Lupica, Ellen Wittlinger

FICTION: Fantasy / Science Fiction

Blackman, Malorie: **Naughts and Crosses**

Callum and Sephy played together as small children, and their love is forbidden. Now he is a second class citizen, a member of the naughts, and she is a cross, a part of the ruling elite. When Sephy and her mother are nearly caught in a terrorist bombing and Callum's father is the prime suspect, more than their love is tested.

Bray, Libba: **The Sweet Far Thing**

Sequel to **A Great and Terrible Beauty** and **Rebel Angels**. At Spence Academy, sixteen-year-old Gemma Doyle continues preparing for her London debut while struggling to determine how best to use magic to resolve a power struggle in the enchanted world of the realms, and to protect her own world and loved ones.

DeLint, Charles: **Little (grrl) Lost**

Fourteen-year-old T.J. and her new friend, sixteen-year-old Elizabeth, a six-inch-high "Little" with a big chip on her shoulder, help one another as T.J. tries to adjust to her family's move from a farm to the big city and Elizabeth tries to make her own way in the world.

Gaiman, Neil: **The Graveyard Book**

The orphan Bod, short for Nobody, is taken in by the inhabitants of a graveyard as a child of eighteen months and raised lovingly and carefully to the age of eighteen years by the community of ghosts and otherworldly creatures.

Hale, Shannon: **Book of a Thousand Days**

Fifteen-year-old Dashti, sworn to obey her sixteen-year-old mistress, the Lady Saren, shares Saren's years of punishment locked in a tower, then brings her safely to the lands of her true love, where both must hide who they are as they work as kitchen maids.

☞ Klaus, Annette Curtis: **Blood and Chocolate**

Having fallen for a human boy, a beautiful teenage werewolf must battle both her packmates and the fear of the townspeople to decide where she belongs and with whom.

Knox, Elizabeth: **Dreamquake**

Sequel to **Dreamhunter**. While investigating the government's involvement in the disappearance of her father, Tziga Hame, and the decline of the art of projecting dreams, dreamhunter Laura learns more about "The Place."

☞ LeGuin, Ursula: **Powers**

Sequel to **Gifts** and **Voices**. A tragedy sets Gavir, a young slave, on a dangerous road to freedom and to deal with the powers he has hitherto kept secret, including the ability to see flashes of the future.

☞ Meyer, Stephenie: **Breaking Dawn**

Sequel to **Twilight**, **New Moon**, and **Eclipse**. Continues the story of the human Bella and the vampire Edward whose love is threatened by their differences, a werewolf named Jacob, and other outside influences.

Pfeffer, Susan Beth: **The Dead and the Gone**

Sequel to **Life as We Knew It**. After a meteor hits the moon and sets off a series of horrific climate changes, seventeen-year-old Alex Morales must take care of his sisters alone in the chaos of New York City.

Thompson, Kate: **The New Policeman**

Fifteen-year-old musician J.J. Liddy leaves his small, Irish town and travels to the land of the fairies to search for time so he can give it to his busy mother; but when he gets there, he discovers that the inhabitants are in trouble and learns about his family's secret history.

Vande Velde, Vivian: **The Book of Mordred**
Under King Arthur's reign, Kiera--daughter of Lady Alayna--is abducted by knights who leave their barn burning and their only servant dead. Alayna travels to Camelot to entreat Mordred to help rescue her.

Authors: Patricia Wrede, Terry Brooks, Michael Crichton, J.R.R. Tolkien, Terry Pratchett, Brian Jacques, Tamora Pierce, Jonathan Stroud, Stephanie Meyer

FICTION: Mystery / Suspense / Horror

Carter, Ally: **Cross My Heart and Hope to Spy**
Sequel to **I'd Tell You I Love You, But Then I'd Have to Kill You**. Genius Cammie Morgan begins the spring semester of her sophomore year with many questions about her ex-boyfriend, mother, and the last term, and intends to use her spying abilities to have them answered.

Clark, Simon: **The Vengeance Child**
Orphan Jay doesn't want to hurt anyone, and nurse Laura Parris is determined to protect him. When she meets Victor Brodman, a widower, she wonders if she can finally reveal Jay's disturbing past.

Doctorow, Cory: **Little Brother**
Interrogated for days by the Department of Homeland Security in the aftermath of a major terrorist attack on San Francisco, California, seventeen-year-old Marcus is released into what is now a police state, and decides to use his expertise in computer hacking to set things right.

Ehrenhaft, Daniel: **Drawing a Blank, or, How I Tried to Solve a Mystery, End a Feud, and Land the Girl of my Dreams**

Carlton Dunne IV, an outcast boarding school student with a secret identity as a graphic novelist, teams up with a beautiful Scottish girl who yearns to be an American police officer, to resolve an ancient feud and rescue Carlton's kidnapped father.

Ferguson, Alane: **The Christopher Killer: A Forensic Mystery**

On the payroll as an assistant to her coroner father, seventeen-year-old Cameryn Mahoney uses her knowledge of forensic medicine to catch the killer of a friend while putting herself in terrible danger. By the author of **The Angel of Death: a forensic mystery**.

Hoffman, Mary: **The Falconer's Knot**
Silvano and Chiara, teens sent to live in a friary and a nunnery in Renaissance Italy, are drawn to one another and dream of a future together, but when murders are

committed in the friary, they must discover who is behind the crimes before they can realize their love.

King, Laurie: **The Beekeeper's Apprentice**
Mary Russell, an intelligent young woman, becomes the apprentice of Sherlock Holmes.

☉ Matheson, Richard: **I Am Legend**
Robert Neville, the last living man on an Earth in which every other man, woman, and child have become vampires, struggles to survive, scavenging for food and supplies. He is desperately searching for other survivors and trying to avoid the evil that lurks in the shadows.

Authors: Clive Barker, Tom Clancy, Sue Grafton, Mary Higgins Clark, Clive Cussler, Stephen King, John Grisham, Lois Duncan, Agatha Christie, Sherlock Holmes, Dick Francis, Ian Fleming, Alexander McCall Smith, Robert Ludlum

FICTION: Historical

Cullen, Lynn: **I Am Rembrandt's Daughter**
In Amsterdam in the mid-1600s, Cornelia's life as the illegitimate child of renowned painter Rembrandt is marked by plague, poverty, and despair at ever earning her father's love, until she sees hope for a better future in the eyes of a wealthy suitor.

Fiedler, Lisa: **Romeo's Ex: Rosaline's Story**
In a story based on the Shakespeare play, sixteen-year-old Rosaline, who is studying to be a healer, becomes romantically entangled with the Montague family even as her beloved young cousin, Juliet Capulet, defies the family feud to secretly marry Romeo.

☉ 📖 Gruen, Sara: **Water for Elephants**
Ninety-year-old Jacob Jankowski finds himself haunted by memories of his past in a depression era circus with the freaks, exotic animals, and other people he encountered as a performer.

Johnston, Tony: **Bone by Bone by Bone**
In 1950s Tennessee, ten-year-old David's racist father refuses to let him associate with his best friend Malcolm, an African American boy. The main character has been described as "like Scout" from **To Kill a Mockingbird**.

Peet, Mal: **Tamar**

In England in 1995, fifteen-year-old Tamar, grief-stricken by the puzzling death of her beloved grandfather, slowly begins to uncover the secrets of his life in the Dutch resistance during the last year of the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands, as well as the climactic events that forever cast a shadow on his life and that of his family.

Thompson, Mike: **Curse of Al Capone's Gold**

In Prohibition-era North Dakota, a corrupt police officer and his friends steal a truckload of whiskey and find the bottles hold sixty-thousand dollars in gold coins, making them the targets of Al Capone, the man to whom the money belongs.

Wells, Rosemary: **Red Moon at Sharpsburg**

Even though the odds are against her and the Civil War has ruined her home and given her a view of the darker side of humanity, thirteen-year-old India Moody continues to aspire to become a scientist and attend Oberlin College.

White, Michael C.: **Soul Catcher**

Augustus Cain, a down-on-his luck veteran of the Mexican-American War, is prevailed upon by Mr. Eberly, a Virginia plantation owner, to travel north in the days before the Civil War and retrieve Rosetta, a runaway slave. While he is successful in capturing his prey, Cain finds each mile of the journey home more difficult to make.

Authors: Michael Shaara, Allan Stratton, Caleb Carr, Ann Rinaldi, Carolyn Meyer, Graham Salisbury

NON-FICTION: Biography, Autobiography, Memoir

Aronson, Marc: **Bill Gates: A Twentieth Century Life**
Profiles the life and achievements of Microsoft cofounder Bill Gates, discussing how he became such a success and his philanthropic activities.

Bryson, Bill: **The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid: A Memoir**

The author describes his childhood growing up in Iowa during the 1950s, recalling country fairs, playing hockey, paper routes, church suppers, and other nostalgic memories.

Hakakian, Roya: **Journey from the Land of No: A Girlhood Caught in Revolutionary Iran**

The author shares the story of her experiences coming of age in Iran during the revolution of 1979, discussing her situation as a member of the small Jewish population in

the country at a time when Islamic fundamentalists gained control. The second **One Book One Town** selection for Madison in 2007.

Heiligman, Deborah: **Charles and Emma: The Darwins' Leap of Faith**

A biography of English naturalist Charles Darwin that provides an account of the personality behind evolutionary theory and the affect of his work on his personal life, such as his relationship with his religious wife.

Lear, Linda: **Beatrix Potter: A Life in Nature**

A biography of early twentieth-century children's writer and illustrator, Beatrix Potter, that describes her life and works, her significant scientific and environmental accomplishments, and artistry in storytelling and illustrating.

McGovern, George S.: **Abraham Lincoln**

Details the life of Abraham Lincoln, the iconic sixteenth President of the United States, and describes his childhood, early political career, and his two terms in office.

Vise, David: **The Google Story**

Presents an overview of the history of Internet based search engine company Google, from the meeting of the two founders at Stanford University to the development of technology that delivers lightning-fast search results.

GENERAL:

Andersen, Tom: **This Fine Piece of Water: An Environmental History of Long Island Sound**

Traces the history of Long Island Sound, one of the most heavily used estuaries in North America, discussing how it has been used as a resource, what impact humans have had on its marine life, how it has been affected by recent suburban sprawl, and how people are working to protect it.

Brashich, Audrey: **All Made Up: A Girl's Guide to Seeing Through Celebrity Hype--and Celebrating Real Beauty**

Explains why the definitions of beauty and success set by celebrities are so powerful and how girls can empower themselves by disregarding these definitions.

📖 Carson, Rachel: **Silent Spring**

Rachel Carson's 1962 environmental classic which identified the dangers of indiscriminate pesticide use. 40th Anniversary Edition released in 2002.

📖 Casagrande, June: **Grammar Snobs are Great Big Meanies: A Guide to Language for Fun and Spite**

Explains the basics of English grammar and punctuation, with examples of proper use and structure, along with tips on how to figure out whether or not something is grammatically correct.

📖 Feinstein, John: **Last Dance: Behind the Scenes at the Final Four**

A collection of stories from coaches, players, referees, and sportscasters that discusses the history of the NCAA basketball tournament, key people, and the effect of the Final Four on its participants.

Gore, Al: **An Inconvenient Truth: The Crisis of Global Warming**

An adaptation of the book in which former Vice President Al Gore examines the climate crisis that is threatening the future of the planet, describes what the world's governments are doing to correct the problem, and explains why the problem should be taken more seriously.

📖 Grogan, John: **Marley & Me: Life and Love with the World's Worst Dog**

The author presents a tender story of his family's love for their yellow Labrador retriever, Marley, and recalls how he grew from a mischievous puppy into a nearly impossible adult that no amount of obedience school training could correct, and of the love they felt for him.

Kaufman, Michael T.: **1968**

Text and black-and-white photographs highlight significant events that occurred around the world in 1968, such as the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., the student revolt at Columbia University, the Soviet occupation of Prague, and the Democratic convention in Chicago.

Millan, Cesar: **Cesar's Way: The Natural, Everyday Guide to Understanding and Correcting Common Dog Problems**

Dog expert Cesar Millan reveals what dogs need to live happy and fulfilled lives and offers pet owners practical suggestions to help them care for their pets without overwhelming them and causing behavior problems.

Rand, Jonathan: **300 pounds of Attitude: The Wildest Stories and Craziest Characters the NFL has Ever Seen**

Recounts some of the more offbeat stories in NFL history, highlighting the players, plays, rivalries, and moments that have defined the sport and its teams and fans.

Swanson, James L.: **Chasing Lincoln's Killer**

Recounts the twelve-day pursuit and capture of John Wilkes Booth, covering the chase through Washington D.C., Maryland, and Virginia, with a discussion of Abraham Lincoln as a father, husband, and friend that examines the impact of his death on those close to him.

Various: **Breaking-Up is Hard to Do: Stories of Falling Out of Love by Four Incredible Authors**

A collection of four stories by women authors that explore the joys and sorrows of falling in and out of love.

Zimmerman, Keith: **Mythbusters: The Explosive Truth Behind 30 of the Most Perplexing Urban Legends of All Time**

The authors use extreme science to determine the truth or myth behind thirty urban legends.



Grades 11 and 12

All students are asked to read **four** books. **At least one of the four titles must come from this list.** Students taking AP or Honors courses have different requirements, which can be found at the end of this list. Please see the first page of the high school list for a discussion of assessments on the Summer Reading. At the end of the 9-12 list, look for the most popular authors/titles last year and Connecticut authors/titles.

Students are asked to return their recording sheets to their English teachers during the first week of school. If they don't have English class during the first trimester, then they must give them to the Library Media Specialist.

🔊 AUDIO FORMAT AVAILABLE

These books are available at Scranton Library as a sound cassette, CD, playaways™ or downloadable audiobook. To access the audiobook collection, you must make one trip to Scranton to create a free account. After that, everything can be done remotely at <http://www.scrantonlibrary.org/>.

FICTION: Realistic

Brooks, Martha: *Mistik Lake*

After Odella's mother leaves her, her sisters, and their father in Manitoba and moves to Iceland with another man, she then dies there, and the family finally learns some of the many secrets that have haunted them for two generations.

Cameron, Peter: *Someday This Pain Will Be Useful to You*

Eighteen-year-old James Sveck copes with the uncertainties of adolescence as he works in his mother's Manhattan art gallery, falls for a charming older gentleman, and tries to decide what he wants out of life.

Cassidy, Anne: *Looking for JJ*

Seventeen-year-old Alice, released from prison with a new identity after serving six years for murdering a child, tries to keep her anonymity from the British tabloids, while haunted by memories of her past trauma.

Doyle, Larry: *I Love You, Beth Cooper*

Denis Cooverman, captain of the debate team, stumbles into the most eventful night of his high school career when he decides to make his graduation speech a confession of love for Beth Cooper, head cheerleader.

🔊 Edwards, Kim: *The Memory Keeper's Daughter*

Dr. David Henry, forced to deliver his own twins during a snowstorm in 1964 with only a nurse to help him, makes a decision that has far-reaching effects on his life, and the lives of his wife and son. When his infant daughter is born with Down Syndrome, in a vain attempt to protect his wife, he orders the nurse to take the baby to an institution

🔊 Green, John: *Looking for Alaska*

Sixteen-year-old Miles' first year at Culver Creek Preparatory School in Alabama includes good friends and great pranks, but is defined by the search for answers about life and death after a fatal car crash.

🔊 Hosseini, Khaled: *A Thousand Splendid Suns*

A novel set against the three decades of Afghanistan's history shaped by Soviet occupation, civil war, and the Taliban, which tells the stories of two women, Mariam and Laila, who grow close despite their nineteen-year age difference and initial rivalry as they suffer at the hand of a common enemy: their abusive husband. By the author of ***The Kite Runner***.

🔊 Jones, Lloyd: *Mister Pip*

On a remote tropical island where villages are overrun by rebel fighting, thirteen-year-old Matilda is introduced to the Charles Dickens classic "Great Expectations" by her white school teacher and becomes enthralled with the story's main character, with whom she feels a connection.

🔊 Kyle, Aryn: *The God of Animals*

Alice Winston is left to help support the family business by boarding the horses of their rich neighbors when her older sister runs away and her parents are no longer able to provide for the family.

Levithan, David: *Boy Meets Boy*

Paul's simple high-school life is confused by his desire for another boy who seems unattainable, until Paul's friends help him find the courage to pursue him.

Palahniuk, Chuck: *Invisible Monsters*

When a car accident leaves a successful fashion model disfigured and incapable of speech, she learns how to reinvent herself by erasing her past and making up something better. By the author of ***Fight Club*** and ***Choke***.

☉ Patchett, Ann: **Run**

Bernard Doyle, former Boston Mayor and father of two adopted sons, has done his best to keep his sons interested in politics; however, one snowy evening an accident triggers into motion a series of events that will change their lives forever.

By the author of **Bel Canto**.

Salinger, J.D.: **The Catcher in the Rye**

An adolescent boy, knowing he is about to be dropped by his school, spends three days and nights in New York City.

☉ Strause, Brian: **Maybe a Miracle**

After eighteen-year-old Monroe Anderson's little sister, Annika, nearly drowns in the family pool, Monroe struggles with who he is and what is worth believing in while his parents cope with the accident in other ways. The narrator has been described as a "Holden Caulfield wannabe" so check out **The Catcher in the Rye**, too!

📖 Toole, John Kennedy: **A Confederacy of Dunces**
Pulitzer Prize winning farce, set in New Orleans, telling about Ignatius J. Reilly and his various attempts at employment and one-man wars.

☉ Werlin, Nancy: **The Rules of Survival**

Seventeen-year-old Matthew recounts his attempts, starting at a young age, to free himself and his sisters from the grip of their emotionally and physically abusive mother.

Wizner, Jake: **Spanking Shakespeare**

Shakespeare Shapiro has always hated his name and has always gotten teased about it all the way through school; however, he may get his revenge through his memoirs, a school project, that has chronicled every detail of his life.

Authors: Toni Morrison, Kurt Vonnegut, Amy Tan, John Irving, Elizabeth Berg, Anita Shreve, Helen Fielding, Jeffery Archer, Jane Hamilton, Ellen Wittlinger, John Updike, Elaine Marie Alphin, Sue Miller, Mitch Albom. Fanny Flagg, Gail Giles

FICTION: Fantasy / Science Fiction

📖 Connolly, John: **The Book of Lost Things**

Twelve-year-old David's grief over his mother's death at the start of World War II intensifies with his father's remarriage and the impending birth of a sibling. When his books begin talking to him, tempting him to enter a portal into a magical world, he decides to take the risk.

Durham, David Anthony: **Acacia**

Widower Leodan Akaran, ruler of the Known World, has hidden from his four children the fact that the peace and prosperity enjoyed by Acacia is built on traffic in drugs and human lives, so when he is stricken by a deadly assassin and the empire attacked, he sets in motion a plan devised to allow his children to escape-- each to find his or her own destiny.

Grossman, Austin: **Soon I Will be Invincible**

Brilliant scientist Doctor Impossible, always plotting to take over the world, comes up with an evil plan to knock the planet off its orbit, setting the stage for a confrontation with Fatale, a rookie cyborg superhero and newest member of the Champions team.

Kinsella, W.P.: **Shoeless Joe**

An Iowa farmer builds a baseball stadium in his cornfield, hoping his hero, Shoeless Joe Jackson, will play in it.

☉ Maguire, Gregory: **Son of a Witch**

Sequel to **Wicked**. Liir, believed to be the son of Elphaba the wicked witch of the West, has been spared from the destruction of Emerald City and nursed back to health at the Cloister of Saint Glinda. When he is grown, he sets out to find his supposed half-sister and fulfill the last wishes of a dying princess.

☉ Meyer, Stephenie: **The Host**

Melanie, whose mind has been almost completely taken over by an alien named Wanderer, convinces the alien to search for her lost lover, who fled the extraterrestrial invasion, and tries to find a way in which she and Wanderer can coexist. By the author of the **Twilight** series.

Rothfuss, Patrick J.: **The Name of the Wind**

Kvothe spends his life fighting hidden and familiar foes while struggling to master his magical powers and battle ancient evils that threaten his world.

Authors: Michael Crichton, J.R.R. Tolkien, Ray Bradbury, Isaac Asimov, Robin McKinley, David Clement-Davies, T.A. Barron, David Eddings

FICTION: Mystery / Suspense /Horror

Bayard, Louis: **The Pale Blue Eye**

In 1830, a young cadet's body is discovered at West Point Academy, forcing the Academy to call on the services of retired detective Augustus Landor, who in turn draws on the knowledge of a young cadet named Edgar Allan Poe.

Bebris, Carrie: **The Matters at Mansfield, (Or, The Crawford Affair): A Mr. & Mrs. Darcy Mystery** Sequel to **Pride and Prescience, Suspense and Sensibility**, and **North by Northanger**. The Darcys are looking forward to some peace and quiet as Elizabeth settles into her pregnancy, but when the couple is summoned to Northanger Abbey, they uncover intrigues that threaten the Darcy legacy and good name, as well as their freedom.

☪ Harris, Joanne: **The Girl with No Shadow** Sequel to: **Chocolat**. Vianne Rocher, who has moved to Paris under a new name, Yanne Charbonneau, opens a chocolaterie and hopes to protect her daughters Anouk and Rosette, but her life is blown off course when a businessman named Thierry and a vibrant woman named Zoie enter her life. By the author of **Gentlemen and Players** and **Five Quarters of the Orange**.

☪ King, Stephen: **Duma Key** Self-made millionaire Edgar Freemantle's wife walks out on him after a construction accident leaves him disfigured, so he heads for Florida's Duma Key and starts to paint; however, his work appears to take on a life of its own.

☪ 📖 Khoury, Raymond: **The Sanctuary** A geneticist becomes involved in a deadly quest for a secret that has destroyed everyone in its path for centuries. By the author of **The Last Templar**.

Meade, Amy Patricia: **Million Dollar Baby** Successful young mystery writer Marjorie McClelland, living in the post-Prohibition town of Ridgebury, Connecticut, catches the eye of Creighton Ashcroft, a British heir who has purchased a local mansion, but his hopes of engaging her romantically are dashed when the couple comes across a body while walking in Ashcroft's garden, and the detective who arrives to investigate proves much more interesting to Marjorie.

Ruff, Matt: **Bad Monkeys** Jane Charlotte, arrested for murder, is referred to a psychiatrist who tries to figure out what is really going on. After Jane explains that as a member of a secret group devoted to fighting evil, she is responsible for getting rid of irredeemable persons--otherwise known as "Bad Monkeys."

☪ 📖 Setterfield, Diane: **The Thirteenth Tale** Aging, reclusive author Vida Winter, having given out multiple versions of her life story over the years, decides to finally set the record straight and engages Margaret Lea, a London bookseller's daughter, to write her biography, drawing the young woman into a tale of a

governess, a ghost, a willful woman, feral twins, and a gothic mansion.

☪ 📖 Tan, Amy: **Saving Fish from Drowning** When Bibi Chen, the leader of a group of twelve American tourists, mysteriously dies while on an art expedition in the Himalayan foothills of China, the remainder of the group discover that the Burma Road is filled with danger and uncertainty.

Authors: Patricia Cornwall, John Grisham, Ken Follett, Janet Evanovich, Agatha Christie, Dick Francis, Tony Hillerman, Rex Stout, Martha Grimes, Carol Plum-Ucci, P.D. James, Elizabeth Peters, Steven Saylor

FICTION: Historical

Andersen, Kurt: **Heyday** Aristocratic Benjamin Knowles impulsively leaves the Old World in the mid-nineteenth century and travels to New York where he is befriended by muckraking journalist Timothy Skaggs, Mexican War veteran and firefighter Duff Lucking, and Duff's actress sister Polly. Together the four set off for the frontier, chasing the prospects of new beginnings and California gold.

☪ 📖 Benioff, David: **City of Thieves** Seventeen-year-old Lev Beniov, having been arrested for looting the corpse of a German paratrooper, is given the opportunity to be released from jail if he, along with a soldier imprisoned for desertion, can secure twelve eggs to be used in the colonel's daughter's wedding cake by traversing the dangerous streets of Leningrad.

☪ Crile, George: **Charlie Wilson's War: The Extraordinary Story of the Largest Covert Operation in History** Recounts the events surrounding the last battle of the Cold War and discusses how those events fueled the new jihad and led to the rise of militant Islam.

☪ Gregory, Philippa: **The Other Queen** Presents a fictionalized account of the final years of Mary, Queen of Scots, who fled Scotland and sought sanctuary in the home of the Earl of Shrewsbury and his wife, only to find herself imprisoned. By the author of **The Other Boleyn Girl** and **The Boleyn Inheritance**

☪ Gruen, Sara: **Water for Elephants** Ninety-year-old Jacob Jankowski finds himself haunted by memories of his past in a depression era circus with the freaks, exotic animals, and other people he encountered as a performer.

☉ Iggulden, Conn: **Genghis: Birth of an Empire**
Tartar raids kill the father of Temujin and banish his family from the land; but when he grows older, he assembles a small army of men and begins raiding Tartar camps. Eventually he unites all the Mongol tribes.

Johnson, Denis: **Tree of Smoke**

CIA officer William "Skip" Sands travels to Vietnam in 1967 as part of a team running deceptive operations against North Vietnam. His involvement in their latest assignment is complicated by a Canadian nurse and two brothers whose misguided beliefs threaten the entire operation.

LeGuin, Ursula: **Lavinia**

Lavinia, daughter of King Latinus and Queen Amata, gets caught in the middle of her parent's conflicting wishes that she marry either Turnus, king of Rutuli, or Trojan stranger Aeneas, which follows an omen that dictates she will cause a war, and that her husband will die young.

📖 Naslund, Sena Jeter: **Ahab's Wife, or, The Star-Gazer**

A companion to Herman Melville's "Moby-Dick," in which Una Spenser tells the story of her life, and discusses her loving marriage to Captain Ahab before the white whale took his leg and drove him into madness.

Sayres, Meghan Nuttall: **Anahita's Woven Riddle**

In Iran, a young girl with three suitors gets permission from her father and a holy man to weave into her wedding rug a riddle to be solved by her future husband, which will ensure that he has wit to match hers.

☉ 📖 See, Lisa: **Snow Flower and the Secret Fan**
Friends Snow Flower and Lily find solace in their bond as they face isolation, arranged marriages, loss, and motherhood in nineteenth-century China.

☉ Shaara, Michael: **The Killer Angels: A Novel of the Civil War**

Presents a fictional account of four days in July, 1863, at the Battle of Gettysburg, discussing tactics, plans, and preparations for battle from both the Northern and Southern points of view. The first in a series. *Gettysburg* is the film adaptation of this novel.

☉ 📖 Zusak, Markus: **The Book Thief**

Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel--a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.

Authors: Ursula Hegi, Dan Brown, Willa Cather, E.L. Doctorow

DRAMA:

Pulitzer Prize Winners:

Auburn, David: **Proof**

Catherine, having spent years caring for her brilliant but unstable mathematician father, is forced to deal with her own volatile emotions in the days following his death.

Edson, Margaret: **Wit**

When English professor Vivian Bearing is diagnosed with terminal cancer, she is forced to reevaluate her life.

Letts, Tracy: **August: Osage County**

Presents Tracy Letts' Broadway play about a dysfunctional American family forced to reunite at the family homestead after the patriarch disappears.

Shanley, John Patrick: **Doubt: A Parable**

A play set in the Bronx in 1964 about a nun, Sister Aloysius, who suspects that Father Flynn has more than a casual interest in the school's first African-American student.

Wilson, August: **Fences**

Troy Maxson, a strong, hard man who has learned how to be Black and proud in the 1950s, finds the changing spirit of the 1960s hard to deal with.

Classics:

Ibsen, Henrik: **The Wild Duck**

A play that illustrates the destructive impact on an average family of a neurotic fanatic who fails to understand the consequences of his behavior.

📖 Miller, Arthur: **All My Sons**

A play about Joe Keller, a manufacturer of aircraft parts during World War II who allows faulty cylinder heads to be sold to the Army and when caught, blames his employee and neighbor, destroying many lives in the process.

Authors: Tennessee Williams, Edward Albee, August Wilson, Eugene O'Neill, George Bernard Shaw, Neil Simon

NON-FICTION: Biography, Autobiography, Memoir

Aronson, Marc: **Bill Gates: A Twentieth Century Life**
Profiles the life and achievements of Microsoft cofounder Bill Gates, discussing how he became such a success and his philanthropic activities.

📖 📖 Beah, Ishmael: **A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier**

Ishmael Beah describes his experiences after he was driven from his home by war in Sierra Leone and picked up by the government army at the age of thirteen. He served as a soldier for three years before being removed from fighting by UNICEF and eventually moving to the United States.

Carroll, Jim: **The Basketball Diaries**

A diary of the author's early teen years in the mid-1960s, telling how he progressed from sniffing glue to shooting heroin while playing basketball for Trinity High School in Manhattan.

📖 📖 Hirsi Ali, Ayaan: **Infidel**

Ayaan Hirsi Ali recounts her life story, discussing her traditional Muslim childhood in Somalia, Saudi Arabia, and Kenya, her intellectual awakening and activism in the Netherlands, and her current life under armed guard in the West.

Lewis, Michael: **The Blind Side: Evolution of a Game**

Details the life of University of Mississippi football player Michael Oher, who was raised by a crack addicted mother and adopted at the age of sixteen by a wealthy family, and explores the rising importance and salary of the offensive left tackle in the game of football.

Martin, Steve: **Born Standing Up**

Steve Martin reflects on his early career as a stand-up comic, how he walked away from it to become a writer for "The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour," his mentors and complex relationship with his parents and sister, and the work and dedication it took to become one of the world's greatest comedians.

Polly, Matthew: **American Shaolin: Flying Kicks, Buddhist Monks, and the Legend of Iron Crotch: An Odyssey in the New China**

Matthew Polly recounts the experiences he had during the two years he spent living and studying in China, performing with the Shaolin monks, who taught Matthew important lessons about life and his place in the universe.

Salewicz, Chris: **Redemption Song: The Ballad of Joe Strummer**

Recounts the passage of John Mellor, AKA Joe Strummer, front man for the iconoclastic punk band the Clash, who died in 2002 of a congenital heart defect

📖 📖 Sedaris, David: **When You are Engulfed in Flames**

A collection of essays in which David Sedaris reflects on some of the more humorous and memorable events of his life. By the author of **Me Talk Pretty One Day** and **Naked**.

📖 📖 Swofford, Anthony: **Jarhead: A Marine's Chronicle of the Gulf War and Other Battles**

The author, a U.S. Marine, recounts his disturbing experiences in the 1991 Gulf War and reflects upon the emotional damage he suffered and the nature of both the American military and war itself.

Tillman, Mary: **Boots on the Ground by Dusk: The Remarkable Life and Death of Pat Tillman**

After 9/11, Pat Tillman left his career with the Arizona Cardinals and enlisted in the U.S. Army. On April 22, 2004, he was killed by the enemy in Afghanistan, according to initial reports. Later it was revealed that he was killed by friendly fire.

Wood, John: **Leaving Microsoft to Change the World: An Entrepreneur's Odyssey to Educate the World's Children**

John Wood, former Microsoft leader, explains why he left his powerful position in the company to help improve the education of Nepalese children and shares what he learned about life, ambition, and faith during his experiences.

GENERAL:

📖 📖 Bhutto, Benazir: **Reconciliation: Islam, Democracy, and the West**

Former prime minister of Pakistan Benazir Bhutto discusses the rise of Islamic radicalism, contending that autocratic rulers, manipulative religious leaders, and the Western world have threatened the chance of democracy in Pakistan. She completed the manuscript for this book just days prior to her assassination.

Bowden, Mark: **Killing Pablo: The Hunt for the World's Greatest Outlaw**

Traces the rise of Columbian drug lord Pablo Escobar and his ultimate defeat--death in 1993, after a sixteen-month manhunt, at the hands of a Columbian Search Bloc team with help from the U.S. Author of **Black Hawk Down**.

☉ Brokaw, Tom: **Boom!: Voices of the Sixties**
Journalist Tom Brokaw looks back on life in the United States during the 1960s, sharing the perspectives and experiences of famous and ordinary people who were affected by the tumultuous times, discussing changes that occurred in politics, culture, and society, and looking at how the era influenced events to come.

☉ Casagrande, June: **Grammar Snobs are Great Big Meanies: A Guide to Language for Fun and Spite**
Explains the basics of English grammar and punctuation, with examples of proper use and structure, along with tips on how to figure out whether or not something is grammatically correct.

Conlon, Faith, et al, editors: **Go Your Own Way: Women Travel the World Solo**
Twenty-three women share stories of their experiences traveling alone in locations throughout the world.

Dyson, Michael Eric: **Come Hell or High Water**
The author examines the events in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina, and argues that the nation's failure to offer timely aid to Katrina victims indicates deeper problems in race and class relations.

Engel, Jonathan: **American Therapy: The Rise of Psychotherapy in the United States**
Traces the development of mental health care in America since World War II, the rise and decline of psychoanalysis, and the various treatments and drugs that have been used to control addictions and mental instability.

George, Rose: **The Big Necessity: The Unmentionable World of Human Waste and Why It Matters**
Describes ways that societies all over the world deal--and do not deal--with human waste, and covers the sewers of Paris, London, and New York City; examines the public toilets in India, China's biogas digesters, third world sanitation movements, the U.S. military laser elimination methods, and more.

Gill, Michael Gates: **How Starbucks Saved My Life: A Son of Privilege Learns to Live Like Everyone Else**
Michael Gates Gill shares how a job at his local Starbucks helped him rebuild his life after he lost his job and his family, sharing how the job taught him about what was truly important and offering an inside look at life behind the Starbucks' counter.

☉ 📖 Gladwell, Malcolm: **Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking**
Presents a study of how people think without thinking, looking at the brain processes involved in making snap

decisions, discussing why some people seem to have great instincts while others consistently choose unwisely, and examining ways to control the process.

Gunn, Tim: **Tim Gunn: A Guide to Quality, Taste, and Style**
One of the stars of Bravo TV's *Project Runway*, Tim Gunn gives style and fashion advice.

☉ Harr, Jonathan: **The Lost Painting**
Recounts the events surrounding the discovery of Italian Baroque artist Caravaggio's masterpiece *The Taking of Christ*, which went undiscovered for decades in a dusty attic, and explores the controversy surrounding the painting's discovery and restoration. By the author of *A Civil Action*.

Hemphill, Stephanie: **Your Own, Sylvia: A Verse Portrait of Sylvia Plath**
A series of poems that provide a chronological portrait of the life of Sylvia Plath, told in the voices of family members, friends, associates, and others who knew her.

Kerasote, Ted: **Merle's Door**
Recounts the events surrounding the discovery of Italian Ted Kerasote recounts the unique bond he formed with a dog he found living on its own in the wild and shares the experiences they had together.

☉ 📖 Kingsolver, Barbara: **Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life**
The author tells how she and her family relocated to southern Appalachia from Arizona in order to live a simpler life, grow their own food, and live among a community of local organic growers.

☉ 📖 Levitt, Steven D. & Dubner, Stephen J.: **Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything**
The authors explore the economics of real-world issues often viewed as insignificant, such as the extent to which the Roe v. Wade decision affected violent crime, and examine hidden incentives behind all sorts of human behavior.

☉ 📖 Mortenson, Greg: **Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Fight Terrorism and Build Nations--One School at a Time**
Greg Mortenson recounts the experiences he had while trying to help impoverished villages in Pakistan's Karakoram Himalaya build schools for their children.

Sherwood, Ben: **The Survivors Club: The Secrets and Science that Could Save Your Life**
Presents insights on survival, arguing that surviving near fatal phenomenon has as much to do with luck as with training, worldview, and faith, combining science,

interviews, and reporting with survivor stories and analysis.

☞ Tammet, Daniel: **Born on a Blue Day: Inside the Extraordinary Mind of an Autistic Savant**

Daniel Tammet, an autistic savant, offers an inside look at his life, describing how his rare condition, which gives him incredible mental powers and a compulsive need for order and routine, has influenced every aspect of his life and what challenges he has faced while trying to be independent.

Thacker, Lloyd, editor: **College Unranked: Ending the College Admissions Frenzy**

Presents a collection of essays by veteran college admissions counselors that provide advice on the college selection and admission process.

Vise, David A. and Mark Malseed: **The Google Story**

Presents an overview of the history of Internet based search engine company Google, from the meeting of the two founders at Stanford University to the development of technology that delivers lightning-fast search results.

Most Popular Last Summer

Authors/Titles

Anderson, Laurie Halse: **Prom, Speak, Catalyst, Twisted**

Carter, Ally: **I'd Tell You I Love You, But Then I'd Have to Kill You**

Connor, Leslie: **Dead on Town Line**

Dessen, Sarah: **Just Listen, Someone Like You, The Truth About Forever, This Lullaby, et al**

Fiedler, Lisa: **Romeo's Ex**

Forster, E. M.: **Passage to India**

Grogan, John: **Marley & Me**

Haddon, Mark: **The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time**

Hosseini, Khaled: **The Kite Runner, A Thousand Splendid Suns**

Huxley, Aldous: **Brave New World**

Klause, Annette Curtis: **Blood and Chocolate**

Lubar, David: **Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie**

Lupica, Mike: **Too Far, Heat, Travel Team, Summer Ball**

Meyer, Stephenie: **Twilight, New Moon, Eclipse**

Morrison, Toni: **The Bluest Eye**

Paolini, Christopher: **Eldest, Eragon**

Picoult, Jodi: **My Sister's Keeper, Tenth Circle, The Pact, Nineteen Minutes, et al**

Portman, Frank: **King Dork**

Riordan, Rick: **The Lightning Thief**

Salinger, J.D.: **Catcher in the Rye**

Sebold, Alice: **Lovely Bones**

Smith, Roland: **Peak**

Sorrells, Walter: **Fake ID**

Steinbeck, John: **East of Eden**

Thompson, Kate: **The New Policeman**

Zevin, Gabrielle: **Elsewhere**

Series

Dean, Zoey: **The A-list series**

De la Cruz, Melissa: **Au Pair series and Blue Blood series**

Harrison, Lisi: **Clique series**

Horowitz, Anthony: **Alex Rider Adventures series and Gatekeepers series**

Kinsella, Sophie: **Shopaholic series**

Myracle, Lauren: **TTYL series**

Rolling, J.K.: **Harry Potter series**

James, Steven: **The Bowers Files series**

Various: **Star Wars: Legacy of the Force**

VonZiegesar, Cecily: **Gossip Girls series**

Course Specific Requirements in English and Social Studies

Students taking the following courses in the fall have special summer reading requirements. In some cases, you will have assignments to complete over the summer.

Students are asked to return their recording sheets to their English teachers during the first week of school. If they don't have English class during the first trimester, then they must give them to the Library Media Specialist.

Grade 9: Literature and Composition

Required Reading:

☞ Riordan, Rick: **The Lightning Thief**

AND

Hamilton, Edith: **Mythology** (Chapters 1, 3, 4, 13-15 ONLY.)

Some editions of Edith Hamilton's *Mythology* do not number the chapters in the Table of Contents. Please use the list below as a guide.

PART ONE:

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Grade 10: World Literature-Honors

**Note: Grade 10 Honors students are required to pick up a packet of required work in the LMC prior to departing school in June*

Required Reading:

☞ 📖 See, Lisa: **Snowflower and the Secret Fan**
AND
Achebe, Chinua: **Things Fall Apart**

Grade 11: American Literature-Honors

Required Reading:

📖 Steinbeck, John: **East of Eden**
AND
☞ 📖 📖 Cather, Willa: **My Antonia**

Grade 11: American Literature- Level 2

Required Reading:

Salinger, J.D: **Catcher in the Rye**
AND
One additional novel title of student choice from the existing list of novels in the Summer Reading List.

Grade 12: AP English

**Note: The novels listed below are the core of the first unit in literature. You should take notes on characters, setting, plot, theme, and symbolism. You should be prepared for in-depth discussion and for assessments on each of these novels.*

Required Reading:

☞ 📖 Forster, E.M.: **A Passage to India**
AND
☞ 📖 Heller, Joseph: **Catch-22**
AND
☞ 📖 📖 Hosseini, Khaled: **The Kite Runner**
AND
Hurston, Zora Neale: **Their Eyes Were Watching God**
AND
☞ 📖 Huxley, Aldous: **Brave New World**

AP U.S. History

**Note: You will be given a textbook and an assignment before leaving school in June.*

Required Reading: Faragher, et al: **Out of Many: A History of the American People, 5th Edition, AP Edition** Chapters 1, 2, & 3.

**AP European History /
Western Civilization**

Required Reading:

☞ Manchester, William: **A World Lit Only by Fire: The Medieval Mind and the Renaissance – Portrait of an Age**

AP Psychology

**Note: You will be given readings from your textbook to complete for this course before leaving school in June.*

**Note: There is a written assignment required along with this book that is defined in the handout you will receive with your textbook.*

Required Reading:

Gladwell, Malcolm: **Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking**

**Note: There is an additional reading/writing assignment that will be given at the beginning of the second trimester and will be chosen from the list below and submitted by January 5, 2010:*

Blass, Thomas: **The Man Who Shocked the world** (Stanley Milgram)

Coren, Stanley: **Sleep Thieves** (sleep and dreams)

Gregory, Julie: **Sickened: The Memoir of a Munchausen by Proxy Childhood** (child abuse)

Jamison, Kay Redfield: **An Unquiet Mind** (bipolar disorder)

Rapoport, Judith L.: **The Boy Who Couldn't Stop Washing: The Experience and Treatment of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder** (OCD)

📖 Robison, John: **Look Me in the Eye: My life with Asperger's** (Asperger's syndrome)

☞ Sacks, Oliver: **Musicophilia: Tales of Music and the Brain** (brain)

Schiller, Lori: **The Quiet Room** (schizophrenia)

Shawn, Allen: **Wish I Could be There: Notes From a Phobic Life** (phobias)

Wagner, Pamela and Carolyn Spiro: **Divided Minds: Twin Sisters and Their Journey Through Schizophrenia** (schizophrenia)

Madison Public Schools' Summer Reading List
Grades 9 – 12 RECORDING SHEET

Please return this form to your English teacher or to the Library Media Specialist no later than the first week of September 2009.

Student Name: _____

PLEASE CIRCLE: Male or Female / Grade 9 10 11 12

AUTHOR	TITLE	
#1		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
#2		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
#3		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
#4		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
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# 14		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
# 15		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel
# 16		<input type="checkbox"/> Book - Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Book – Non-Fiction <input type="checkbox"/> Magazine <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Novel