

June 2010

Cambridge Friends School Library

Summer Reading Suggestions for Middle Readers (Grades 5 - 7)



Reading good books during the summer is one of the best ways for you to prepare for the next grade. Reading will improve your comprehension, your vocabulary, your grammar, and your writing style. Even more importantly, reading will help you to gain understanding of yourself, other people, other places, and other times. And it is fun! You can do it at any time and in any place.

In this reading list we've included an annotated* selection of new and noteworthy books as well as a list of books recommended by our librarians and students.

You should also look in libraries and bookstores for nonfiction, poetry, plays, and biographies that would be of interest to you. And be sure to look for myths, legends, and folklore, too.

This summer, use your public library and reserve your books online!
See the next page for instructions on how to do it.

This book list and lists for other grades are on the CFS library website:
<http://www.cfsmass.org/curriculum/Library.htm>

Happy Reading!

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Going Online to the Public Library
New and Noteworthy
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Sports Fiction
Fantasy and Science Fiction
Books Based on Greek Mythology
Thrilling Adventures
Historical Fiction

* Some annotations have been adapted from publishers' information and book reviews.



Use your public library and reserve your books online!

To get access to all these great books, use your public library. Communities in Massachusetts belong to large library networks - this means that they share their resources. Materials can be borrowed from any of the member libraries. You can go online, request books, and have them delivered to your own neighborhood branch.

Most of the communities around Cambridge belong to the Minuteman Library Network:

Go to: www.mln.lib.ma.us

To request books, you must have a library card and a PIN. You can go to your public library to get both. If you already have a card, but not a PIN, you can create a PIN online. You can request books from any of the member libraries, and they will be delivered to any library you choose.

- To search the catalog and request books, first click on *My Account*.
- Put in your library card # and PIN. Click *Submit*.
- On the next screen, there is information about your account, such as which books you have signed out and requested. You can renew your books here. You also can begin to search the catalog.
- Under *My Account*, go to *Modify Personal Information* to see if the library has your e-mail address and to designate where you would like to pick up your books. You will get an e-mail message when your books are ready to be picked up.

To search the public library catalog:

The default method of searching the catalog is by **KEYWORD**. You can also choose other search methods, such as **AUTHOR**, **TITLE**, or **SUBJECT**.

Click on a title that interests you. You will see more information about the book, including whether it is currently available. If you want the book, click on *Request Item*.

Use the *HELP* feature if you have any questions.

For the Boston Public Library System go to: www.bpl.org

If your local library is not a member of either of these systems, go to your library's web page on the Internet and find out how to reserve books.

New and Noteworthy Books - Check These Out!

Anderson, M. T. *Jasper Dash and the Flame-Pits of Delaware*

In a spoof of foreign adventure novels, three friends save the world when they set off a chain of events in which they help monks retrieve stolen artifacts. They are off to exotic Delaware in search of a ruthless band of art thieves who are plundering priceless artifacts from the monastery of Vbngoom.

Basye, Dale E. *Heck: Where the Bad Kids Go*

When timid Milton and his older, scofflaw sister Marlo die in a marshmallow bear explosion at Grizzly Mall, they are sent to Heck, an otherworldly reform school from which they are determined to escape. Next in the series: ***Rapacia: The Second Circle of Heck***. Formerly dead Milton Fauster tries to save his older sister Marlo from "eternal darnation" when she is sent to another educational level of the Underworld reform school known as Heck.

Buckley, Michael. *NERDS: National Espionage, Rescue, and Defense Society*

While running a spy network from their elementary school, five unpopular misfits combine their talents and use cutting-edge gadgetry to fight evil around the world.

Breathed, Berkeley. *Flawed Dogs: The Novel: The Shocking Raid on Westminster*

After being framed by a jealous poodle, a dachshund is left for dead, but comes back with a group of mutts from the National Last Ditch Dog Depository to disrupt the prestigious Westminster Kennel Club dog show and exact revenge on Cassius the poodle.

Calkhoven, Laurie. *Boys of Wartime: Daniel at the Siege of Boston, 1776*

In 1776 Boston, twelve-year-old Daniel Prescott enjoys assuming his father's role in taking care of his mother and sister, as well as his work as a spy and messenger for the American revolutionaries, but the pleasure ends when he witnesses the horrors of war firsthand and learns that a trusted patriot is actually a British spy.

Clements, Andrew. *Extra Credit*

As letters flow back and forth--between the prairies of Illinois and the mountains of Afghanistan, across cultural and religious divides--sixth-grader Abby, ten-year-old Amira, and eleven-year-old Sadeed begin to speak and listen to each other.

Connor, Leslie. *Crunch*

When their parents get stuck because of a severe fuel shortage, the five Marriss children must spend a summer fending for themselves and running the family bike business. 14 year-old Dewey never guessed that the gas pumps would run dry the same week he promised to manage the family bicycle-repair business.

Cottrell Boyce, Frank. *Cosmic*

Twelve-year old Liam looks like he's thirty so - feeling like he's stuck between two worlds - he cons his way into being the adult chaperone on the first ship to take civilians into space. But when the ship is stuck 230,000 miles from home, being mistaken for an adult loses some of its luster.

Creech, Sharon. *The Unfinished Angel*

In a tiny village in the Swiss Alps, an angel meets an American girl named Zola who has come with her father to open a school, and together Zola and the angel rescue a group of homeless orphans, who gradually change everything.

Daneshvari, Gitty. *School of Fear*

Twelve-year-olds Madeleine, Theo, and Lulu, and thirteen-year-old Garrison, are sent to a remote Massachusetts school to overcome their phobias, but tragedy strikes and the quartet must work together--with no adult assistance--to face their fears.

Dowell, Frances O'Roark. *Falling In*

Middle-schooler Isabelle Bean follows a mouse's squeak into a closet and falls into a parallel universe where the children believe she is the witch they have feared for years, finally come to devour them.

Easton, Kelly. *The Outlandish Adventures of Liberty Aimes*

Ten-year-old Liberty Aimes is a captive in her parents' crooked house. Her only knowledge of the outside world comes from a secret stash of books. One day, Liberty enters her father's laboratory and, with the aid of a potion, she escapes to search for her destiny.

Feinstein, John. *Change-up: Mystery at the World Series*

While covering baseball's World Series between the Washington Nationals and the Boston Red Sox, teenage sports reporters Stevie and Susan Carol investigate a rookie pitcher whose evasive answers during an interview reveal more than a few contradictions in his life story.

French, S. Terrell. *Operation Redwood*

Julian Carter-Li intercepts an angry e-mail message meant for his greedy, high-powered uncle and learns his uncle's company plans to cut down some of the oldest and last California redwood trees. It's up to Julian and a ragtag group of friends to stop them.

Gaiman, Neil. *Odd and the Frost Giants*

An unlucky twelve-year-old Norwegian boy named Odd leads the Norse gods Loki, Thor, and Odin in an attempt to outwit evil Frost Giants who have taken over Asgard.

Harrison, Michelle. *13 Treasures*

Bedeveled by evil fairies that only she can see, thirteen-year-old Tanya is sent to stay with her cold and distant grandmother at Elvesden Manor, where she and the caretaker's son solve a disturbing mystery that leads them to the discovery that Tanya's life is in danger.

Jonell, Lynne. *The Secret of Zoom*

Ten-year-old Christina lives a sheltered life until she discovers a secret tunnel, an evil plot to enslave orphans, and a mysterious source of energy known as zoom.

Kelly, Jacqueline. *The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate*

As 11-year-old Callie Tate explores the natural world around her in 1899 Texas, she develops a close relationship with her grandfather, who is exploring the new theory of evolution. She also navigates living with six brothers, and comes up against just what it means to be a girl at the turn of the century. Newbery Honor Book 2010.

Klise, Kate. *Dying to Meet You*

A cranky, burned-out children's mystery writer moves into a dilapidated, old Victorian house, searching for peace and quiet to help him get over writer's block; unbeknownst to him, the house is already occupied by a boy, his cat, and the ghost of the house's original owner. *First of series.*

Lin, Grace. *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*

Minli, a poor Chinese girl, and her parents live in the shadow of Fruitless Mountain, where they toil endlessly. Bitter and resentful, Minli's mother complains when her husband fills Minli's imagination with tales of Never-Ending Mountain and the Old Man of the Moon. Minli sets out alone seeking advice from the Old Man of the Moon. The novel incorporates elements from Chinese folk and fairy tales. Newbery Honor 2010.

Llewellyn, Sam. *The Well Between the Worlds*

Eleven-year-old Idris Limpet, living with his family in the once noble but now evil and corrupt island country of Lyonesse, finds his life taking a dramatic turn when, after a near-drowning incident, he is accused of being allied to the feared sea monsters and is rescued from a death sentence by a mysterious and fearsome stranger.

Lowry, Lois. *The Birthday Ball*

Princess Patricia Priscilla is bored with her royal life and the excitement surrounding her 16th birthday ball. Doomed to endure courtship by three grotesquely unappealing noblemen, she escapes her fate - for a week - by switching identities with her maid. What begins as a cure for boredom becomes a chance for the princess to break the rules.

Lupica, Mike. *The Batboy*

Even though his mother feels baseball ruined her marriage to his father, she allows fourteen-year-old Brian to become a bat boy for the Detroit Tigers, who have just drafted his favorite player back onto the team. An unlikely friendship slowly develops between a former baseball great in need of a family and the 14-year-old batboy in need of a father.

Marino, Nan. *Neil Armstrong is My Uncle and Other Lies Muscle Man McGinty Told Me*

Set in 1969, this is a story from the viewpoint of a bully. Tammy, age 10, reveals the hurt and loneliness that fuel her anger as she targets the new, skinny kid, Douglas, who has moved into a foster home on the block. She mocks him for telling wild lies: he is training for the Olympics; his uncle is Neil Armstrong, about to walk on the moon; and more.

Philbrick, Rodman. *The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg*

Twelve-year-old Homer, a poor but clever orphan, has extraordinary adventures after running away from his evil uncle to rescue his brother, who has been illegally sold into the Union Army. Newbery Honor, 2010.

Prineas, Sarah. *Lost*

Young wizard's apprentice Connwaer travels to the city of Desh to find the source of the malevolent Shadows who are plaguing Wellmet City.

Riordan, Rick. *The Red Pyramid*

After their father's research experiment at the British Museum unleashes the Egyptian god Set, Carter and Sadie Kane embark on a dangerous journey across the globe - a quest which brings them ever closer to the truth about their family, and their links to a secret order that has existed since the time of the pharaohs.

Spradlin, Michael P. *Keeper of the Grail*

Life becomes much more exciting for Tristan, an orphan, after he is chosen to be a squire to one of the Knights Templar and entrusted with getting the Holy Grail safely back to England.

Stead, Rebecca. *When You Reach Me*

As her mother prepares to be a contestant on the 1980's television game show, "The \$20,000 Pyramid," a twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious, anonymous notes that seem to defy laws of time and space - the notes appear to foretell the future. Newbery Medal book 2010.

Weston, Robert Paul. *Zorgamazoo*

Told entirely in rhyming couplets that are nearly impossible not to read aloud, this lively tale follows young Katrina Katrell on a fantastical journey from her home, through secret underground tunnels, into a hidden city, and even to the moon. Along for the adventure is a zorgle named Morty, a timid creature who has been tasked to discover the whereabouts of his missing brethren.

Williams-Garcia, Rita. *One Crazy Summer*

In the summer of 1968, 11 year-old Delphine and her little sisters travel from Brooklyn, where they live with their father and grandmother, to Oakland, California, the home of their estranged mother. Once there, they find that their mother has no interest in her visiting kids. She kicks the kids out during the day, sending them off to get breakfast from the Black Panthers at the People's Center, where they also get an unexpected education in revolution.

NEW BOOKS IN GRAPHIC FORMAT!

Hale, Shannon. *Calamity Jack*

In this graphic novel interpretation of "Jack and the Beanstalk," Jack is a born schemer who climbs a magical beanstalk in the hope of exacting justice from a mean giant and gaining a fortune for his widowed mother.

Kruse, Jason T. *The World of Quest*

This first in a series follows the adventures of a young prince who teams up with a brave, but reluctant knight, to battle evil.

McCloud, Scott. *Understanding Comics: The Invisible Art*

This book includes a history of comics that reaches back to pre-Columbian picture manuscripts and Egyptian monuments and a running analysis of comics as art, literature, and communication - and all in comic book format.

O'Connor, George. *Olympians* series

Exciting retellings of Greek myths in graphic format. Titles include *Zeus: King of the Gods* and *Athena, Grey-Eyed Goddess*.

Petersen, David. *Mouse Guard*

The Mouse Guard protects its fellow creatures and patrols the passageways used between the villages of the Mouse Territories. In this tale, three members of the guard investigate the disappearance of a traveling grain merchant. During their quest for the truth, the three uncover a plot to attack Lockhaven, the home of the guard; fight hungry snakes; escape a fiery death; and find a long-lost hero.

Shiga, Jason. *Meanwhile*

In this choose-your-own adventure graphic novel, a boy stumbles on the laboratory of a mad scientist who asks him to choose between testing a mind-reading device, a time machine, and a doomsday machine.

Sturm, James. *Adventures in Cartooning*

Jump headfirst into the world of cartooning with a headstrong knight, a cowardly horse, and a magic elf. If you can draw simple things like trees, fish, and candy, then you can be a cartoonist. This book will show you how.

Yoyo. *Quest for the Silver Tiger*

Four twelve-year-old skateboarding friends fulfill an ancient prophecy as they discover their true warrior spirits in an epic battle to save the planet of Vermonia. Series

Realistic Fiction – What It's Like to Be in Someone Else's Shoes!

Balliett, Blue
Chasing Vermeer (mystery)
The Wright 3 (mystery)

Birdsall, Jeanne
The Penderwicks (series)

Choldenko, Gennifer
Al Capone Does My Shirts (series)

Codell, Esme Raji
Sahara Special

Creech, Sharon
Love That Dog
Ruby Holler

Dowd, Siobhan
The London Eye Mystery

McKay, Hilary
Saffy's Angel (series)

Myracle, Lauren
Eleven (series)

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds
Shiloh (animals, series)

O'Connor, Barbara.
How to Steal a Dog

Pearsall, Shelley.
All of the Above

Perkins, Mitali.
First Daughter: Extreme American Makeover

Rabb, M E.
Missing Persons (mystery, series)

Dowell, Frances O'Roark
The Secret Language of Girls
Shooting the Moon

Giff, Patricia Reilly
Pictures of Hollis Woods.

Howe, James
The Misfits (humor)
Totally Joe (humor)

Lin, Grace.
Year of the Dog (series)

Lord, Cynthia.
Rules

Mass, Wendy
A Mango-Shaped Space

Roy, James
Max Quigley, Technically Not a Bully

Sachar, Louis
Holes (humor)
Wayside School (humor, series)

Schumacher, Julie
The Book of One Hundred Truths

Spinelli, Jerry
Star Girl
Loser

Woodson, Jacqueline
Locomotion
After Tupac and D Foster

Yee, Lisa
Millicent Min, Girl Genius (humor)
Stanford Wong Flunks Big-Time (humor)



SPORTS – Catch the Excitement!

Corbett, Sue
Free Baseball

Green, Tim
Baseball Great
Football Genius

Baggott, Julianna
The Prince of Fenway Park

Gratz, Alan
Samurai Shortstop

Gutman, Dan
Satch and Me: A Baseball Card Adventure

Heldring, Thatcher
Toby Wheeler, Eighth-grade Benchwarmer.

Long, Loren
Sluggers (series)

Lupica, Mike
Safe At Home

Sturm, James
Satchel Paige: Striking Out Jim Crow (in graphic format)

FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION – VENTURE INTO THE UNKNOWN!



- Baker, E. D.
Tales of a Frog Princess (series)
- Barron, T A
The Great Tree of Avalon (King Arthur, series)
- Bode, N. E.
The Nobodies (series)
- Bosch, Pseudonymous
The Name of This Book is Secret (series)
- Broach, Elise
Masterpiece
- Buckley, Michael
Sisters Grimm (series)
- Byng, Georgia
Molly Moon (humor, series)
- Clare, Cassandra
Mortal Instruments (series)
- Collins, Suzanne
Gregor the Overlander (series)
- Cowell, Cressida
How to Train Your Dragon (humor, series)
- Delaney, Joseph
Last Apprentice (series)
- Di Camillo, Kate
The Tale of Despereaux
The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane
- Farmer, Nancy
Sea of Trolls (series)
- Flanagan, John
Ranger's Apprentice (series)
- Funke, Cornelia
Inkheart (series)
- Gaiman, Neil
The Graveyard Book
- Gardner, Lyn
Into the Woods
- Gliori, Debi
Pure Dead Magic
- Hale, Shannon
Book of a Thousand Days (series)
- Jonell, Lynne.
Emmy and the Incredible Shrinking Rat
- Jones, Diana Wynne
Chronicles of Chrestomanci (humor, series)
- Kerr, Philip
Children of the Lamp (series) Landy, Derek
Skulduggery Pleasant (series)
- Lasky, Kathryn
Guardians of Ga'hoole (animals, series)
- Levine, Gail Carson
The Princess Tales (based on fairy tales, series)
Fairest
- MacHale, D J
Pendragon (series)
- Napoli, Donna Jo
Sirena, Zel (series)
- Nimmo, Jenny
Charlie Bone (series)
- Nix, Garth
Keys to the Kingdom (series)
- Oppel, Kenneth
Silverwing (animals, series)
- Paver, Michelle
Wolf Brother (series)
- Prévost, Guillaume
The Book of Time (series)
- Prineas, Sarah
The Magic Thief (series)
- Pullman, Philip
The Golden Compass (series)
- Reeve, Philip
Hungry City Chronicles (series)
- Rex, Adam.
The True Meaning of Smekday
- Rutkoski, Marie
The Cabinet of Wonders (series)
- Sage, Angie
Magyk (Septimus Heap series)
- Scott, Michael
Secrets of the Immortal (series)
- Stroud, Jonathan
Bartimaeus Trilogy (series)

Retellings of the Iliad and the Odyssey and Fantasy Based on Greek Mythology (for those who love mythology and Riordan's *Percy Jackson* series)

Childs, Tera Lynn
Oh. My. Gods.

Collins, Ross
Medusa Jones

Druitt, Tobias.
Corydon and the Island of Monsters (series)

Friesner, Esther
Temping Fate

Hennesy, Carolyn
Pandora Gets Jealous (series)

Lupton, Hugh
The Adventures of Odysseus

Mitchell, Adrian
The Odyssey

McCarty, Nick
The Iliad

McCaughrean, Geraldine
Odysseus

Mebus, Scott
Gods of Manhattan

O'Connor, George
Zeus: King of the Gods, Athena (graphic format)

Osborne, Mary Pope
Tales from the Odyssey (series)

Riordan, Rick
Percy Jackson and the Olympians (series)

Sutcliff, Rosemary
Black Ships before Troy: the Story of the Iliad
The Wanderings of Odysseus

Townsend, Michael
Amazing Greek Myths of Wonder and Blunders
(graphic format)

Turner, Megan Whalen
The Thief (series)

Ursu, Anne
The Shadow Thieves (series)

Williams, Marcia
The Iliad and the Odyssey (graphic format)

Yolen, Jane
Young Heroes (series)

Thrilling Adventures: Danger, Excitement, Survival!

Card, Orson Scott
Ender's Game (series)

Colfer, Eoin
Artemis Fowl (series)

D'Lacey, Chris
Icefire (series)

Funke, Cornelia
The Thief Lord

George, Jean
Julie of the Wolves (series)
My Side of the Mountain

Haddix, Margaret Peterson
Among the Hidden (series)

Hiaasen, Carl
Scat, Hoot

Horowitz, Anthony
Alex Rider (series)

Jinks, Catherine
Evil Genius (series)

Hahn, Mary Downing
Deep and Dark and Dangerous: A Ghost Story

Kehret, Peg
Abduction!

Lowry, Lois.
The Willoughbys

Patterson, James
Maximum Ride (series)

Paulsen, Gary
Hatchet

Sanderson, Brandon.
Alcatraz Versus the Evil Librarians

Selznick, Brian.
The Invention of Hugo Cabret

Stewart, Trenton Lee.
The Mysterious Benedict Society (series)

Stone, Jeff
Five Ancestors (series)

Historical Fiction - Travel Back in Time for Great Adventure!

- Avi
Crispin: Cross of Lead
Seer of Shadows
- Blackwood, Gary
Shakespeare Stealer (series)
- Cavendish, Grace
Lady Grace Mysteries (series)
- Curtis, Christopher Paul
Bud, Not Buddy
The Watsons Go to Birmingham-1963
- Cushman, Karen
Catherine, Called Birdy
The Loud Silence of Francine Green
- Dear America series - by different authors, historical fiction in diary form about girls
- Erdrich, Louise
The Birchbark House (series, Native American)
- Kadonaga, Cynthia
Weedflower
Kira-Kira
- Key, Watt
Alabama Moon
- Lalicki, Tom
Houdini & Nate Mystery (series)
- Lowry, Lois
Number the Stars
- Mack, Tracy
Sherlock Holmes and the Baker Street Irregulars (series)
- McKissack, Patricia C.
A Friendship for Today
- My Name is America - historical fiction series by different authors about boys
- Osborne, Mary Pope
Adaline Falling Star
- Park, Linda Sue
A Single Shard
When My Name Was Keoko
- Pearsall, Shelley.
Crooked River
- Peck, Richard
A Long Way From Chicago
The River Between Us
- Royal Diaries – historical fiction series by several authors about girls and women
- Schlitz, Laura Amy.
A Drowned Maiden's Hair
- Springer, Nancy
The Case of the Missing Marquess (mystery)
- Taylor, Mildred
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry (series)
- Wells, Rosemary
Red Moon at Sharpsburg
- Woods, Brenda.
My Name Is Sally Little Song

