

Grade 6 Summer Reading List 2008

Title	Author	Category	Synopsis
Good masters-Sweet Ladies: Voices from a medieval village	Laura Amy Schlitz	Award Winners	Based upon a 13th century German manuscript, the text and illustrations bring to life a medieval village. - Newbery Medal Winner 2008
The Invention of Hugo Cabret	Brian Selznick	Award Winners	Orphan, clock keeper, and thief, Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity. - Caldecott Winner 2008
The New Way Things Work	David Macaulay	Discovery	How do things work? This illustrated, humorous, easy to understand book richly shows how everything from a toilet to a fire extinguisher works.
Oh, Yuck: The Encyclopedia of Everythign Nasty	Joy Masoff	Discovery	An explanation of gross things such as eye gunk, snot, and cockroaches.
George's Secret Key to the Universe	Stephen Hawking	Discovery	The mysteries of the universe and blackholes explained through the adventures of a fictional character named George.
Inkheart	Cornelia Funk	Get Lost in Long Reads	Meggie's father Mo has the wonderful and terrifying ability to bring characters from books to life.
Summerland	Michael Chabon	Get Lost in Long Reads	Giants, sea monsters, the destruction of the Earth, and, of course, baseball. A magical fantasy set in Wasington rich with characters and folklore.
No More Dead Dogs	Gordan Korman	Great Middle School Authors	Cool eighth-grade football jock Wallace Wallace spends detention attending dreaded rehearsals for the school play where he suggests changes that improve not only the play but his life as well. Extremely funny.
The 6th Grade Nickname Game	Gordan Korman	Great Middle School Authors	Wiley and Jeff learn what happens when they give the most unpopular student in school a cool nickname.
Fever, 1793	Laurie Halse Anderson	Great Middle School Authors	During the hot mosquito-infested summer of 1793, the dreaded yellow fever spread like wildfire, killing people overnight.
Diary of a Wimpy Kid	Jeff Kinney	Growing up and Coming of Age	Greg Heffley gets a journal from his mom ("a JOURNAL, not a diary") and records a middle school year's worth of crazy kid schemes, brushes with bullies, bad units in gym class, bids for student government, school play humiliation, and more.

Rodrick Rules	Jeff Kinney	Growing up and Coming of Age	Whatever you do, don't ask Greg Heffley how he spent his summer vacation, because he definitely doesn't want to talk about it. Greg's attempts to navigate the hazards of middle school, impress the girls, steer clear of the school talent show, and most important, keep his secret safe.
If a Tree Falls at Lunch Period	Gennifer Choldenko	Growing up and Coming of Age	Kirsten's parents are barely speaking to each other, and her best friend has fallen under the spell of the school's queen bee, Brianna. It seems like only Kirsten's younger science-geek sister is on her side.
Stargirl	Jerry Spinelli	Growing up and Coming of Age	Sixteen year old Leo Borlock learns about peer pressure, popularity, and being yourself from a mythical new student named Stargirl.
Tangerine	Edward Bloor	Growing up and Coming of Age	Living in the strange county of Tangerine, Florida, a legally blind boy begins to uncover the ugly truth about his football star older brother. Soccer plays an important role in the story.
A Dog Called Kitty	Bill Wallace	Growing up and Coming of Age	The heartfelt story of the bonding between a boy terrified of dogs and the puppy he saves from certain death.
Harris and Me	Gary Paulsen	Growing up and Coming of Age	Set a few years after World War II, this books tells the story of an eleven year old city boy who visits his cousin's farm for the summer. In the process he must contend with a rooster, cow, and his nine year old prankster cousin Harris.
Flipped	Wendelin an Draanen	Growing up and Coming of Age	Told in alternating voices by chapter, this story details the love / hate relationship between Bryce and Juli, two eighth graders who have known each other for most of their lives.
Crispin: The Cross of Lead	Avi	History with a dash of fiction	Set in 14th century England, this story follows the escape of Crispin, a 13 year old peasant boy accused of a murder he did not commit.
The Watsons go to Birmingham 1963	Christopher Paul Curtis	History with a dash of fiction	Byron Watson the family "official juvenile delinquent" is sent to the deep south to spend the summer with his tiny, strict grandmother. Set against a tragic incident from the Civil Rights movement.

Mississippi Trial, 1955	Chris Crowe	History with a dash of fiction	Hiram returns to visit his grandfather and meets up with people involved in the murder of Emmett Till and the subsequent trial of those accused of the crime.
Al Capone Does my Shirts	Gennifer Choldenko	History with a dash of fiction	Twelve year old Moose Flanagan and his family move to Alcatraz Island in 1935 where his father gets a job as a guard in the prison that is home to all of the famous criminals of the day.
The Music of the Dolphins	Karen Hesse	If you like your reading in small parts?	Using sophisticated technology, a fifteen-year-old girl who has been raised by dolphins, records her thoughts about her reintroduction to the human world.
Tripping Over the Lunch Lady	edited by Nancy Mercado	If you like your reading in small parts?	A series of short stories by popular young adult authors about the challenges of middle school.
The House of the Scorpion	Nancy Farmer	In a Galaxy Far Far Away: Sci Fi	In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patrón, the 140-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States.
The Transall Saga	Gary Paulsen	In a Galaxy Far Far Away: Sci Fi	Thirteen year old Mark, on his first solo camping trip, steps into a mysterious beam of light and is transported to a dangerous and mysterious world where he must learn to survive.
The Seems: The Glitch in Sleep	John Hulme	In a Galaxy Far Far Away: Sci Fi	Seventh grader Becker Drane works for the Seems, a secret organization that makes sure the world keeps running.
The Great Fire	Jim Murphy	It Really Happened / Interesting History	For more than a century, poor Mrs. O'Leary and her cow have shouldered the blame for Chicago's infamous Great Fire of 1871. Now Murphy lays bare the facts concerning one of the biggest disasters in American history
Blizzard	Jim Murphy	It Really Happened / Interesting History	Snow began falling over New York City on March 12, 1888. What no one realized was that in a very few hours, the wind and snow would bury the city in nearly 21 inches of snow and bring it to a ferocious standstill.

Fablehaven	Brandon Mull	Missing Harry Potter - Great Fantasy Choices	This first book in the <i>Fablehaven</i> series details Kendra and her younger brother Seth as they visit their grandparents and discover a magical and dangerous preserve in the woods for fairies and elves. Written by a former Rochambeau student!
The Lightning Thief	Rick Riordan	Missing Harry Potter - Great Fantasy Choices	Percy Jackson, a 12 year old wise guy who has been kicked out of six schools in six years, discovers that he is the son of a Greek God and must save mankind.
Artemis Fowl Series	Eoin Colfer	Missing Harry Potter - Great Fantasy Choices	The best selling series of books that details the adventures of Artemis Fowl, "the most ingenious criminal mastermind in history." By the way, he is twelve years old.
Something Upstairs	Avi	Missing Harry Potter - Great Fantasy Choices	A ghost story with a time traveling twist. Twelve year old Kenny Huldorf moves with his family to Providence, Rhode Island and tries to solve the two hundred year old murder of a slave.
Things Not Seen	Andrew Clements	Missing Harry Potter - Great Fantasy Choices	What would happen if one day you woke up and were invisible? Fifteen year old Bobby finds out.
Heat	Mike Lupica	Sports and Jocks	When Michael Arroyo is on the baseball diamond, everything feels right. He's a terrific pitcher who dreams of leading his South Bronx All-Stars to the Little League World Series in Williamsport, PA.
Travel Team	Mike Lupica	Sports and Jocks	Danny is a basketball fanatic. He is smart, talented, fast, and dedicated, but short. When he fails to make the seventh-grade travel team, he also fails to follow in the footsteps of his legendary father, Richie Walker
Summer Ball	Mike Lupica	Sports and Jocks	Sequel to <i>Travel Team</i> . Now that they are heading off to summer basketball camp, Danny is feeling the pressure of being number one. He plays as well as ever, but he's still the smallest boy on the court.
Miracle on 49th Street	Mike Lupica	Sports and Jocks	Molly Parker, 12, lives in Boston with her recently deceased mother's best friend and family. She is on a mission to meet the Celtics' star player, Josh Cameron, to tell him that she is his daughter.

The Life You Imagine: Life Lessons for Achieving your Dreams	Derek Jeter	Sports and Jocks	How did Derek Jeter, the scrawny kid from Kalamazoo, Michigan, come to be a starter with the New York Yankees? Read to find out.
Travels of Thelonious	Susan Schade and John Buller	Who said middle school students are too old for books with pictures?	A chipmunk finds new friends and peace at the Fog Mound at a time when animals only know myths about talking humans who once dominated and nearly destroyed the world.
The Arrival	Shaun Tan	Who said middle school students are too old for books with pictures?	In this stunning, wordless graphic novel, a man leaves his homeland and sets off for a new country, where he must build a new life for himself and his family.
Artemis Fowl: The Graphic Novel	Eoin Colfer	Who said middle school students are too old for books with pictures?	A graphic novel in which a twelve-year-old evil genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, but the fairies fight back.
We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball	Kadir Nelson	Windows into Fascinating Lives - Biographies and Autobiographies	Through the collective voice of the players, we hear the amazing plays, crazy rules, outright characters, and unforgettable stories of the greats playing in the newly formed Negro league.