

Summer Reading Resource List 9-12

Example:

Fantasy and Science Fiction

Title and Author
Levine, G.C., *Fairest*
A spellbinding tale of adventure, romance, and song

Genre

Description

Lexile

590L

Fantasy and Science Fiction

Dekker, T., *Chosen* ****

As the land of the Forest Dwellers is increasingly decimated by the Horde, Thomas, commander of the Forest Guard, chooses four sixteen-year-old recruits for a mission to find the lost Books of History that have power over the past, present, and future. Contains religious themes.

Vaughan, B., *Runaway* ****

A group of six young friends, having discovered their parents are all secretly super-powered villains, run away from home and embark on a series of adventures, fueled by their desire to thwart their legacy of evil.

Adams, D., *A Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* 1000L

Seconds before Earth is destroyed to make room for a galactic freeway, a young man is rescued by an alien friend who whisks him away on a space-traveling adventure. Despite the dry, rather snide, humor, the author raises many issues, including materialism, the nature of existence, the role of bureaucracy, and lots more.

Koontz, D., *Odd Thomas* 1040L

Odd Thomas, his soul mate Stormy Llewellyn, and an assortment of allies make their way through a dark, terrifying world in which past and present, and life and death collide as they try to avert a cataclysm. Contains themes of violence.

Orwell, G., *1984* 1090L

Depicts life in a totalitarian regime of the future.

Ewing, L., *Goddess of the Night* 580L

Vanessa, who has the special power to become invisible, discovers that she and her friend Catty, a time-traveler, are goddesses of the moon who must fight together to overcome the evil Atrax.

MacHale, D.J., *The Pilgrims of Rayne* 620L

With Saint Dane seemingly on the verge of toppling all of the territories, Pendragon and Courtney set out to rescue Mark and find themselves traveling--and battling--their way through different worlds as they try to save all of Halla.

Shaw, T., *Flavor of the Week* 650L

Cyril, an overweight boy who is good friends with Rose but wishes he could be more, helps his best friend Nick woo her with culinary masterpieces which Cyril himself secretly creates. Includes recipes from the story.

Zevin, G., *Elsewhere* 720L

After fifteen-year-old Liz is killed by a taxi, she finds herself in a place that is both like and unlike Earth, where she must adjust and figure out how to "live." Contains themes of death.

Westerfeld, S., *The Secret Hour* 740L

Upon moving to Bixby, Oklahoma, fifteen-year-old Jessica Day learns that she is one in a special group born at the stroke of midnight who can roam the town at a secret hour while others sleep--and that she must fight the evil creatures who share her power.

Westerfeld, S., *So Yesterday* 770L

Hunter Braque, a New York City teenager who is paid by corporations to spot what is "cool," combines his analytical skills with girlfriend Jen's creative talents to find a missing person and thwart a conspiracy directed at the heart of consumer culture.

Stroud, J., *The Amulet of Samarkand* 800L

A magician's apprentice summons up the djinni Bartimaeus and instructs him to steal the Amulet of Samarkand from magician Simon Lovelace.

Westerfeld, S., *Touching Darkness* 800L

Jessica and her four friends, the "midnighters", are the only ones in Bixby, Oklahoma that know the world freezes at midnight, and as they battle evil creatures living in the hour hidden they learn about Bixby's past and uncover a deadly conspiracy that reaches beyond the secret hour.

Leavitt, M., *Keturah and Lord Death* 810L

Leavitt offers a spellbinding story, interweaving elements of classic fantasy and high romance.

Cabot, M., *Avalon High* 820L

Having moved to Annapolis, Maryland, with her medievalist parents, high school junior Ellie enrolls at Avalon High School where several students may or may not be reincarnations of King Arthur and his court. Contains some mild language.

De La Cruz, M., *Blue Bloods* 820L

A loner at a private school learns the secrets of the Blue Bloods, an ancient group of vampires.

Waters, D., *Generation Dead* 820L

When dead teenagers who have come back to life start showing up at her high school, Phoebe, a goth girl, becomes interested in the phenomenon, and when she starts dating a "living impaired" boy, they encounter prejudice, fear, and hatred.

Westerfeld, S., *The Last Days* 820L

Five New York teenagers try to concentrate on their new band while the city suffers from a mysterious epidemic that is turning people into cannibals.

Gaiman, N., *The Good Omens* 830L

When Agnes Nutter predicts that the end of the world is days away, the demon Crowley and his angel friend, Aziraphale, team up to save humankind. Contains themes of witchcraft and religious satire.

Moseley, W., *47* 860L

Number 47, a fourteen-year-old slave boy growing up under the watchful eye of a brutal master in 1832, meets the mysterious Tall John, who introduces him to a magical science and also teaches him the meaning of freedom.

Shusterman, N., *Everlost* 860L

When Nick and Allie are killed in a car crash, they end up in Everlost, or limbo for lost souls, where, although Nick is satisfied, Allie will stop at nothing--even skinjacking--to break free.

Lawrence, M., *A Crack in the Line* 870L

Sixteen-year-old Alaric discovers how to travel to an alternate reality, where his mother is alive and his place in the family is held.

Kostick, *Epic* 880L

Welcome to a society governed through computer games!

Vande Velde, Vivian, *Now You See It...* 950L

With Wendy's new glasses, she begins to see cheerful corpses, old crones disguised as teenyboppers, and portals to another world--a place where everyone knows of the glasses' powers and will do anything they can to get them.

Wooding, C., *The Haunting of Alaizabel Cray* 970L

As Thaniel, a witch-hunter, and Cathaline, his friend and mentor, try to rid the alleys of London's Old Quarter of the terrible creatures that infest them, their lives become entwined with that of a woman who may be either mad or possessed.

General Fiction

Brashares, A., *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* ****

Carmen decides to discard an old pair of jeans, but Tibby, Lena, and Bridget think they are great and decide that whoever the pants fit best will get them. When the jeans fit everyone perfectly, a sisterhood and a memorable summer begin. This book contains some sexual content, language, and poor decision-making.

Nerz, R., *Head Over Heels* ****

Seattle restoration designer Veronica Davis finds herself filling in at her family's bar after her sister, Crystal, is murdered, and her work, and feelings of grief, are both complicated by a love affair with the bartender, whose secret past may threaten their future together.

Stine, R.L., *Killer's Kiss* ****

Delia and Karina are in competition with one another; but when Vincent shows up, Karina will do whatever it takes to be sure that Delia doesn't get him.

Sanz, B.A., *Sammy and Juliana in Hollywood* 390L

As a Chicano boy living in the unglamorous town of Hollywood, New Mexico, and a member of the graduating class of 1969, Sammy Santos faces the challenges of "gringo" racism, unpopular dress codes, the Vietnam War, barrio violence, and poverty. This book contains mild language.

Spinelli, J., *There's a Girl in My Hammerlock* 520L
Thirteen-year-old Maisie joins her school's formerly all-male wrestling team and tries to last through the season, despite opposition from students, her best friend, and her own teammates.

McDonald, J., *Spellbound* 580L
Raven, a teenage mother and high school dropout living in a housing project, decides, with the help and sometime interference of her best friend, to study for a spelling bee which could lead to a four-year scholarship. Contains themes of drugs and some sexual content.

Sachar, L., *Holes* 660L
As further evidence of his family's bad fortune which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.

Schreiber, E., *Vampire Kisses* 700L
Sixteen-year-old Raven, an outcast who always wears black and hopes to become a vampire some day, falls in love with the mysterious new boy in town, eager to find out if he can make her dreams come true.

Schraff, A., *Secrets in the Shadows* 750L
When Roylin falls in love with a new girl in his class, he finds that his life starts to fall apart.

Strasser, T., *Boot Camp* 750L
After ignoring several warnings to stop dating his teacher, Garrett is sent to Lake Harmony, a boot camp that uses unorthodox and brutal methods to train students to obey their parents.

Golding, W., *Lord of the Flies* 770L
A group of British schoolboys marooned on a tropical island create their own society and rules.

Morgenroth, K., *Jude* 800L
Reeling from his drug-dealing father's murder, moving in with the wealthy mother he never knew, and transferring to a private school, Jude is tricked into pleading guilty to a crime he did not commit. Contains themes of violence and drug abuse.

Cooney, C., *Code Orange* 850L
Deeply involved in his cold and manipulative mother's shady business dealings, 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. Contains adult themes.

Sonnenblick, J., *Notes from the Midnight Driver* 930L
After being assigned community service at a nursing home, sixteen-year-old Alex befriends a cantankerous man who has lessons to impart about jazz guitar playing, love, and forgiveness.

Graphic Novels

Yang, G., *American Born Chinese* 530L
Alternates three interrelated stories about the problems of young Chinese Americans trying to participate in the popular culture. Contains some sexual themes and violence.

Takahashi, R., *Inu Yasha series* NP
Kagome gets pulled into a time portal and transported back to feudal Japan where she discovers that her destiny is linked to that of Inu-Yasha, a doglike half-demon, and together, they search for the Shikon Jewel. Contains some violence.

Historical Fiction

Cabot, M., *Haunted* ****
Susannah finds herself in a dangerous situation when she agrees to go out with Paul Slater in order to keep him from doing harm to her true love Jesse. Contains mild language.

Lester, J., *Day of Tears* ****
When gambling debts and greed enter into the Butler household, Pierce Butler hosts the biggest slave auction in American history and breaks a promise by selling Emma, his most-valued slave and caretaker of his children—a decision that brings about unthinkable consequences. Contains suicide, graphic scenes of violence and inhumane treatment of human beings.

Zusak, M., *Book Thief* 730L
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, neighbors, and the Jewish man they are hiding. Contains themes of death and inhumane treatment of human beings.

Lee, H., *To Kill a Mockingbird* 870L
Scout, the daughter of an attorney in the South during the 1930s, tells of her father's defense of an African-American man charged with the rape of a white girl. Contains racial themes.

Bruchac, J., *Code Talker* 910L
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. Contains mild language.

Mystery and Suspense

Cooper, M. W., *Behold a Pale Horse* ****
Former member of the United States Naval Intelligence Briefing Team, William Cooper, reveals information previously considered to be top secret, on such issues as the assassination of President Kennedy, the war on drugs, and UFOs.

Galloway, G., *As Simple as Snow* ****
After his eccentric girlfriend mysteriously disappears, a young man must unravel the puzzle she left behind in her cryptic, riddle-filled letters and in the obituaries she created for every living person in town. Contains some adult themes, sexual themes, and mild language.

Bunn, T. D., *Elixir* ****
When Revell Pharmaceuticals, the multi-billion dollar giant, approaches Taylor Knox and his company with the possibility of a merger, the future has never looked better.

Carter, A. *I'd Tell You I Love You, But Then I'd Have to Kill You* 1000L
As a sophomore at a secret spy school and the daughter of a former CIA operative, Cammie is sheltered from "normal teenage life" until she meets a local boy while on a class surveillance mission. Contains some mild language.

Hadden, M., *Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night* 1180L
Despite his fear of interacting with people, Christopher, a mathematically-gifted, autistic fifteen-year-old boy, decides to investigate the murder of a neighbor's dog and uncovers secret information about his mother. Contains some mild language.

Giles, G., *What Happened to Cass McBride?* 520L
After his brother commits suicide, Kyle kidnaps and buries alive Cass, the girl he holds responsible. Kyle's wrath, Cass's terror, and Ben's urgency are palpable, as is the horrifying claustrophobia, in this unnerving thriller. Contains some mild language.

Horowitz, A., *Raven's Gate* 620L
Rejected by his only relative, betrayed to the police by a supposed friend, Matt chooses to serve a probationary sentence on an English farm near York rather than in a juvenile detention center.

McNamee, G., *Acceleration* 670L
Stuck working in the Lost and Found of the Toronto Transit Authority for the summer, seventeen-year-old Duncan finds the diary of a serial killer and sets out to stop him.

Horowitz, A., *Snakehead* 740L
The convoluted plot, nearly constant action, and clever gadgets will intrigue readers.

Price, C. *Dead Connection* 740L
A loner who communes with the dead in the town cemetery hears the voice of a murdered cheerleader and tries to convince the adults that he knows what happened to her.

Nonfiction

Walls, J., *The Glass Castle* 1010L
The author recalls her life growing up in a dysfunctional family with an alcoholic father and distant mother and describes how she and her siblings had to fend for themselves until they finally found the resources and will to leave home. Contains themes of drug abuse, poverty, and some mild language.

Angelou, M. *I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings* 1070L
Angelou's autobiography of her childhood in Arkansas. Contains themes of violence and rape.

Roach, M., *Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers* 1230L
Roach delves into the many productive uses to which cadavers have been put throughout history. Donating one's body to science has long been a respected practice. Find out what happens to a body that is donated to the scientific community!

Realistic Fiction

- Madison, B., *Lulu Dark Can See Through Walls*** *****
When someone steals her purse and her identity, high-school junior and reluctant girl sleuth Lulu Dark investigates.
- Lubar, D., *Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie*** 560L
During his first year of high school, Scott loses friends and gains some unlikely new ones as he hones his skills as a writer.
- Werlin, N., *The Rules of Survival*** 660L
Matthew recounts his attempts to free himself and his sisters from the grip of their emotionally and physically abusive mother.
- McDaniel, L., *Raina's Story*** 690L
After sixteen-year-old Raina learns that she is a perfect match for donating bone marrow to a leukemia patient, she discovers that the young woman is the sister she never knew she had.
- Koss, *Side Effects*** 760L
Lizzy's shares about the pain, fear, and comedy of her life. Contains mild language and death.
- Pfeffer, S., *Life As We Knew It*** 770L
Miranda's family struggles to survive after a meteor hits the moon, causing tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions.
- Dessen, S., *The Truth About Forever*** 840L
The summer following her father's death, Macy plans to work at the library and wait for her brainy boyfriend to return from camp, but instead she goes to work at a catering business where she makes new friends and finally faces her grief.
- Picoult, J., *My Sister's Keeper*** 840L
Anna, conceived specifically to provide blood and bone marrow for her sister Kate who was diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia at the age of two, decides to sue her parents for control of her body when her mother wants her to donate a kidney to Kate.
- Anderson, J.L., *Peaches*** 850L
Three teen girls from different backgrounds, thrown together to pick peaches in a Georgia orchard, spend a summer in pursuit of the right boy, the truest of friends, and the perfect peach. Contains some sexual themes.
- Klass, D., *Home of the Braves*** 870L
Eighteen-year-old Joe, captain of the soccer team, is dismayed when a hotshot player shows up from Brazil and threatens to take over both the team and the girl whom Joe hopes to date. Contains scenes with hazing and some violence.
- Caletti, D., *Honey, Baby, Sweetheart*** 900L
In the summer of her junior year, sixteen-year-old Ruby McQueen and her mother, both nursing broken hearts, set out on a journey to reunite an elderly woman with her long-lost love and in the process learn many things about "the real ties that bind" people to one another. Contains some language and sexual references.
- Staples, S. F., *Under the Persimmon Tree*** 1010L
During the 2001 Afghan War, the lives of Najmal, a young refugee from Kunduz, Afghanistan, and Nusrat, an American-Muslim teacher who is awaiting her husband's return from Mazar-i-Sharif, intersect at a school in Peshawar, Pakistan.
- Lett, B., *Where the Heart Is*** 950L
Novalee, seventeen, pregnant, and living in a Wal-Mart discovers friendship, encouragement, direction and love with a group of caring people in Oklahoma. Contains sexual themes.

Romance

- Cabot, M., *Jinx*** 760L
Sixteen-year-old Jean "Jinx" Honeychurch, the descendant of a witch, must leave Iowa to live with relatives in Manhattan after the first spell she casts goes awry, but she will have to improve her skills to stop her cousin from practicing black magic that endangers them and the boy they both like. Contains some mild language and suicidal themes.
- Dessen, S., *This Lullaby*** 820L
Remy, a master at getting rid of boyfriends before any emotional attachments form, finds herself strangely unwilling to free herself from Dexter, a messy, disorganized, impulsive musician who she suspects she has come to love.

- Moriarty, J., *The Year of Secret Assignments*** 890L
Three female students from Ashbury High write to three male students from rival Brookfield High as part of a pen pal program, leading to romance, humiliation, revenge plots, and war between the schools.

Popular Series Books

- Westerfeld, S., *Uglies series*** 860L
Tally is faced with a difficult choice when her new friend Shay decides to risk life on the outside rather than submit to the forced operation that turns sixteen year old girls into gorgeous beauties, and realizes that there is a whole new side to the pretty world that she doesn't like. Book in this series include the following: *Uglies, Pretties, Specials, and Extras*
- Paolini, C., *Eragon series*** 710-1050L
In Aagaesia, a fifteen-year-old boy of unknown lineage called Eragon finds a mysterious stone that weaves his life into a tapestry of destiny, magic, and power, peopled with dragons, elves, and monsters. Books in this series include the following: *Eragon, Eldest, Brisingr*
- Meyer, S., *Twilight series*** 720L
In this suspenseful tale, 17-year-old Isabella moves to a small town in Washington State and gets more excitement than she bargained for when she falls for an enigmatic classmate -- who happens to be a vampire. Books in this series include the following: *Twilight, New Moon, Breaking Dawn, and Eclipse*. Some books in the series contain sexual themes.
- Riordan, R., *The Lightning Thief series*** 740L
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.
- Funk, C. C., *The Inkheart series*** 780L
Twelve-year-old Meggie learns that her father Mo, a bookbinder, can "read" fictional characters to life when an evil ruler named Capricorn, freed from the novel "Inkheart" years earlier, tries to force Mo to release an immortal monster from the story.
- Cast, P.C., *House of Night series*** 850L
The series is set in a world very much like our own, except in 16-year-old Zoey's world, vampires have always existed. Books in this series include the following titles: *Marked, Betrayed, Chosen, Untamed*
- Lahaye, T., *Left Behind series*** 860L
The horrors of the Tribulation are over, and Jesus Christ has set up his perfect kingdom on earth. Yet evil still lurks in the hearts of the unbelieving. A gripping thriller that captures the anxiety and fear that interpretations of Revelation often inspire. Contains religious themes.
- Canfield, J., *Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul series*** 930L
A collection of essays that offer inspiration to teens, providing lessons on relationships, friendship, family, love and kindness, learning, death, success, courage, and determination.
- Cabot, M., *Princess series*** 1010L
Presenting a heroine, Mia, aka Princess Amelia Mignonette Grimaldi Thermopolis Renaldo! She is "every-girl-suddenly-becomes-a-princess", and the chronicles of her misadventures are fast becoming modern classics. Contains mild language and some sexual themes.
- Patterson, J., *Maximum Ride series*** 720L
While on a mission to Antarctica to save the world from global warming, fourteen-year-old Maximum Ride and the other members of the Flock--a band of genetically modified children who can fly--are pursued by their creator, the Uber-Director, who wants to auction them off to the highest bidder. Many of the books in this series contain violence.
- Rowling, J.K., *Harry Potter series*** 940L
Rescued from the outrageous neglect of his aunt and uncle, a young boy with a great destiny proves his worth while attending Hogwarts School for Wizards and Witches. Many of the books in this series contain grim violence and witchcraft.
- Horowitz, A., *The Alex Rider series*** 670L
Fourteen-year-old Alex Rider is coerced to continue his uncle's dangerous work for Britain's intelligence agency, MI6. Contains some violence.