



## Summer Reading - 2015

### Students Entering Grade 6

**Please Note: All suggested summer reading titles are recommended for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade reading level.**

**Your Summer Reading Goal:**

# READ FOUR OR MORE BOOKS!

“Harvard University assistant education professor James Kim has found that students who read four or more at-level books over the summer do better than those who did not when they return to school in the fall.” – Scholastic Magazine

### Top Suggestions!

Check them off as you read! See how many you can finish this summer!

#### \_\_\_ *Wonder* – R. J. Palacio

August Pullman was born with a facial deformity that, up until now, has prevented him from going to a mainstream school. Starting 5th grade at Beecher Prep, he wants nothing more than to be treated as an ordinary kid—but his new classmates can't get past Auggie's extraordinary face.

#### \_\_\_ *The One and Only Ivan* – Katherine Applegate

**\*2013 Newbery Medal Winner!**

When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life.

#### \_\_\_ *Walk Two Moons* – Sharon Creech

After her mother leaves home suddenly, thirteen-year-old Sal and her grandparents take a car trip retracing her mother's route. Along the way, Sal recounts the story of her friend Phoebe, whose mother also left.

#### \_\_\_ *Counting by 7s* – Holly Goldberg Sloan

Twelve-year-old genius and outsider Willow Chance must figure out how to connect with other people and find a surrogate family for herself after the loss of her parents.

#### \_\_\_ *Harry Potter Series* – J.K. Rowling

Rescued from the outrageous neglect of his aunt and uncle, a young boy with a great destiny proves his worth while attending Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

#### \_\_\_ *Percy Jackson and the Olympians Series* - Rick Riordan

After learning that he is the son of a mortal woman and a Greek God, twelve-year-old Percy is sent to a summer camp for demigods like himself and joins his new friends on a quest to prevent a war between the gods.

#### \_\_\_ *Splendors and Glooms* – Laura Amy Schlitz

**\*2013 Newbery Honor Winner!**

When Clara vanishes after the puppeteer Grisini and two orphaned assistants were at her twelfth birthday party, suspicion of kidnapping chases the trio away from London and soon the two orphans are caught in a trap set by Grisini's ancient rival.

#### \_\_\_ *Liar & Spy* – Rebecca Stead

Seventh-grader Georges adjusts to moving from a house to an apartment, his father's efforts to start a new business, his mother's extra shifts as a nurse, being picked on at school, and Safer, a boy who wants his help spying on another resident of their building.

## Additional Suggested Titles

Check them off as you read! See how many you can finish this summer!

### \_\_\_ *A Mango-Shaped Space* – Wendy Mass

Afraid that she is crazy, Mia, who sees a special color with every letter, number, and sound, keeps this a secret until she becomes overwhelmed by school and the death of her beloved cat, Mango.

### \_\_\_ *Titanic: Voices from the Disaster* – Deborah Hopkinson

Draws on stories from survivors and archival photographs to describe the history of the "Titanic" from its launch to its sinking.

**PAIR this nonfiction book with this great fiction series!**

### \_\_\_ *Titanic Series* – Gordon Korman

The lives of four young passengers aboard the maiden voyage of the RMS "Titanic" become linked, and while Paddy stows away, Sophie and her mother are delivered to the ship by the police, Juliana watches as her father's wealth barely conceals his madness, and Alpie harbors a great secret.

### \_\_\_ *Doll Bones* – Holly Black

**\*Newbery Honor Book 2014**

Zach, Alice, and Poppy, friends from a Pennsylvania middle school who have long enjoyed acting out imaginary adventures with dolls and action figures, embark on a real-life quest to Ohio to bury a doll made from the ashes of a dead girl.

### \_\_\_ *Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story About Brain Science* – John Fleischman

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.

### \_\_\_ *Dead End in Norvelt* – Jack Gantos

Twelve-year-old Jack Gantos spends the summer of 1962 grounded for various offenses until he is assigned to help an elderly neighbor with a most unusual chore involving the newly dead, underage driving, and countless bloody noses.

### \_\_\_ *Wicked History Series* – Various Authors

Captivating biography series chronicling the lives and crimes of the major villains of history. Examples: Adolf Hitler, Julius Cesar, and Alexander the Great

### \_\_\_ *The Great and Only Barnum* – Candace Fleming

Chronicles the life of showman P. T. Barnum, discussing how he created his legendary circus, the people and events that shaped his life, and the impact Barnum had on the entertainment industry.

### \_\_\_ *Liar, Liar* – Gary Paulsen

Fourteen-year-old Kevin is very good at lying and doing so makes life easier, but when he finds himself in big trouble with his friends, family, and teachers, he must find a way to end his lies forever.

### \_\_\_ *The Candymakers* – Wendy Mass

Four gifted twelve-year-olds, including Logan, the candymaker's son, are set to be contestants in the Confectionary Association's national competition to determine the nation's tastiest sweet, but nobody anticipates that a friendship will form between them.

### \_\_\_ *A Tale Dark and Grimm* – Adam Gidwitz

Follows Hansel and Gretel as they walk out of their own story and into eight more tales, encountering such wicked creatures as witches, along with kindly strangers and other helpful folk.

### \_\_\_ *The Tail of Emily Windsnap* – Liz Kessler

After finally convincing her mother that she should take swimming lessons, twelve-year-old Emily discovers a terrible and wonderful secret about herself that opens up a whole new world.

### \_\_\_ *Edward's Eyes* - Patricia MacLachlan

Edward is one of a large and close family that loves baseball, music, books, and each other, and when he unexpectedly dies and his parents donate his organs, his wonderful eyes go to a perfect recipient.

### \_\_\_ *Chomp* – Carl Hiaasan

The star of a reality television show disappears on location in the Florida Everglades, where they were filming animals from the wildlife refuge run by Wahoo Crane's family, and Wahoo and classmate Tuna Gordon set out to find him.

### \_\_\_ *Ranger's Apprentice: Book One* – John Flanagan

When fifteen-year-old Will is rejected by battleschool, he becomes the reluctant apprentice to the mysterious Ranger Halt and winds up protecting the kingdom from danger.