



Entering Seventh Grade Summer Reading

Suggested Book Title		Author/Genre	Sneak Preview
Required Reading: The Misfits	James Howe Fiction		Skeezie, Addie, Joe, and Bobby -- they've been friends forever. They laugh together, have lunch together, and get together once a week at the Candy Kitchen to eat ice cream and talk about important issues. Life isn't always fair, but at least they have each other -- and all they really want to do is survive the seventh grade.
Al Capone Does My Shirts	Gennifer Choldenko Fiction		When Moose's family moves to Alcatraz so his father can work as a guard and his sister can attend a special school in San Francisco, Moose has to leave his friends and his winning baseball team behind. But it's worth it, right? If his sister, Natalie, can finally get help, maybe his family will finally be normal. But as it turns out, life on Alcatraz is much more complicated than even Moose would have predicted.
Yes! We Are Latinos	Alma Flor Ada F. Isabel Campoy		Juanita lives in New York and is Mexican. Felipe lives in Chicago and is Panamanian, Venezuelan, and black. Michiko lives in Los Angeles and is Peruvian and Japanese. Each of them is also Latino. Thirteen young Latinos and Latinas living in America are introduced in this book celebrating the rich diversity of the Latino and Latina experience in the United States through free-verse fictional narratives.
All Alone in the Universe	Lynne Rae Perkins Fiction		When her best friend since the third grade starts acting as though Debbie doesn't exist, Debbie finds out the hard way that life can be a lonesome place. But in the end the heroine of this wryly funny coming-of-age story--a girl who lives in a house covered with stuff that is supposed to look like bricks but is just a fake brick pattern--discovers that even the hourly tragedies of junior high school can have silver linings, just as a house covered with Insul-Brick can protect a real home. Reading Olympic Book 2017
Among the Hidden	Margaret Haddix Fiction	Peterson-	Born third, at a time when having more than two children per family is illegal and subject to seizure and punishment by Population Police, Luke has spent all of his 12 years in hiding.
Alexander Hamilton: The Outsider	Jean Fritz Nonfiction		This rich biography will help readers understand Hamilton's role in shaping our country, the details of the famed duel with Aaron Burr, and why his picture is on the 10 dollar bill.
Books from the Harry Potter Series	J.K. Rowling Fiction		Harry Potter Series
Call Me Maria	Judith Ortiz Cofer Fiction		Maria is a girl caught between two worlds: Puerto Rico, where she was born, and New York, where she lives now in a basement apartment in the barrio. While her mother remains on the island, Maria lived with her father, the super of their building. As she struggles to lose her island accent, Maria does her best to find her place within the unfamiliar culture of the barrio.

Dancing Home	Alma Flor Ada Gabriel M. Zubizarreta	Mexico may be her parents' home, but it's certainly not Margie's. She has finally convinced the other kids at school she is one-hundred percent American — just like them. But when her Mexican cousin Lupe visits, the image she's created for herself crumbles. Things aren't easy for Lupe, either. Mexico hadn't felt like home since her father went North to find work. Lupe, as much as Margie, is in need of a friend. Little by little, the girls' individual steps find the rhythm of one shared dance, and they learn what "home" really means.
Chains	Laurie Halse Anderson Fiction	As the Revolutionary War begins, thirteen-year-old Isabel wages her own fight...for freedom. Promised freedom upon the death of their owner, she and her sister, Ruth, in a cruel twist of fate become the property of a malicious New York City couple, the Locktons, who have no sympathy for the American Revolution and even less for Ruth and Isabel. When Isabel meets Curzon, a slave with ties to the Patriots, he encourages her to spy on her owners, who know details of British plans for invasion. She is reluctant at first, but when the unthinkable happens to Ruth, Isabel realizes her loyalty is available to the bidder who can provide her with freedom.
Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice	Phillip Hoose Fiction	On March 2, 1955, an impassioned teenager, fed up with the daily injustices of Jim Crow segregation, refused to give her seat to a white woman on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Instead of being celebrated as Rosa Parks would be just nine months later, fifteen-year-old Claudette Colvin found herself shunned by her classmates and dismissed by community leaders.
Closed for the Season	Mary Downing Hahn Fiction	When thirteen-year-old Logan and his family move into a run-down old house in rural Virginia, he discovers that a woman was murdered there and becomes involved with his neighbor Arthur in a dangerous investigation to try to uncover the killer.
Crackback	John Coy Fiction	In his gripping debut novel, acclaimed picture book author John Coy presents the high stakes world of high school football, where doing what it takes to win doesn't always mean doing the right thing, and a young man discovers that the hits he takes on the field don't compare to the ones he faces in life.
Crash	Jerry Spinelli Fiction	Growing up, Jerry Spinelli wanted to be a shortstop in the majors long before it occurred to him to be a writer. Crash came out of his desire to include the beloved Penn Relays of his home state of Pennsylvania in a book.
Double Identity	Margaret Peterson Haddix Fiction	In this thriller by a master of suspense, Bethany, who will soon be thirteen, is confused when her overprotective parents suddenly take her out of state to leave her with an aunt she doesn't know. Bethany becomes determined to uncover secrets about herself.
How Tia Lola Learned to Teach	Gary Soto	In thirteen stories full of wit and energy, Gary Soto illuminates the ordinary lives of young people. Meet Angel, who would rather fork over twenty bucks than have photos of his naked body plastered all over school; Philip, who discovers he has a "mechanical mind," whatever that means; Estela, known as Stinger, who rules José's heart and the racquetball court; and many other kids, all of them with problems as big as only a preteen can make them.
Flawed Dogs	Berkeley Breathed Fiction	Sam the Lion is actually a priceless dachshund, bred to be a show dog. More important, he is Heidi's best friend—and she needs one like never before. Living with her reclusive uncle is hard, but Sam has a way of making her feel soft and whole. Until the day Sam is framed by the jealous poodle Cassius.

Hidden Talents	David Lubar Fiction	Martin Anderson and his friends don't like being called losers. But they've been called that for so long even they start to believe it. Until Martin makes an incredible discovery: each of his friends has a special <i>hidden</i> talent.
Homeless Bird	Gloria Whelan Fiction	Like many girls her age in India, thirteen-year-old Koly is getting married. When she discovers that the husband her parents have chosen for her is sickly boy with wicked parents, Koly wishes she could flee. According to tradition, though, she has no choice. On her wedding day, Koly's fate is sealed.
Hoops	Walter Dean Myers Fiction	Seventeen-year-old Lonnie Jackson sees the city-wide basketball Tournament of Champions as a possible escape from Harlem, but fears the pressures that have sidelined his coach, Cal.
Hoot	Carl Hiaasen Fiction	Roy Eberhardt is new to his small Florida community of Coconut Cove. Unfortunately, Roy's first acquaintance in Florida is Dana Matherson, a well-known bully. Then again, if Dana hadn't been sinking his thumbs into Roy's temples and mashing his face against the school-bus window, Roy might never have spotted the running boy. And the running boy is intriguing: he was running away from the school bus, carried no books, and — here's the odd part — wore no shoes. Sensing a mystery, Roy sets himself on the boy's trail. The chase introduces him to potty-trained alligators, a fake-fart champion, some burrowing owls, a renegade eco-avenger, and several extremely poisonous snakes with unnaturally sparkling tails. Reading Olympic Book 2017
House on Mango Street	Sandra Cisneros Fiction	This is the story of a young girl growing up in the Latino section of Chicago. Sometimes heartbreaking, sometimes deeply joyous, this novel depicts a new American landscape through its multiple characters.
Next to Mexico	Jennifer Nails	"Lylice has skipped a year and is new to Susan B. Anthony Middle School in her hometown of Tucson. Worried about making friends, the sixth grader becomes the English Buddy to Mexico, a student from Nogales who lives with her aunt and is a talented artist... When Mexico is hospitalized because her aunt is about to be unemployed and can't afford her niece's insulin, the girls finagle a job interview for her by forging a letter on stolen school stationery. Then, because of a boy on whom she has a crush, Lylice hurts her friend's feelings.
Inkheart	Cornelia Funke Fiction	Meggie lives a quiet life alone with her father, a book-binder. But her father has a deep secret — he possesses an extraordinary magical power. One day a mysterious stranger arrives who seems linked to her father's past. Who is this sinister character and what does he want? Suddenly Meggie is involved in a breathless game of escape and intrigue as her father's life is put in danger. Will she be able to save him in time? Reading Olympic Book 2017
Kickoff	Kiki Barber Fiction	When twelve-year-old twins Tiki and Ronde Barber make the third string of their junior high football team, they find themselves working hard to prove themselves on and off the field.
On the Blue Comet	Rosemary Wells Fiction	Oscar Ogilvie is living with his dad in a house at the end of Lucifer Street, in Cairo, Illinois, when world events change his life forever. The great stock market crash has rippled across the country, and the bank takes over their home — along with all their cherished model trains. Oscar's dad is forced to head west in search of work, and Oscar must move in with his no-nonsense Aunt Carmen.

Planet Middle School	Nikki Grimes	Playing basketball with the boys used to be all it took to make tomboy Joylin happy. But now her world is turning upside down. Suddenly, all Joylin can think about is boys — especially Santiago. She's doing things she never thought she'd do, like wearing makeup and trying on dresses. And her best friend and basketball buddy Jake doesn't like it one bit. Is Joylin trying to be something she's not, or is she just growing up? Reading Olympic Book 2017
Pride of Puerto Rico: The Life of Roberto Clemente	Paul Robert Walker Nonfiction	The great right fielder for the Pittsburgh Pirates, Roberto Clemente was proud of his family, his native Puerto Rico, and his ability to play baseball. "Baseball fans will welcome this book because of the fast-paced action, but the temper of the man and his concern for human beings will leave a lasting impression on the younger reader."
Quit It	Marcia Byalick Fiction	In the summer before she enters seventh grade, Carrie is diagnosed with Tourette's syndrome, a neurological disorder that is characterized by ticks. This book tells a story of a girl dealing with the trauma of entering junior high school with a neurological disorder.
Small Persons with Wings	Ellen Booraem	Ever since she was teased for believing in fairies, Mellie has adopted a strictly scientific approach to life. But that was before her parents inherited her grandfather's inn, where for generations her family members have served as guardians who protect the fairy folk in exchange for some of their magic. Now the fairies want their magic back, but an evil temptress wants the magic, too! Before she knows it, Mellie is turned into a frog, her grandfather is discovered alive, and her parents are trapped in an evil spell that makes them unpleasantly honest. Thank goodness for Timmo, the cute boy next door, and Durindana, a fairy outcast, who help Mellie get a handle on the out-of-control magic in her life. Reading Olympic Book 2017
Stargirl	Norristown Hometown Author Jerry Spinelli Fiction	After years of home schooling, Stargirl bursts into tenth grade in an explosion of color and clatter of ukulele music, enchanting the student body. But when the delicate scales of popularity suddenly shift, Stargirl is shunned for everything that makes her different. Reading Olympic Book 2017
Tangerine	Edward Bloor Fiction	So what if he's legally blind? Even with his bottle-thick, bug-eyed glasses, Paul Fisher can see better than most people. He can see the lies his parents and brother live out, day after day. No one ever listens to Paul, though—until the family moves to Tangerine.
The Lions of Little Rock	Kristin Levine Fiction	As twelve-year-old Marlee starts middle school in 1958 Little Rock, it feels like her whole world is falling apart. Until she meets Liz, the new girl at school. Liz is everything Marlee wishes she could be: she's brave, brash and always knows the right thing to say. But when Liz leaves school without even a good-bye, the rumor is that Liz was caught passing for white. Marlee decides that doesn't matter. She just wants her friend back. And to stay friends, Marlee and Liz are even willing to take on segregation and the dangers their friendship could bring to both their families.

<p>The Mysterious Benedict Society</p>	<p>Trenton Lee Stewart</p>	<p><i>"ARE YOU A GIFTED CHILD looking for special opportunities?"</i> When this peculiar ad appears in the newspaper, dozens of children enroll to take a series of mysterious, mind-bending tests. But in the end just four very special children — two boys and two girls — will succeed. Their challenge: to go on a secret mission that only the most intelligent and resourceful children could complete. To accomplish it they will have to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules. Welcome to the Mysterious Benedict Society. If you're gifted, creative, or happen to know Morse Code, they could probably use your help. Reading Olympic Book 2017</p>
<p>Thinking About Luck</p>	<p>Cynthia Kadohata Fiction</p>	<p>Summer knows that <i>kouun</i> means "good luck" in Japanese, and this year her family has none of it. Just when she thinks nothing else can possibly go wrong, an emergency whisks her parents away to Japan—right before harvest season. Summer and her little brother, Jaz, are left in the care of their grandparents, who come out of retirement in order to harvest wheat and help pay the bills.</p>
<p>Travel Time</p>	<p>Mike Lupica Fiction</p>	<p>Twelve-year-old Danny Walker may be the smallest kid on the basketball court—but don't tell him that. Because no one plays with more heart or court sense. But none of that matters when he is cut from his local travel team, the very same team his father led to national prominence as a boy. Danny's father, still smarting from his own troubles, knows Danny isn't the only kid who was cut for the wrong reason, and together, this washed-up former player and a bunch of never-say-die kids prove that the heart simply cannot be measured. Travel Team is an inspirational tale in the tradition of The Bad News Bears and Hoosiers. It will leave readers of all ages cheering.</p>
<p>Waiting for Normal</p>	<p>Leslie Connor Fiction</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Walk Two Moons</p>	<p>Sharon Creech Fiction</p>	<p>Salamanca's mother has left without explanation and not returned. Now 13 year old Sal is traveling across the country with her grandparents following the route her mother took.</p>
<p>Wednesday Wars</p>	<p>Gary D. Schmidt Fiction</p>	<p>Meet Holling Hoodhood, a seventh-grader at Camillo Junior High, who must spend Wednesday afternoons with his teacher, Mrs. Baker, while the rest of the class has religious instruction. Mrs. Baker doesn't like Holling—he's sure of it. Why else would she make him read the plays of William Shakespeare outside class? But everyone has bigger things to worry about, like Vietnam. His father wants Holling and his sister to be on their best behavior: the success of his business depends on it.</p>
<p>Westing Game, The</p>	<p>Ellen Raskin Fiction</p>	<p>When sixteen people are called together for the reading of wealthy Sam Westing's will, they are surprised to learn that the will is actually a contest in which they are all to participate. Working with partners, the potential heirs take their clues to try to find the elusive answer to the Westing game and thus take their shares of the two-hundred-million-dollar prize.</p>
<p>Wild Things</p>	<p>Clay Carmichael Fiction</p>	<p>With her father long gone, spunky eleven-year-old Zoe is shuffled from relative to relative after her mother dies. The story opens as she arrives at her uncle Henry Royster's Farm outside Sugar Hill, a small Southern town.</p>

Woods Runner	Gary Paulsen Fiction	Samuel, 13, spends his days in the forest, hunting for food for his family. He has grown up on the frontier of a British colony, America. Far from any town, or news of the war against the King that American patriots have begun near Boston.
Magazine Series		
		Discovery Girls National Geographic Newsweek Skateboard Smithsonian Sports Illustrated