

**RECOMMENDED SUMMER
READING PROGRAM**

Sixth Grade

Crash by Jerry Spinelli (3.8)
Seventh-grader John “Crash” Coogan has always been comfortable with his tough, aggressive behavior, until his relationship with an unusual Quaker boy and his grandfather’s stroke make him consider the meaning of friendship and the importance of family.

Night John by Gary Paulsen (3.8)
Twelve-year-old Sarny’s brutal life as a slave becomes even more dangerous when a newly arrived slave offers to teach her how to read.

Because of Winn Dixie by Kate DiCamillo (3.9)
Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog Winn-Dixie.

Number the Stars by Lois Lowry (4.5)
In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.

Holes by Louis Sachar (4.6)
Stanley Yelnats has been unjustly sent to a boys’ detention center where the warden makes the boys “build character” by digging holes. Stanley tries to dig up the truth in this inventive and darkly humorous tale of crime and punishment-and redemption.

Holes – by Louis Sachar
Stanley Yelnats goes to Camp Green Lake instead of juvenile detention. Did he make the right choice? A Newbery Award winner. Reading Level: 4.6

Maniac McGee by Jerry Spinelli (4.7)
After his parents die, Jeffrey Lionel Magee’s life becomes legendary, as he accomplishes athletic and other feats which awe his contemporaries.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (4.8)
Charlie discovers that the truth about Mr. Willy Wonka’s chocolate factory is even better than the rumors.

Ransom by Lois Duncan (4.9)
In the beginning it’s just another bus ride home from school. But the driver is a stranger...and now five are missing. A terrifying ride into a nightmare!

Trouble River by Betsy Byars (4.9)
Learn how the sixth graders beat out When he builds his raft, a twelve-year-old boy never dreams that it will serve as the sole means of escape for him and his grandmother when hostile Indians threaten their prairie cabin.

Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis (5.0)
Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to his father—the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids.

The Maze by Will Hobbs (5.0)
Rick, a fourteen-year-old foster child, escapes from a juvenile detention facility near Las Vegas and travels to Canyonlands National Park in Utah where he meets a bird biologist.

Sounder by William Armstrong (5.3)
Angry and humiliated when his sharecropper father is jailed for stealing food for his family, a young black boy grows in courage and understanding by learning to read and through his relationship with his devoted dog Sounder.

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone (5.5)
The famous Mr. Potter begins his career at Hogwarts.

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen (5.7)
After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the Canadian wilderness, learning to survive with only the aid of a hatchet given him by his mother, and leaning also to survive his parents’ divorce.

Julie of the Wolves by Jean C. George (5.8)
While running away from home and an unwanted marriage a thirteen-year-old Eskimo girl becomes lost on the North Slope of Alaska and is befriended by a wolf pack.

The Bully by Paul Langan (6.0)
A new life. A new school. A new bully. That’s what Darrell Mercer faces when he and his mother move from Philadelphia to California. After spending months living in fear, Darrell is faced with a big decision. He can either keep running from this bully—or find some way to fight back.

The Bad Beginning by Lemony Snicket (6.4)
The first book in “A Series of Unfortunate Events” helps prove that stories about sadness and badness can be both funny and popular.

Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank (6.5)
The journal of a Jewish girl in her early teens describes both the joys and torments of daily life, as well as typical adolescent thoughts, throughout two years spent in hiding with her family during the Nazi occupation of Holland.

Across Five Aprils by Irene Hunt (6.6)
Young Jethro Creighton grows from a boy to a man when he is left to take care of the family farm in Illinois during the difficult year of the Civil War.

Seventh Grade

Lafayette Middle School English teachers would like all students to read this summer and enjoy the experience. You MUST read a minimum of three books this summer. An AR test will be taken on the books during the 1st week of the fall semester.

Across Five Aprils – by Irene Hunt BL: 6.6 PTS: 10

Around the World in Eighty Days – by Jules Verne BL: 9.6 PTS: 12

Boy – by Roald Dahl BL: 6.0 PTS: 6
Dacey’s Song – by Cynthia Voigt BL: 5.0 PTS: 11

Don’t Look Behind You – by Lois Duncan BL: 6.2 PTS: 9

Redwall – by Brian Jacques BL: 5.6 PTS: 16

River Thunder – by Will Hobbs BL: 5.0 PTS: 7

Shabanu, Daughter of the Wind – by Suzanne Fisher Staples BL: 5.9 PTS: 9

Z for Zachariah – by Robert C. O’Brien BL: 5.6 PTS: 9

Any of the works of the following authors may be read (The book must be on your reading level.):

Matt Christopher – **The Basket Counts, Soccer Halfback, Football Fugitive, etc.**

Caroline B. Cooney – **Twins, Wanted, Fatality, etc.**

Lois Lowry – **The Giver, Gathering Blue, Switcharound, etc.**

Gary Paulsen – **Hatchet, Guts, Woodsong, etc.**

Limory Snicket – **any from the Series of Unfortunate Events**

Mildred D. Taylor – **Road to Memphis, Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry, The Well, etc.**

Eighth Grade

You may choose any of the books on the list, but you MUST read a minimum of three books. Tests will be given 1st week of fall semester.

Tears of a Tiger-Sharon Draper-4.3

Face on the Milk Carton-Caroline Cooney-4.8

Don’t Look Behind You-Lois Duncan-6.2

Gallow’s Hill-Lois Duncan-6.9

Hatchet-Gary Paulsen-5.7

Night Hoops-Carl Deuker-4.5

Call of the Wild-Jack London-8.0

Double Dutch-Sharon Draper-4.9

Silent to the Bone-Konigsburg-5.4

Who Killed My Daughter-Lois Duncan-7.3

A Cry in the Night-Mary H. Clark-6.0

Swallowing Stones-Joyce McDonald-5.6

Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde-Robert L.

Stevenson-9.5

Cheaper By the Dozen-Frank Gilbreth, Jr.-6.0

The Prince & the Pauper-Mark Twain-9.3

Night Hoops-Carl Deuker-4.5

The Red-Headed League-Sir Arthur

Conan Doyle-8.0

The Slippery Slope-Lemony Snicket-7.1

Any of the works of the following authors may be read. (must be on your AR reading level).

Sharon Draper

Lois Duncan

Caroline Cooney

Walter Dean Myers

Gary Paulsen

William Shakespeare

Students should read at least (3) books this summer.