



## Washington Township Public Schools Middle School Summer Reading 2017

*"Choose Your Own Reading Adventure!"*

All incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are to select one title from the books listed below to read for Summer Reading and complete a reflection sheet (Fiction OR Non-fiction).

### 6th grade Summer Reading List



#### **Fever 1793** by Laurie Halse Anderson

Sixteen-year-old Matilda Cook, separated from her sick mother, learns about perseverance and self-reliance when she is forced to cope with the horrors of the yellow fever epidemic in Philadelphia in 1793.

- From Follett

#### *A Fish in A Tree* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

Ally has been smart enough to fool a lot of smart people. Every time she lands in a new school, she is able to hide her inability to read by creating clever yet disruptive distractions. However, her newest teacher Mr. Daniels sees the bright, creative kid underneath the trouble maker. With his help, Ally learns not to be so hard on herself and that dyslexia is nothing to be ashamed of. - From the publisher

#### *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression. - From Follett

#### *The Shadow Children* (series) by Margaret Haddix

In a future where the law limits a family to only two children, third-born children must hide or create false identities to avoid the Population Police, and a group of rebel third-borns fight to undermine the Population Police and set off a rebellion. -From Follett

#### *The One and Only Ivan* by Katherine Applegate

Inspired by the true story of a captive silverback gorilla known as Ivan, this stirring and unforgettable novel celebrates the transformative power of unexpected friendships. Having spent twenty-seven years behind the glass walls of his enclosure in a shopping mall, Ivan has grown accustomed to humans watching him. He hardly ever thinks about his life in the jungle. Instead, Ivan occupies himself with television, his friends Stella and Bob, and painting. But when he meets Ruby, a baby elephant taken from the wild, he is forced to see their home, and his art, through new eyes. -Publishers Weekly

#### *Last Man Out* by Mike Lupica

Twelve-year-old Tommy Gallagher, the bravest and toughest football player on the field, faces his biggest battle ever when his father, a Boston firefighter, is fatally injured while rescuing a child. - From Follett

#### *Mo'ne Davis: Remember My Name* by Mo'ne Davis

This inspiring memoir from a girl who learned to play baseball with the boys and rose to national stardom before beginning eighth grade will encourage young readers to reach for their dreams no matter the odds. Mo'ne's story is one of determination, hard work, and an incredible fastball. -From the publisher

#### *Can I See Your ID?: True Stories of False Identities* by Chris Barton

True crime, desperation, fraud, and adventure: From the impoverished young woman who enchanted nineteenth-century British society as a faux Asian princess, to the sixteen-year-old boy who "stole" a subway train in 1993, to the lonely but clever Frank Abagnale of Catch Me if You Can fame, these ten vignettes offer riveting insight into mind-blowing masquerades. -From the publisher



## Washington Township Public Schools Middle School Summer Reading 2017

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All incoming 7<sup>th</sup> grade students are to select one title from the books listed below to read for Summer Reading and complete a reflection sheet (Fiction OR Non-fiction).

### 7th grade Summer Reading List



#### ***Prisoner B-3087* by Alan Gratz**

As a Jewish boy in 1930s Poland, Yanek is at the mercy of the Nazis who have taken over. Everything he has, and everyone he loves, have been snatched brutally from him. And then Yanek himself is taken prisoner - his arm tattooed with the words PRISONER B-3087. - *From the publisher*

#### *Out of My Mind* by Sharon Draper

Considered by many to be mentally disabled, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time. - *From Follett*

#### *Code Talker* by Joseph Bruchac

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. - *From Follett*

#### *Michael Vey* (series) by Richard Evans

Fourteen-year-old Michael discovers he has special electrical powers and, with the help of his best friends, becomes aware that there are other teens with similar powers, but something or someone is hunting them and, after Michael's mother is kidnapped, he will need to rely on his powers and his friends to rescue his mom, protect himself, and save the others. - *From Follett*

#### *Crossover* by Kwame Alexander

Twelve-year-old twins Josh and Jordan (JB) are a well-oiled machine on the basketball court. But then JB gets a girlfriend, and before Josh knows it, things start to change. Josh's narration is a combination of exciting play-by-play game details, insightful observations on middle school, and poignant meditations on sibling dynamics and familial love. - *Horn Book Guide*

#### *Dairy Queen* by Catherine Murdock

After spending her summer running the family farm and training the quarterback for her school's rival football team, sixteen-year-old D.J. decides to go out for the sport herself, not anticipating the reactions of those around her. - *From Follett*

#### *Chew On This* by Eric Schlosser

This book, adapted from Eric Schlosser's adult book, *Fast Food Nation*, will change your eating habits! In a fascinating and readable manner, the author takes younger readers through what is in those strawberry shakes they love so well. They also apprise readers of what happens in the slaughterhouses that those little chicken nuggets and hamburger patties come from. The author of *Fast Food Nation* partners with Wilson to serve up a stinging, often startling expose on this country's pervasive, lucrative fast-food industry, for young people. - *Library Media Connection*

#### *Chasing Lincoln's Killer* by James Swanson

Recounts the twelve-day pursuit and capture of John Wilkes Booth, covering the chase through Washington D.C., Maryland, and Virginia, with a discussion of Abraham Lincoln as a father, husband, and friend that examines the impact of his death on those close to him. - *From Follett*



## Washington Township Public Schools Middle School Summer Reading 2017

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All incoming 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are to select one title from the books listed below to read for Summer Reading and complete a reflection sheet (Fiction OR Non-fiction).



### 8th grade Summer Reading List

*Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'dell

The story of a 12-year old girl who lives alone on a Pacific island after she leaps from a rescue ship. Isolated on the island for eighteen years, Karana forages for food, builds weapons to fight predators, clothes herself in a cormorant feathered skirt, and finds strength and peace in her seclusion.

- From Follett

*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon

Despite his overwhelming 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. - From Follett

*The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros

A young girl living in a Hispanic neighborhood in Chicago ponders the advantages and disadvantages of her environment and evaluates her relationships with family and friends. - From Follett

*Legend* by Marie Lu

In a dark future, when North America has split into two warring nations, fifteen-year-olds Day, a famous criminal, and prodigy June, the brilliant soldier hired to capture him, discover that they have a common enemy.

- From Follett

*So B. It* by Sarah Weeks

After spending her life with her mentally disabled mother and agoraphobic neighbor, twelve-year-old Heidi sets out from Reno, Nevada, to New York to find out who she is. - From Follett

*Popular* by Maya Van Wagenen

Stuck near the bottom of the social ladder at "pretty much the lowest level of people at school who aren't paid to be here," Maya has never been popular. But before starting eighth grade, she decides to begin a unique social experiment: spend the school year following a 1950s popularity guide, written by former teen model Betty Cornell. - From the publisher

*The Contender* by Robert Lipsyte

After a successful start in a boxing career, a Harlem high school dropout decides that competing in the ring isn't enough of life and resolves to aim for different goals. - From Follett

*Eyes Wide Open* by Paul Fleischman

Fleischman issues a wake-up call -- and a challenge -- to today's teens about the environmental crisis. He begins with a call to arms to see through "the everyday world's two biggest illusions: 'it's always been this way' and 'everything's fine,'" urging teens to critically examine the information fed to them through advertising, politics, and "the whole culture we're part of." - Horn Book Magazine