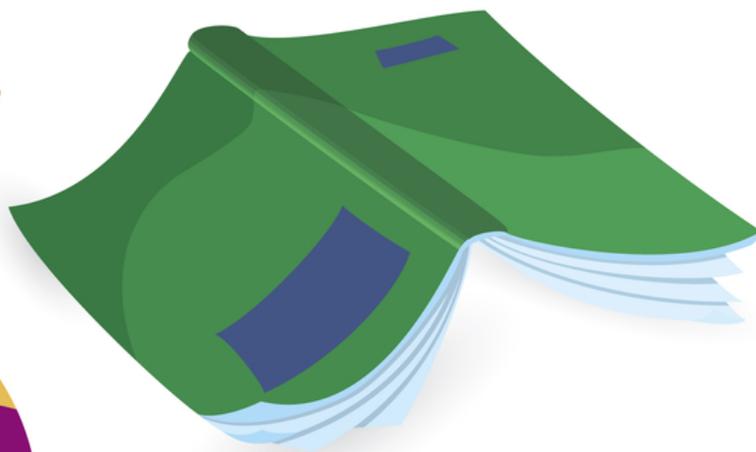


# SUMMER READING 2013



**Entering  
5-6**

Public Schools of Brookline, Massachusetts

### Hot Off the Presses: New and Noteworthy

Applegate, Katherine. ***The One and Only Ivan*** \*\*  
Poignant story of Ivan the gorilla and his friends at a decrepit animal show and how he uses his talent to save them. Lyrical writing and gorgeous illustrations combine to make this Newbery winner a must read.

Avi. ***Sophia's War*** \*\*  
In 1776, after witnessing the execution of Nathan Hale in New York City, newly occupied by the British army, young Sophia Calderwood resolves to do all she can to help the American cause, including becoming a spy.

Close, Chuck. ***Chuck Close: Face Book*** \*  
Presents an autobiography about the author's artistic life, describing the creative processes he uses in the studio and his struggles with his disabilities. Includes a self-portrait mix-and-match section with divided pages to flip, that demonstrates his techniques and images.

Freedman, Russell and Peter Malone. ***Boston Tea Party*** \*  
Recounts the colonists' stand to control their own destinies, detailing the protest meetings at Old South Church, the defiant act of dumping the tea into the harbor, and the reaction from the British.

Nielsen, Jennifer. ***The False Prince: Book 1 of the Ascendence Trilogy*** \*\*  
In the country of Carthya, a devious nobleman engages four orphans in a brutal competition to be selected to impersonate the king's long-missing son in an effort to avoid a civil war. First book in a trilogy.

Timberlake, Amy. ***One Came Home*** \*\*\*  
In 1871 Wisconsin, thirteen-year-old Georgia sets out to find her sister Agatha, presumed dead when remains are found wearing the same dress she was last seen in, and before the end of the year gains fame as a sharpshooter and foiler of counterfeiters.

Turnage, Sheila. ***Three Times Lucky*** \*\*\*  
Washed ashore as a baby in tiny Tupelo Landing, North Carolina, Mo LoBeau, now eleven, and her best friend Dale turn detective when the amnesiac Colonel, owner of a café and co-parent of Mo with his cook, Miss Lana, seems implicated in a murder.

### Take a Look: Picture Books for Older Readers

Brown, Don. ***Henry and the Cannons*** \*  
Presents an illustrated account of bookseller Henry Knox's heroic contributions during the Revolutionary War, describing how he dragged fifty-nine cannons to Boston across 225 miles filled with danger and hardship.

Hale, Dean and Shannon Hale. ***Rapunzel's Revenge*** \*  
Fans of Calamity Jack will enjoy this twisted version of Rapunzel. Rapunzel teams up with Jack the Beanstalk in a quest to free her mother and the kingdom from the evil queen. Beautiful graphic illustrations and the witty text combine for a compelling story.

Mochizuki, Ken. ***Baseball Saved Us*** \*\*  
During World War II, a young Japanese-American boy and his family are sent to an internment camp after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Father and son pull the camp together to build a baseball diamond and form a league.

Rave, Margot Theis. ***Let Them Play*** \*  
Segregated Charleston, SC, 1955: There are 62 official Little League programs in South Carolina all, but one of the leagues is composed entirely of white players. The Cannon Street YMCA All-Stars, an all-black team, is formed in hopes of playing in the state's annual Little League Tournament. What should have been a time of enjoyment, however, turns sour when all of the other leagues refuse to play against them and even pull out of the program. "Let Them Play" takes its name from the chant shouted by the spectators who attended the World Series final.

Selznick, Brian. ***The Invention of Hugo Cabret*** \*  
When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toy seller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

### Too Good to Miss: Classics

Burnett, Frances Hodgson. ***The Secret Garden*** \*\*\*  
Orphaned Mary Lenox goes to live with her hermit uncle in gloomy, mysterious Misselthwaite Manor. There, she discovers all sorts of secrets, including a cousin she's never heard of and a garden everyone has forgotten.

Burnford, Sheila. ***The Incredible Journey*** \*\*  
A young Labrador retriever, a bull terrier and a Siamese cat set out through the Canadian wilderness. Together, the three house pets face starvation, exposure, and wild forest animals as they attempt to make their way home to the family they love.

Christopher, John. ***The White Mountains (series)*** \*\*  
Long ago, the Tripods, huge, three-legged machines, descended upon earth and took control. Now people unquestioningly accept the Tripods' power. They have no control over their thoughts or their lives, but for a brief time in each person's life, in childhood, he is not a slave. For Will, his time of freedom is about to end unless he can escape to the White Mountains, where the possibility of freedom still exists.

Lewis, C. S. ***The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (series)*** \*\*  
Four children travel repeatedly to a world in which they are far more than mere children, and everything is far more than it seems.

## Entering 5 – 6

O'Dell, Scott. ***The Island of the Blue Dolphins*** \*\*

Left alone on a beautiful but isolated island off the coast of California, a young Indian girl spends eighteen years, not only merely surviving through her enormous courage and self-reliance, but also finding a measure of happiness in her solitary life.

Paulsen, Gary. ***Hatchet (series)*** \*\*\*

Thirteen-year-old Brian Robeson is the only survivor when the single-engine plane crashes. His body battered, his clothes in shreds, Brian must now stay alive in the Canadian wilderness with only a small hatchet as a tool. It will take all his know-how and determination, and more courage than he knew he possessed to survive.

Steig, William. ***Abel's Island*** \*\*

Castaway on an uninhabited island, Abel, a very civilized mouse, finds his resourcefulness and endurance tested to the limit as he struggles to survive and return to his home.

Stevenson, Robert Louis. ***Treasure Island*** \*\*

When an old sea captain arrives at the Admiral Benbow Inn with a mysterious sea chest and fearful talk of a man with one leg, the scene is set for one of the most popular adventure stories of all time.

### Folklore & Mythology

Barron, T. A. ***Lost Years of Merlin (series)*** \*\*

The first book in this series is about Merlin's boyhood and coming of age. From the moment young Merlin is washed ashore on a beach in ancient Wales to his exciting journey to the enchanted land of Fincayra, the action never wavers.

D'Aulaires, Ingri and Edgar. ***D'Aulaires Book of Greek Myths*** \*

An introduction to the gods and goddesses of ancient Greece.

Morpurgo, Michael. ***Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*** \*

When a mysterious green knight rides into King Arthur's court, interrupting a New Year's feast, he issues a challenge. Sir Gawain accepts and decapitates the green knight, only to see him pick up his severed head. The enchanted knight announces that Gawain must, on his honor, meet him on the next New Year's Day to receive the same blow.

Napoli, Donna Jo. ***Treasury of Greek Mythology: Classic Stories of Gods, Goddesses, Heroes & Monsters*** \*\*

The tales of gods and goddesses such as Zeus, Aphrodite, Apollo, and Athena and heroes and monsters such as Helen of Troy, Perseus, and Medusa.

O'Connor, George. ***Zeus: King of the Gods (series)*** \*\*

Fast-paced, high-drama adventures, with monsters, romance, and a few huge explosions. O'Connor's art brings ancient tales to life in this book about the father of the gods.

Osborne, Mary Pope. ***Tales From the Odyssey*** \*

When Odysseus must leave his home to fight the Trojan War, he never imagines that he'll be away from his family for so many years. At long last, he is leading his men home across the seas, but many dangers await them, none more terrifying than Polyphemus, the one-eyed giant.

### Get Real: Nonfiction

Burns, Loree Griffin. ***Tracking Trash: Flotsam, Jetsam, and the Science of Ocean Motion*** \*\*

Through floating sneakers and bath toys that accidentally fell off container ships and a computer program named "OSCURS," scientists tracked the currents of the ocean. These experiments led to a discussion of how debris is polluting our oceans and causing harm to marine life.

Chaikin, Andrew. ***Mission Control, This is Apollo: The Story of the First Voyages to the Moon*** \*\*

Space history from the Mercury missions through Apollo 17 and beyond. This book is illustrated with full-color paintings by astronaut Alan Bean.

Fleischman, John. ***Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story about Brain Science*** \*\*

The true story of Phineas Gage, whose brain had been pierced by an iron rod in 1848. He survived and became a case study in how the brain functions.

Macaulay, David. ***Built to Last*** \*\*

This book reveals the how and why behind some of the most fascinating and enduring structures humankind has ever created: the castle, the cathedral and the mosque.

Murphy, Claire Rudolf. ***Children of Alcatraz: Growing Up on the Rock*** \*\*

Imagine playing hide-and-seek in the prison morgue, having a convict as your babysitter, or having Al Capone as your neighbor. Alcatraz Island is the maximum-security prison on the "Rock," once home to criminals like Al Capone, Machine Gun Kelly, and the Birdman of Alcatraz. Alcatraz was not only home to criminals, it was home to many children, too.

Pollan, Michael (Chevat, adaptor). ***Omnivore's Dilemma: the Secrets Behind What You Eat (Young Readers Edition)*** \*\*

From fast food and big agriculture to small farms and old-fashioned hunting and gathering, Pollan's famous food-chain exploration encourages kids to consider the personal and global health implications of their food choices.

Ross, Stewart. ***Into the Unknown: How Great Explorers Found Their Way By Land Sea and Air*** \*\*

Discover how the greatest explorers in history from Marco Polo to Neil Armstrong plunged into the unknown and boldly pieced together the picture of the world we have today.

Tunnell, Michael O. ***Candy Bomber: The Story of the Berlin Airlift's "Chocolate Pilot"*** \*\*

A little-known post-World War II story of an international campaign to help lighten the suffering of the children of West Berlin. An airlift of food and fuel continued for almost two years; tons of candy were dropped (using tiny parachutes) for the children who waited in the flight path below.

### It Could Happen: Realistic Fiction

Applegate. ***Home of the Brave*** \*

Kek, an African refugee, is confronted by many strange things at the Minneapolis home of his aunt and cousin, as well as in his fifth grade classroom, and longs for his missing mother, but finds comfort in the company of a cow and her owner. A novel told in verse.

Birdsall, Jeanne. ***The Penderwicks (series)*** \*\*

The Penderwick sisters have a holiday on a beautiful estate called Arundel. Soon they are busy discovering the summertime magic of Arundel's sprawling gardens, treasure-filled attic, tame rabbits, and the cook who makes the best gingerbread in Massachusetts.

Draper, Sharon. ***Out of My Mind*** \*\*

Melody has cerebral palsy and cannot walk or talk. What people do not realize is that Melody is brighter than most people and she has a photographic memory. How does Melody learn to communicate and show her brilliance?

Erskine, Kathryn. ***Mockingbird*** \*\*

Ten-year-old Caitlin, who has Asperger's Syndrome, struggles to understand emotions, show empathy, and make friends at school, while at home she seeks closure by working on a project with her father.

Gantos, Jack. ***Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key (series)*** \*\*

To the constant disappointment of his mother and his teachers, Joey has trouble paying attention and controlling his mood swings when his prescription medications wear off, and he starts getting worked up and acting wired.

Hiassen, Carl. ***Chomp*** \*\*\*

Wahoo Cray's father is an animal handler. The good news is that his father gets a job with a reality T.V. show. The news is that the star doesn't quite understand the dangerous nature of the animals. Suddenly he disappears and Wahoo is on the trail.

Jacobson, Jennifer. ***Small as an Elephant*** \*\*

Ever since Jack can remember, his mom has been unpredictable, sometimes loving and fun, other times caught in a whirlwind of energy and "spinning" wildly until it's over, but Jack never thought his mom would take off during the night and leave him at a campground in Acadia National Park. Any other kid would report his mom gone, but Jack knows by now that he needs to figure things out for himself.

Kodohata, Cynthia. ***Kira-Kira*** \*\*\*

Chronicles the close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s and early 1960s, and the despair when one sister becomes terminally ill.

Marsden, Carolyn. ***The Gold-Threaded Dress*** \*

In Thailand she was named Oy, but here in America the teachers call her Olivia. Other things are not so easy to change. One classmate makes fun of her and calls her Chinese. And the popular girl Liliandra barely speaks to her, until she learns that Oy has something very special: a Thai dancing dress from her grandmother. Will Oy risk shaming her family to win Liliandra's approval and be part of the club she has envied from afar?

Mass, Wendy. ***A Mango-Shaped Space*** \*\*

Mia Winchell has synesthesia, the mingling of perceptions whereby a person can see sounds, smell colors, or taste shapes. Forced to reveal her condition, she must look to herself to develop an understanding and appreciation of her gift.

Palacio, T.R. ***Wonder*** \*\*\*

Read this remarkable story about a boy born with many physical deformities. He enters school for the first time as a fifth grader and both he and his classmates are changed. A poignant can't put down book with strong characters and humor.

Park, Linda Sue. ***A Long Walk to Water*** \*\*

Nya goes to the pond to fetch water for her family. She walks eight hours every day. Salva walks away from his war-torn village. He is a "lost boy" refugee, destined to cover Africa on foot, searching for his family and safety. Two young people, two stories. One country: Sudan. Even in a troubled country, determined survivors may find the future they are hoping for.

Schmidt, Gary. ***Okay for Now*** \*\*\*

Fourteen-year-old Doug Swietek faces many challenges, including an abusive father, a brother traumatized by Vietnam, suspicious teachers and police officers, and isolation, but when he meets a girl known as Lil Spicer, he develops a close relationship with her and finds a safe place at the local library.

Weeks, Sarah. ***So B. It*** \*\*

Although she lives an unconventional lifestyle with her mentally disabled mother, Heidi has a lucky streak. When a mysterious word in her mother's vocabulary begins to haunt her, Heidi's thirst for the truth leads her on a cross-country journey in search of the secrets of her past.

Yee, Lee. ***Stanford Wong Flunks Big Time*** \*\*

Stanford has to go to summer school and if he doesn't pass, then he won't move up to 7th grade. Most importantly he will not be able to play on the "A" basketball team. Bad enough he has to go to summer school but then he discovers his tutor is the very annoying Millicent Min. Find out how Stanford deals with his very annoying summer.

## Life Stories: Biography

Blumenthal, Karen. ***Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Differently*** \*\*\*

Steve Jobs was given up for adoption at birth, dropped out of college after one semester, and at the age of twenty, created Apple in his parents' garage with a friend. A devoted husband, father, and Buddhist, he battled cancer for over a decade, became the ultimate CEO, and made the world want every product he touched.

Buckley, James. ***Pele*** \*

This book introduces soccer legend Pelé and describes his life from his Brazilian youth, when he honed his soccer skills with homemade balls, through his astonishing career and his current retirement with thrilling play-by-play accounts of key matches.

Fleischman, Sid. ***Escape: The Story of Great Houdini*** \*\*\*

Who was this man who could walk through brick walls and, with a snap of his fingers, vanish elephants? Houdini, magician, ghost chaser, daredevil, pioneer aviator, and king of escape artists. No jail cell or straitjacket could hold him! He shucked off handcuffs as easily as gloves. Did Houdini really pick the jailhouse lock to let a fellow circus performer escape? Were his secrets really buried with him? Here are the stories of how a knockabout kid named Ehrich Weiss, the son of an impoverished rabbi, presto-changed himself into the legendary Harry Houdini.

Hampton, Wilborn. ***Babe Ruth*** \*\*\*

Unlike the approach in other books about Ruth, the focus here is on Ruth's sad early life and his career as a pitcher with the Boston Red Sox. Some of the more tawdry aspects of Ruth's life are not glossed over, but throughout an attempt is made to give some sense of the grace, power, and skill of Ruth on the field.

Hoose, Phillip. ***Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice*** \*\*\*

Nine months before Rosa Parks' history-making protest on a city bus, Claudette Colvin, a 15-year-old Montgomery, Alabama high school student, was arrested and jailed for refusing to give up her seat to a white passenger. Hoose draws from numerous personal interviews with Colvin in this exceptional title that is part historical account, part memoir.

Krull, Kathleen. ***Marie Curie*** \*\*

Marie Curie coined the term radioactivity and won not just one Nobel prize but two, in physics and in chemistry.

Levine, Ellen. ***Rachel Carson: a Twentieth-Century Life*** \*\*

In her award winning and controversial book, "Silent Spring," environmentalist Rachel Carson revealed the dangers of pesticide use and made us aware of man's contamination of the environment.

Myers, Walter Dean. ***The Greatest: Muhammad Ali*** \*\*\*

An introduction to Ali's life from his childhood to the present day, focusing on his career and the controversies surrounding him. Both his talent in the boxing ring and his showmanship

earned him fame, while his refusal to accept the stereotypical role of a black athletic star in the 1960s brought him notoriety.

## Out of This World: Fantasy & Science Fiction

Bredsdorff, Bodil. ***The Crow Girl: The Children of Crow Cove (series)*** \*

Crow-Girl lives happily with her grandmother in a cove far from any neighbors. When the old woman dies, Crow-Girl buries her and leaves to make her way in the world. Taken in by a greedy woman who demands her labor and steals her belongings, Crow-Girl eventually escapes and finds new friends with troubles and talents of their own. She goes on to create her own family from those whom she befriends and grows to love.

Duprau, Jeanne. ***The City of Ember (series)*** \*\*

Lina and Doon live in Ember, an isolated city whose only light comes from the electricity supplied by a huge underground generator, a generator that is beginning to fail. Can Lina and Doon find a way to save themselves and their city.

Farmer, Nancy. ***The Sea of Trolls (series)*** \*\*\*

The year is 793, and fierce Vikings pass through a Saxon village and enslave two of its residents: Jack, an 11-year-old apprentice Mage and his 5-year-old sister Lucy. Jack and Lucy must embark on a perilous journey through lands filled with trolls, dragons, giant spiders, and talking crows to get back home.

Flanagan, John. ***The Ruins of Gorlan (series)*** \*\*

The villagers believe the Rangers practice magic that makes them invisible to ordinary people. Now fifteen year-old Will, always small for his age, has been chosen as a Ranger's apprentice. Highly trained in the skills of battle and surveillance, the Rangers fight the battles before the battles reach the people, and as Will is about to learn, there is a large battle brewing.

Fox, Helen. ***Eager (series)*** \*\*

In late twenty-first century England, the Bell family's new robot, Eager, is programmed to learn about the world as a human would, by making mistakes and searching for the answers to life's questions. Most of this novel centers on Eager's often funny efforts to come to grips with a many of life's problems, although he and the Bell children also uncover a rebellion by highly sophisticated, human like robots.

Martin, Ann. ***The Doll People (series)*** \*

A family of porcelain dolls that has lived in the same house for one hundred years is taken aback when a new family of plastic dolls arrives and doesn't follow The Doll Code of Honor.

Meloy, Maile. ***The Apothecary*** \*\*\*

New to London, fourteen-year-old Janie meets a mysterious apothecary and his son, Benjamin Burrows, a boy who's not afraid to stand up to authority and dreams of becoming a spy. When Benjamin's father is kidnapped, Janie and Benjamin

must uncover the secrets of the apothecary's sacred book, the Pharmacopoeia.

Riordan, Rick. ***The Lightning Thief (series)*** \*\*\*

Begin with the exciting series combining Greek mythology, time-travel, adventure and engaging characters. Then read Rick Riordan's next series "The Kane Chronicles" which explores Egyptian mythology against an thrilling backdrop.

Stead, Rebecca. ***When You Reach Me*** \*\*

Shortly after sixth-grader Miranda and her best friend Sal part ways, for some inexplicable reason her once familiar world turns upside down. Maybe it's because she's caught up in reading "A Wrinkle in Time" and trying to understand time travel, or perhaps it's because she's been receiving mysterious notes which accurately predict the future.

Stephens, John. ***The Emerald Atlas (Books of Beginning series)*** \*\*\*

Fantasy lovers will enjoy this amazing tale featuring 3 siblings, Kate, Michael and Emma. They travel unhappily from one orphanage to another until one fateful day. They open a door and find a mysterious green book and are transported to magic land. They travel back and forth in time in this fast paced book. Will they uncover the secret of the evil queen and save the world?

### Page-turners: Mystery & Adventure

Avi. ***True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle*** \*\*\*

"Not every thirteen-year-old girl is accused of murder, brought to trial and found guilty," Charlotte states, beginning an account of her 1832 transatlantic crossing.

Beil, Mildred D. ***The Red Blazer Girls: The Vanishing Violin (series)*** \*\*

Seventh-graders Sophie, Margaret, Rebecca, and Leigh Ann follow a trail of cryptic clues to locate a rare violin, catch the person sneaking into St. Veronica's School for late-night cleaning and redecorating, and outsmart a conniving classmate.

Clements, Andrew. ***We the Children (series)*** \*\*

The school janitor gives sixth-grader Ben a tarnished coin with some old engravings and then mysteriously dies. As a result, Ben is drawn into a plot to keep his school from taken over by unscrupulous investors.

Dowd, Siobhan. ***The London Eye Mystery*** \*\*

While Ted, his sister Kat, and their cousin Salim wait in line to ride the London Eye, a huge ferris wheel, a stranger from the front of the line offers one free ticket and Salim takes it. Ted and Kat see him enter the capsule and follow his ride, but to their shock, he doesn't exit with his fellow riders. It's up to them to find him.

Feinstein, John. ***Last Shot: A Final Four Mystery (series)*** \*\*

Two lucky aspiring sports journalists win a trip to the Final Four. The games going on behind the scenes between the

coaches, the players, the media, the money-men, and the fans turn out to be even more fiercely competitive than those on the court. Steven and Susan overhear what sounds like a threat to throw the championship game. What should they do?

Grant, Michael. ***The Magnificent Twelve (series)*** \*\*

Mack is your average 12 year boy with a few minor phobias, but one day Mack discovers a 3000 year old man in his bathroom who informs him that he is one of the 12 "Magnifica". Mack must accept the call to save the world from an evil force, will he do it in time?

Horowitz, Anthony. ***Stormbreaker (series)*** \*\*\*

When his uncle and guardian dies in a mysterious accident, fourteen year-old Alex Rider finds out that he was a spy for the MI6, Britain's equivalent of the CIA. Alex is recruited by the agency to continue his uncle's mission, kicking off his career as the youngest-ever international British spy.

Smith, Roland. ***I, Q: Independence Hall (series)*** \*\*

Thirteen-year-old Quest, Q, along with new stepsister Angela, takes a year off from school to travel with his parents' band. Home will be a luxury motor coach and homework will be a Web site diary of their travels. Perfect Q can practice his magic tricks and Angela can read her spy novels. What can go wrong?

Stewart, Trenton Lee. ***Mysterious Benedict Society (series)*** \*\*\*

Reynie and three other gifted children are recruited to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened and use their intellect, imagination, and resourcefulness to derail a plot to take over the world.

Wood, Maryrose. ***The Incurable Children of Ashton Place: The Mysterious Howling (series)*** \*\*

Set in 19th-century England, the novel tells the story of 15-year-old Penelope Lumley. A newly hired governess to Alexander, Beowulf, and Cassiopeia. Previously raised by wolves, the three children are now the trophies and property of the shady Lord Fredrick of Ashton Place. Humorous antics and a climactic cliff-hanger ending will keep you turning pages and clamoring for the next volume.

### Play Ball!: Sports Books

Barber, Tiki. ***Kickoff!! (series)*** \*

Inspired by the childhood of NFL superstars Tiki and Ronde Barber, Kickoff! is a story of teamwork, perseverance, and what it takes to be a champion.

Bowen, Fred. ***Hardcourt Comeback*** \*

Brett blew a key play in an important game. Now he feels like a loser for letting his teammates down and he keeps making mistakes. How can Brett become a winner again?

Coy, John. ***Top of the Order*** \*\*

Ten-year-old Jackson lives for baseball, but becomes distracted by the approach of middle school, his mother's latest boyfriend, and the presence of a girl.

Green, Tim. ***Football Genius (series)*** \*\*\*

Troy White can predict any football play before it happens. And when his single mom gets a job with the Atlanta Falcons, Troy knows it's his big chance to help them out of their slump and finally prove his football genius, but unless Troy can convince star linebacker that he's telling the truth, the Falcons' championship and Troy's mom's job are in serious jeopardy.

Gutman, Dan. ***Ray and Me (series)*** \*\*

Joe can travel back in time using baseball cards with magic powers. This time, Joe goes back to try to save Ray Chapman, the only player in major league history to get hit by a pitched ball and die.

Lupica, Mike. ***Batboy*** \*\*\*

Even though his mother feels baseball ruined her marriage to his father, she allows fourteen-year-old Brian to become a bat boy for the Detroit Tigers, who have just drafted his favorite player back onto the team.

Lupica, Mike. ***Shoot-Out: Mike Lupica's Comeback Kids (series)*** \*\*

What happens when a star player ends up on the worst team? He either learns to lose or he stops playing the game he loves. These are the choices facing Jake, who has gone from champion to last place, testing his sportsmanship every time his soccer team gets soundly beaten.

McKinley, Michael. ***Ice Time: The Story of Hockey*** \*\*

This traces the sport from its hotly contested origins to the first-ever lockout of players by the one remaining league. It covers the sport's surge in popularity after 1875, when it moved to inside rinks; the rise and fall, and rise again, of women's hockey; the sagas of long-lost league and more recently the World Hockey Association.

Wolff, Virginia Euwer. ***Bat 6*** \*\*\*

Each year the girls' softball teams of Bear Creek Ridge and Barlow compete to the friendly cheers of townspeople. This year Shazam's racial hatred of Aki Mikami explodes in this riveting novel set in post-World War II Oregon.

### Way Back When: Historical Fiction

Avi. ***Crispin: the Cross of Lead (series)*** \*\*

Falsely accused of theft and murder, an orphaned peasant boy in fourteenth-century England flees his village and meets a larger-than-life juggler who holds a dangerous secret.

Berg, Ann E. ***All the Broken Pieces: A Novel in Verse*** \*\*\*

Vietnamese war orphan Matt Pin, now living in the United States, is haunted by the terrible secret he left behind in Vietnam. He also must confront the abuse heaped upon him by teammates who have lost family members in the war.

Choldenko, Gennifer. ***Al Capone Does My Shirts (series)*** \*\*\*

It's 1935. Moose Flanagan lives on Alcatraz with his family, the other families of the guards, and a few hundred hit men, con men, mad dog murderers and a handful of bank robbers too.

Erdrich, Louise. ***Birchbark House (series)*** \*\*

In this account of a year in the life of a 19th-century Ojibwa family, young Omakayas works and plays through the summer and fall, learning the ways of her people until a deadly illness strikes the tribe.

Kadohata, Cynthia. ***Weedflower*** \*\*

Japanese-American Sumiko is 12 when Pearl Harbor is bombed. Her life in California had been challenging because of mistreatment by Caucasian classmates but her family made life bearable. Suddenly she and her family must leave everything behind to live in an internment camp in Arizona. She befriends a Mohave boy and realizes that they have a lot of similar experiences.

Klages, Ellen. ***The Green Glass Sea (series)*** \*\*

In 1943, eleven-year-old Dewey Kerrigan lives with her scientist father in Los Alamos, New Mexico, as he works on a top-secret government program. The mystery and tension surrounding what Dewey knows only as "the gadget" trickles down to the kids on the compound who often do without adult supervision.

Lai, Thanhha. ***Inside Out & Back Again*** \*\*

"No one would believe me but at times I would choose wartime in Saigon over peacetime in Alabama. For all the ten years of her life, Ha has only known Saigon: the thrills of its markets, the joy of its traditions, the warmth of her friends close by and the beauty of her very own papaya tree. But now the Vietnam War has reached her home. Ha and her family are forced to flee as Saigon falls, and they board a ship headed toward hope. In America, Ha discovers the foreign world of Alabama: the coldness of its strangers, the dullness of its food, the strange shape of its landscape and the strength of her very own family. A novel told in poems.

Lowry, Lois. ***Number the Stars*** \*

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.

Peck, Richard. ***A Long Way From Chicago*** \*\*

Sent to spend the summer with their quirky grandmother, Joey and Mary Alice meet some memorable characters and have hilarious adventures. It's a summer to remember.

Porter, Pamela. ***Crazy Man (series)*** \*\*

After Emaline is crippled by an accident with her father's tractor in 1965, her father leaves the farm. Her mother takes in Angus from the local mental hospital to help with the farm work, but the neighbors jeer and complain. Emaline never denies Angus' illness, but she sees his kindness and strength.

Preus, Margi. ***Heart of a Samurai: Based on the True Story of Nakahama Manjiro*** \*\*\*

In 1841 a Japanese fishing vessel sinks. Its crew is forced to swim to a small, unknown island, where rescued by a passing

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American ship, they set off to America, learning English on the way. Manjiro, a 14-year-old boy, is curious and eager to learn everything he can about this new culture. After many years, he makes it back to Japan, only to be imprisoned as an outsider. With his hard-won knowledge of the West, Manjiro is in a unique position to persuade the emperor to ease open the boundaries around Japan; he may even achieve his unlikely dream of becoming a samurai.

Ryan, Pam Munoz. ***The Dreamer*** \*\*

From the time he is a young boy, Neftali hears the call of a mysterious voice. He knows he must follow it—even when the neighborhood children taunt him, and when his harsh, authoritarian father ridicules him, and when he doubts himself. It leads him under the canopy of the lush rain forest, into the fearsome sea, and through the persistent Chilean rain, until finally, he discovers its source.

Vanderpool, Clare. ***Moon Over Manifest*** \*\*\*

Having heard stories about Manifest, Abilene is disappointed to find that it's just a dried-up, worn-out old town. But her disappointment quickly turns to excitement when she discovers a hidden cigar box full of mementos, including some old letters that mention a spy known as the Rattler. These mysterious letters send Abilene and her new friends, Lettie and Ruthanne, on an honest-to-goodness spy hunt, even though they are warned to "Leave Well Enough Alone".

Williams-Garcia, Rita. ***One Crazy Summer*** \*\*

In the summer of 1968, Delphine's father decides that it's time the girls got to know their mother. Delphine boards a plane with her sisters to Cecile's home in Oakland. What they find there is far from their California dreams of Disneyland and movie stars.

### Just for Fun: Humor

Allison, Jennifer. ***Gilda Joyce, Psychic Investigator (series)*** \*\*

Ever since her father died, quirky Gilda Joyce has been determined to communicate with spirits and become a crack investigator of spooky, twisted mysteries. Hair-raising and hilarious, this is a behind-the-scenes, tell-all account of her very first case.

Angleberger, Tom. ***Strange Case of Origami Yoda*** \*

Meet Dwight, a sixth-grade oddball, he does a lot of weird things, like wearing the same T-shirt for a month or telling people to call him "Captain Dwight," but Dwight does one cool thing; he makes origami. One day he makes an origami finger puppet of Yoda and that's when things get mysterious. Origami Yoda can predict the future and suggest the best way to deal with a tricky situation. His advice actually works, and soon most of the sixth grade is lining up with questions.

Gantos, Jack. ***Jack on the Tracks (series)*** \*\*\*

Fascinated with all things disgusting, Jack is constantly struggling to sort out how boys are supposed to behave. Between picking a hookworm (his secret "pet") out of his arm

and lying in a hole with a screaming locomotive passing overhead, Jack is no role model, but he is real.

Ignatow, Amy. ***The Popularity Papers (series)*** \*\*

To fifth grade girls are preparing for middle school and they are determined to discover the secrets of popularity. Lydia and Julie pass notebooks back and forth reflect on their adventures through writing and color pictures. Laugh out loud funny.

Lowry, Lois. ***The Willoughbys*** \*\*

Timothy, his twin brothers, Barnaby A and Barnaby B; and their little sister, Jane, are old-fashioned children who adore old-fashioned adventures. Unfortunately, the Willoughby parents are not very fond of their children, and the truth is that the siblings are not too keen on their parents either. Little do the Willoughby kids know that their neglectful mother and father are hatching an evil plan to get rid of them.

Peck, Richard. ***Soup (series)*** \*\*

Peck tells stories from a boyhood filled with barrels to roll in, apples to whip, windows to break, ropes to bind prisoners, acorn pipes, and ten-cent Saturday movies. Back then, as always, nothing was quite as important as a best friend.

Peirce, Lincoln. ***Big Nate (series)*** \*

Cartoon and prose combine for a winning combination in all the Big Nate books. Nate hates school and is always having some misadventure or trouble that makes for plenty of laughs.

Scieszka, Jon. ***Knucklehead: Tall Tales & Mostly True Stories of Growing Up Scieszka*** \*\*\*

A memoir about growing up as one of six brothers with lots of comic books, lazy summers at the lake, babysitting misadventures, TV shows, and plenty of jokes and pranks.

Van Draanen, Wendelin. ***Shredderman: Secret Identity (series)*** \*

Bullies got you down? Never fear, Shredderman is here! Fifth-grader Nolan Byrd, sick of being picked on by class bully Bubba Bixby, uses his brains and creativity to outsmart the Bubba and end his reign of playground terror.

### A Way With Words: Poetry

Giovanni, Nikki. ***Hip Hop Speaks to Children: A Celebration of Poetry With a Beat*** \*

Compiler Giovanni states "Poetry with a beat. Hip Hop Speaks to Children is a delightful and enlightening collection of poetry from various poets.

Hughes, Langston. ***The Dream Keeper and Other Poems*** \*\*

A collection of sixty-six poems selected by the author for young readers, including lyrical poems, songs, and blues, many exploring the black experience.

Janeczko, Paul B. (ed.). ***A Kick in the Head*** \*

A fun selection of children's poetry which illustrates the different forms of poetry, including sonnet, couplet, ballad, elegy, and ode.

## Entering 5 – 6

Kennedy, Caroline. ***A Family of Poems: My Favorite Poetry for Children*** \*\*

Caroline Kennedy has assembled a collection of poems families are sure to enjoy for years to come.

Rosen, Michael J. ***The Cuckoo's Haiku: And Other Birding Poems*** \*

In sparse and graceful words, poet and birder Michael J. Rosen captures essential characteristics of more than twenty commonly seen North American birds.

Sidman, Joyce. ***Swirl by Swirl: Spirals in Nature*** \*

Poems and lush illustrations celebrate the shape of a spiral in nature, from rushing rivers to flower buds and even the shape of an ear.

Wardlaw, Lee. ***Won-Ton: a Cat Tale Told in Haiku*** \*

Won-Ton's story is told in haiku. This title shows that poetry can be fun, free, and immediate, even as it follows traditional structure.

Wong, Janet S. ***A Suitcase of Seaweed and Other Poems*** \*

With a sense of pride in her Korean, Chinese, and American background, Janet Wong's poetry reflects some of the differences between Chinese and Korean customs and culture and the American way of life.

Worth, Valerie. ***All the Small Poems and Fourteen More*** \*

These small poems celebrate ordinary things. In lines of one or two words, Worth captures the essence of a thing, and with her keen observations, makes us see it sharp and fresh.

Schwartz, David. ***How Much is a Million?***

Ever wonder just what a million of something means? How about a billion? Or a trillion?

Schwartz, David. ***On Beyond a Million***

Professor X and his dog, Y, teach kids how to count exponentially by powers of 10 (1, 10, 100, 1,000, 10,000, etc.), beginning at 1 and working all the way up to a googol (a 1 followed by 100 zeros) and beyond. Children fascinated by large numbers will be amazed how quickly they can count to really BIG numbers, and they'll also find answers to questions like "What comes after a trillion?" or "What's the biggest number in the world?"

## Books on Summer Math Calendar

Demi. ***One Grain of Rice***

This is the story of Rani, a clever girl who outsmarts a very selfish raja and saves her village. When offered a reward for a good deed, she asks only for one grain of rice, doubled each day for 30 days.

Mitsumasa, Anno. ***Anno's Mysterious Multiplying Jar***

Simple text and pictures introduce the mathematical concept of factorials.

Murphy, Stuart. ***Divide and Ride***

Scream down the Dare-Devil Coaster and whirl around in the Twin Spin cars! Join in the carnival fun as 11 friends divide up to fit on the 2-to-a-seat roller coaster and the 4-to-a-cup teacups ride. Making new friends and practicing predivision skills have never been so exciting.

Murphy, Stuart. ***Lemonade for Sale***

Four kids and their sidekick, Petey the parrot, run a sometimes thriving lemonade stand whose patrons include all kinds of wacky neighbors, even a juggler. They create a bar graph to track the rise and fall of their lemonade sales.

# Notes

