



**Trumbull Public Schools
Summer 2011 Reading List
Middle School**



Dear Parents,

Reading is an enjoyable pastime during the summer. Research shows that reading just a few minutes a day significantly increases a child's reading ability. Your support is essential. Encouraging your child to participate is important for a rewarding summer reading program.

The Curriculum Department recommends that you review this list and make your own decisions based on the suitability of the books for your individual child.

Your child is required to read two books this summer. While the books on the list are recommended, you may supplement the selections with books you and your child enjoy.

Your child should record the titles and number of pages for each book read and return this list to his/her teacher during the first week of school.

Enjoy a wonderful summer of reading!

FICTION



Cornelia Audacious and the Escapades of the Somerset Sisters Lesley M. M. Blume

Discover the adventures of Cornelia and her love of words, an unforgettable cast of characters and a mischievous French bulldog.



Satch and Me

Dan Gutman

Thirteen-year-old Joe Stosh travels back in time to clock the fast ball of famous pitcher Satchel Paige.



Hero

Mike Lupica

Zach Harriman thought he knew his dad. And then, Tom Harriman's plane crashes under mysterious circumstances, and everything Zach thought he knew about his father explodes with it.



Faith, Hope, and Ivy June

Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

During a student exchange program, seventh graders Ivy June and Catherine share their lives, home and communities and find that although their lifestyles are total opposites, they have a lot in common.

GORDON
KORMAN



Pop

Gordon Korman

When Marcus moves to a new town, he strikes up an unlikely friendship with Charlie. He can't believe his good luck when he finds out that Charlie is actually Charlie Popovich, a former NFL linebacker.



Ninth Ward

Jewell Parker Rhodes

Twelve-year old Laneshia lives in the ninth ward in New Orleans. When her Mama Ya-Ya predicts Hurricane Katrina, it's up to Laneshia to call on hope and strength to help survive the storm.



Thunder from the Sea

Joan Hiatt Harlow

Just when his dreams of being part of a family and having a dog seem to be coming true, Tom wonders if trouble with neighbors and a new baby will change everything.



My Life in Pink and Green

Lisa Greenwald

While coping with her family's financial problems, twelve-year old Lucy, an aspiring make-up artist, hatches a plan to help the family's money problems through a business idea all her own.



Attack of the Turtle

Drew Carlson

During the Revolutionary war, Nathan joins forces with his cousin, the inventor David Bushnell, to secretly build the first submarine to be used in naval warfare.



Storm Runners

Roland Smith

Chase Masters and his father are storm runners racing across the country in pursuit of hurricanes. But when the hurricane of the century hits, he will be tested in ways he never could have imagined.



Hit the Road

Caroline Cooney

Sixteen-year-old Brit is illegally driving her Nannie and two other elderly women to their 65th college reunion.



The Last Shot

John Feinstein

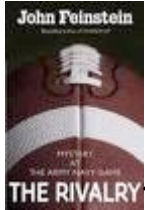
Two middle school students become reporters for the Final Four NCAA basketball tournament.



The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate

Jacqueline Kelly

In 1899, Calpurnia is expected to learn household tasks, but she'd rather spend time with her grandfather observing and collecting plants.



The Rivalry: Mystery at the Army and Navy Game

John Feinstein

In their latest adventure, precocious 14-year-old reporters Stevie Thomas and Susan Carol Anderson get a chance to help major Washington newspapers cover the Army-Navy football game and stumble across an illegal gambling racket.



Wild Man Island

Will Hobbs

After fourteen-year-old Andy slips away from his kayaking group, a storm strands him on an island where he must survive.



Heat

Mike Lupica

Michael Arroyo has a pitching arm that throws serious heat. But that firepower is nothing compared to the heat Michael faces in his day-to-day life.



Race for the Sky: The Kitty Hawk Diaries of Johnny Moore Dan Gutman

Among those who saw the first flight at Kitty Hawk was a teenager named Johnny Moore. Gutman imagines Moore's journal, in this novel, which includes an eyewitness account of the attempt to get the first plane off the North Carolina dunes.



Masterpiece

Elise Broach

James, a boy who lives with his family in a grand apartment on the Upper East Side of Manhattan, and Marvin, a beetle whose extended family resides behind James' mother's kitchen, find themselves embroiled in a plot to steal a Dürer drawing from the Metropolitan Museum. They must find creative ways to communicate to foil the thieves and protect the masterpiece.



Go Big Or Go Home

Will Hobbs

In the Black Hills of South Dakota one dark summer night, a meteor crashes down to Earth and into Brady's bedroom. While days go by, strange and weird things start happening to Brady.



A Dog's Life: Autobiography of a Stray

Ann M. Martin

In this "autobiography" of a dog named Squirrel, a stray, separated from its family in puppyhood, finds its way in the world.



Eleven

Patricia Reilly Giff

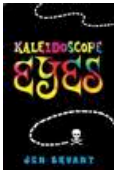
Sam doesn't know why he fears the number eleven, but as his 11th birthday approaches, he feels a need to explore his past. When he discovers a locked box and a newspaper clipping in the attic, he learns he might once have been a missing child.



Every Soul A Star

Wendy Mass

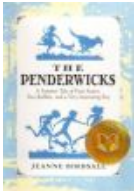
Three young teens witness a total solar eclipse and are changed forever.



Kaleidoscope Eyes

Jen Bryant

In 1968, while the Vietnam War rages, 13 year old Lyza inherits a project from her deceased grandfather, who was using his knowledge of maps and the geography of Lyza's New Jersey hometown to locate the lost treasure of Captain Kidd.



The Penderwicks

Jeanne Birdsall

The Penderwick sisters enjoy a wonderful summer on the grounds of a beautiful estate filled with magic and mystery.



Brooklyn Bridge

Karen Hesse

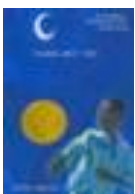
Joe, fourteen, is the first member of his Russian-Jewish family born in the United States. He wonders if he will ever get to go to Coney Island, but in 1903, his life changes when his parents turn their apartment into a teddy-bear factory.



OK for Now

Gary D. Schmidt

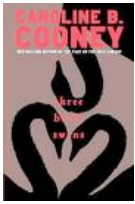
Doug is an 8th grader who, due to his father losing his job, moves to a small town with his family. Amidst multiple family issues, Doug manages to discover much about not only his neighbors, but himself as well.



Trouble Don't Last

Shelley Pearsall

Samuel, an eleven-year-old Kentucky slave, and Harrison, the elderly slave who helped raise him, attempt to escape to Canada via the Underground Railroad.



Three Black Swans

Caroline B. Cooney

A Connecticut sophomore perpetrates a hoax that turns out not to be a hoax at all but instead a revelation of the past that her family and two others must try to deal with and accept.



The Winter War

William Durbin

When the Soviet Union invades its tiny neighbor Finland in November 1939, Marko volunteers to help the war effort.



The Last Dragon

Sarah Weeks

Yorsh and his two human friends, Sajra and Monser, experience a host of comical misunderstandings that offset the dangerous situations they encounter in the Dark Mountains.



Becoming Naomi Leon

Pam Munoz Ryan

Naomi travels to Mexico with her great-grandmother and younger brother in search of her father.



Ashes of Roses

Mary Jane Auch

The Nolan family travels to America in the early 1900s. Rose, the oldest daughter, finds inner strength as she faces her new life in America working at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory.



Little Audrey

Ruth White

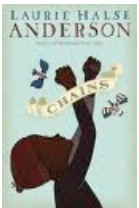
It's 1948, and Audrey lives in a Virginia coal-mining camp with her family. There is great trauma for the White family before the family is able to live a better life.



Kensuke's Kingdom

Michael Morpurgo

A young boy is stranded on a small island with a man from a much different background who helps him survive.



Chains

Laurie Halse Anderson

Isabel is a slave trapped in New York City in the early days of the Revolution.



Lizzie at Last

Claudia Mills

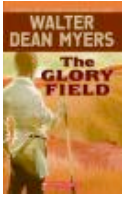
Lizzie, who has always been considered a nerd by the other kids, begins the seventh grade determined to change her image so that she can blend in better with the popular crowd.



The Mysterious Benedict Society

Trenton L. Stewart

After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected to go on a secret mission at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules.



The Glory Field

Walter Dean Myers

Read the saga of an African-American family over five generations.



Backwater

Joan Bauer

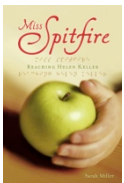
Ivy Breedlove treks into the wilderness to interview her reclusive aunt.



Uprising

Margaret Peterson Haddix

The author draws on extensive historical research to bring the tragedy of the Triangle Shirtwaist fire to life through her story of Yetta, Bella, and Jane.



Miss Spitfire

Sarah Miller

This book traces Annie Sullivan's first experiences with her famous pupil, Helen Keller.

CLASSICS



Old Yeller

Fred Gipson

Enjoy the adventures of a boy and his dog in the wilderness.



Black Beauty

Anna Sewell

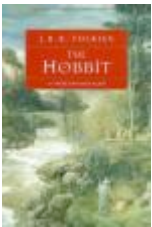
When Black Beauty is just a young colt, his mother warns him that a horse's life is often difficult. This strong, handsome horse meets with many adventures and all types of people.



Anne of Green Gables

L. M. Montgomery

Eleven-year-old Anne Shirley wins the heart of her foster mother in the first of this well-known series.



The Hobbit

J.R.R. Tolkien

Discover the adventures of dwarf-like creatures, the Hobbits, living in Middle Earth.



The Prince and the Pauper

Mark Twain

A prince and a pauper, identical in appearance, change places as a prank.



National Velvet

Enid Bagnold

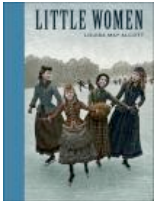
A fourteen-year-old girl rides her piebald horse in the Grand National.



Fantastic Voyage

Isaac Asimov

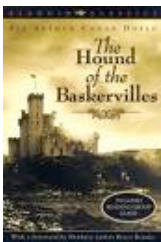
Journey with four men and a woman into the living body of a man as told in this classic science fictional tale.



Little Women

Louisa May Alcott

Share the joys and sorrows of the four March sisters in 19th century New England.



Hound of the Baskervilles

Arthur Conan Doyle

Sherlock Holmes sets out to solve the mystery that haunts the Baskerville family.



Journey to the Center of the Earth

Jules Verne

Geologist Professor Liedenbrock can't resist setting out with his 16-year-old nephew to go where only one man has gone before --- the core of the Earth.



Kontiki

Thor Heyerdahl

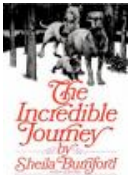
Six men on a small raft sail four thousand miles across the Pacific Ocean, from Peru to the Polynesian Islands.



Johnny Tremain

Esther Forbes

This is the story of a tragically injured young silversmith who ends up hip-deep in the American Revolution.



The Incredible Journey

Sheila Burnford

A young Labrador Retriever, an aging Bull Terrier, and a feisty Siamese cat embark on a dangerous journey home through the Canadian wilderness.

NONFICTION



Behind Enemy Lines

Bill Doyle

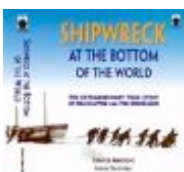
The amazing stories of courage from the American Revolution to current world conflicts.



Up Close: Theodore Roosevelt

Michael L. Cooper

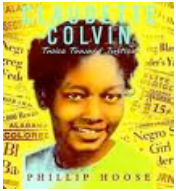
This extremely readable biography portrays the 26th president's full and varied life as a naturalist, cowboy, soldier, author, loving husband, doting father, civil servant, and unexpected (but very successful) president.



Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World

J. Armstrong

This story follows Shackleton and his crew on their 1914 Antarctic Expedition.



Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice

Philip M. Hoose

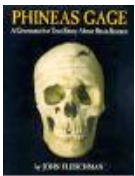
In Montgomery, AL, March 1955, 15-year-old Colvin refused to give up her bus seat to a white passenger. Colvin played a central role in the city's civil rights drama, but her story has been largely lost in the shadow of Rosa Parks.



Children of the Dust Bowl

Jerry Stanley

Read about the plight of the migrant workers who traveled from the Dust Bowl to California during the Depression.



Phineas Gage

John Fleischman

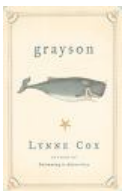
The story of a construction foreman, who, in 1848, survived ten years after a 13 pound iron rod shot through his brain.



Longitude: The True Story of a Lone Genius

Dava Sobel

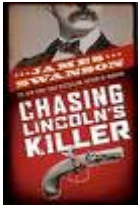
Read how John Harrison developed a clock that measured longitude.



Grayson

Lynne Cox

In this memoir, Cox details a morning swim off the coast of California that took an unexpected turn: returning to shore, she discovered that she was being followed by a baby gray whale that had been separated from its mother.



Chasing Lincoln's Killer

James L. Swanson

This is an account of Lincoln's assassination and the 12-day search for his killer.



An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793

Jim Murphy

History, science, politics, and public health come together in this account of the yellow fever epidemic.



American Revolutionaries

Milton Meltzer

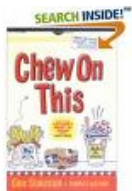
Young people at the time of the American Revolution describe historical events.



Gizmos and Gadgets: Creating Science Contraptions that Work and Knowing Why

J. Hauser

Besides providing instructions for making contraptions, this book explains how to think like an inventor.



Chew on This

Eric Schlosser and Charles Wilson

Read about the fast-food industry's growth, practices, and effects on public health. The author lays out the details behind the tasty burgers and sandwiches of fast food restaurants.



Girls and Their Horses

American Girl Library

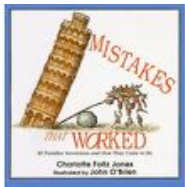
Text and photographs present stories of girls who ride in rodeos, train miniature horses and wild ponies, and live on a horse farm.



Kindred Spirit

Catherine M. Andronik

Discover the personal and literary career of the Canadian writer best known for her novels about Anne of Green Gables.



Mistakes That Worked

Charlotte Foltz-Jones

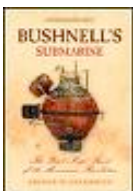
Learn about forty familiar inventions and how they came to be.



Bonanza Gold

Pierre Berton

Discover the characters and stories about the beginning of Canada's great Klondike gold rush.



Bushnell's Submarine

Arthur Lefkowitz

This book relates the story of America's first submarine, the *American Turtle*, used during the Revolutionary War.



Gold Rush Dogs

Iaire Rudolf Murphy

Read about the notable dogs of the *Gold Rush* era.



Keeper of Lime Rock

Lenore Skomal

This is the remarkable true story of Ida Lewis, America's most celebrated lighthouse keeper.