

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading List for Summer 2015

**All students are encouraged to read throughout the summer.** Please keep a log of all that you read! You can download the *6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading Log* from the library website, or create a journal of your own. **Students entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade are to read at least 3 books.**

1. Please read the following book for English:

Law, Ingrid. **Savvy**

2. Chose 2 more books to read: at least one should be from the following list:

**Appelt, Kathi. *The Underneath*.** Chained by cruel trapper Gar Face, lonely hound Ranger finds companions in a stray cat and her two kittens. When Mother Cat falls victim to Gar Face's abuse, the surviving animals, especially sensitive kitten Puck, struggle to keep their makeshift family together. The animals' caring, generous bonds juxtapose with the smothering love of an ancient shape shifter in a moving parallel story.

**Balliett, Blue. *The Wright 3*.** In the midst of a series of unexplained accidents and mysterious coincidences, sixth graders Calder, Petra, and Tommy lead their classmates in an attempt to keep Frank Lloyd Wright's famous Robie House from being demolished.

**Bloor, Edward. *Tangerine*.** Twelve year old Paul, who lives in the shadow of his football hero brother, fights for the right to play soccer despite his near blindness. Slowly he begins to remember the incident that damaged his eyesight.

**Buckley Archer, Linda. *Gideon the Cutpurse*.** Ignored by his father and sent to Derbyshire for the weekend, twelve year old Peter and his new friend, Kate, are accidentally transported back in time to 1763 England where they are befriended by a reformed cutpurse.

**Cooper, Susan. *Over Sea Under Stone*.** A great story about Good and Evil in the fight to control the Holy Grail – a modern setting to the King Arthur legend. The first book in the series *The Dark Is Rising*.

**Creech, Sharon. *Heartbeat*.** Twelve year old Annie ponders the many rhythms of life the year that her mother becomes pregnant, her grandfather begins faltering, and her best friend (and running partner) becomes distant.

**Cushman, Karen. *The Ballad of Lucy Whipple*.** Twelve year old Lucy helps her mom run a boarding house during California's Gold Rush.

**Dowd, Siobhan. *The London Eye Mystery*.** When Ted and Kat's cousin Salim disappears from the London Eye ferris wheel, the two siblings must work together Ted with his brain that is "wired differently" and impatient Kat to try to solve the mystery of what happened.

**DuPrau, Jeanne. *The City of Ember (series)*.** In the year 241, twelve year old Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a Messenger to run to new places in her decaying but beloved city, perhaps even to glimpse Unknown Regions.

**Enzensberger, Hans Magnus. *The Number Devil: a Mathematical Adventure*.** Annoyed with his math teacher who assigns word problems and won't let him use a calculator, twelve year old Robert finds help from the number devil in his dreams.

**Funke, Cornelia. *The Thief Lord*.** Two brothers, having run away from the aunt who plans to adopt the younger one, are sought by a detective hired by their aunt, but they have found shelter with and protection from Venice's "Thief Lord."

**Gaiman, Neil. *Coraline*.** – Coraline ventures through a mysterious door into a world that is similar, yet disturbingly different from her own, where she must challenge a gruesome entity in order to save herself, her parents, and the souls of three others.

**Gantos, Jack. *Joey Pigza (series)*** “In this rollercoaster of a series, ingeniously and breathlessly narrated by Joey himself, readers are treated to an up close introduction to life with attention deficit disorder or being wired, as Joey puts it. Readers of this compelling tragicomedy will know almost from the start that Joey's not just a good kid he's a great kid!

**Grabenstein, Chris. *Escape From Mr. Lemoncello's Library*.** The world's most famous game maker, Luigi Lemoncello, has just designed a brand new, state of the art library in his hometown, and he's invited 12 lucky seventh graders to stay the night. Avid gamer Kyle Keeley jumps at the chance. Kyle is elated when his essay is chosen, and he gets to be among the first to wander the halls of one of the most interactive libraries ever. Kyle and the other contestants have 24 hours to find a secret exit out of the building and win a spectacular prize..

**Hesse, Karen. *Music of the Dolphins*.** After rescuing an adolescent girl from the sea, researchers learn she has been raised by dolphins and attempt to rehabilitate her to the human world.

**Ibbotson, Eva. *The Star of Kazan*.** After twelve year old Annika, a foundling living in late nineteenth century Vienna, inherits a trunk of costume jewelry, a woman claiming to be her aristocratic mother arrives and takes her to live in a strangely decrepit mansion in Germany.

**Klages, Ellen. *The Green Glass Sea*.** 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, and befriends an aspiring artist who is a misfit just like her.

**Lupica, Mike. *Heat*.** – Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old and he has no parents to offer them proof.

**Mata, Julie. *Kate Walden Directs: Night of the Zombie Chickens*.** Kate Walden's breakout film. But her supporting actresses her mother's prize organic hens are high maintenance, to say the least.

**Park, Linda Sue. *A Long Walk to Water*** When the Sudanese civil war reaches his village in 1985, eleven year old Salva becomes separated from his family and must walk with other tribe members through southern Sudan, Ethiopia, and Kenya in search of safe haven. Based on the life of Salva Dut, who, after emigrating to America in 1996, began a project to dig water wells in Sudan.

**Peck, Richard.** *A Long Way from Chicago.* – A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger than life grandmother. The story continues in the sequel, *A Year Down Yonder*, when 15 year old Mary Alice is sent to live with her feisty grandmother.

**Philbrick, Rodman.** *Freak the Mighty.* At the beginning of eighth grade, learning disabled Max and his new friend Freak, whose birth defect has affected his body but not his brilliant mind, find that when they combine forces they make a powerful team.

**Ryan, Pam Muñoz.** *Becoming Naomi León.* When Naomi's absent mother resurfaces to claim her, Naomi runs away to Mexico with her great grandmother and younger brother in search of her father.

**Schlitz, Laura Amy.** *Splendors and Glooms.* Victorian London could be a magical place: horse drawn carriages, puppet shows, elaborate houses. Of course it could also be miserable: fog, filthy streets, and shabby hovels. Then someone disappears, and a search begins: with the sinister and mysterious help of an old witch. Rich with supernatural elements and suspense.

**Selznick, Brian.** *Wonderstruck.* The stories of twelve year old Ben, who loses his mother and his hearing in a short time frame and decides to leave his home in 1977 to seek the father he's never known in New York City; and Rose, who lives with her father but feels compelled to search for what is missing in her life. Ben's story is told in words; Rose's in pictures.

**Soto, Gary.** *Baseball in April and Other Stories.* – Eleven tales about everyday problems of growing up: the main characters try out for Little League, take karate lessons, and get embarrassed by their grandparents' behavior.

**Stead, Rebecca.** *When You Reach Me.* – (A companion book to *A Wrinkle in Time*) As her mother prepares to be a contestant on a 1980s television game show, a twelve year old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seems to defy the laws of time and space. (2010 Newbery Medal)

**Stewart, Trenton Lee.** *The Mysterious Benedict Society (series).* After passing a series of mind bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules.

**Turnage, Sheila.** *Three Times Lucky.* Miss Moses LoBeau lives in the small town of Tupelo Landing, NC, where everyone's business is fair game and no secret is sacred. She washed ashore in a hurricane eleven years ago, and she's been making waves ever since. When a lawman comes to town asking about a murder, Mo and her best friend, Dale Earnhardt Johnson III, set out to uncover the truth in hopes of saving the only family Mo has ever known.