



The mission of the Shaker City Schools Library Media Program is to ensure that all students and staff are effective users of information and ideas.

Recommended Reading for Middle School, Grades 7 & 8

Strong reading skills are the key to student achievement and lifelong learning. This reading list is intended as an aid in choosing books to provide rich reading experiences for middle schoolers.

Professional school librarians work with all students to build strong skills in locating, accessing and analyzing information. This begins with the retelling of stories in the earliest grades, through the teaching of sophisticated web evaluation strategies for older students. These critical thinking skills serve students well throughout their school career and beyond.

Resources

The Internet has increased our resources for learning, but also overwhelms us in its quantity, with no assurance of quality. Our goal is to help our students make good selections and learn to judge the quality and intent of information in all formats. In addition to strong book collections in all our school buildings, we provide online resources for students and families to use. Go to our home page www.shaker.org. Click "Resources for Learning" and you will find a link to "Library Resources." Here you can find online databases, curriculum-based web links and the online catalog for our school libraries. Some of these resources require a password, which is available from your child's school library or from the District Library Media Office. For Middle School students, we particularly recommend EBSCO *Middle Search* for online full-text magazine articles, *Newsbank* for local and national newspaper articles and *World Book Online*.

The books on this list are available in your school library and at the Shaker Heights Public Library. You will also see other forms of the books as indicated by the following symbols:



Available on CD in the Shaker Heights Public Library



Available on cassette in the Shaker Heights Public Library

Reading Links

American Library Association's Teen Read Page

<http://www.ala.org/teenread/>

Get lists of recommended books, tips for reading, surveys to fill out and more at this site.

Internet Public Library Teen Division

<http://www.ipl.org>

The Internet Public Library's home page has a link to TeenSpace, where you'll find all sorts of reading lists and other activities to help in your studies and leisure interests.

YALSA Booklists and Book Awards

<http://www.ala.org/yalsa>

Librarians rate the best for young adults, from nonfiction to college bound reading to graphic novels.

New York Public Library's Teen Links

<http://teenlink.nypl.org/index.html>

A variety of booklists are linked under the "On the Shelf" heading. Select "Browse all Books" to link to "Books for the Teen Age."

Read On

http://www.hclib.org/teens/Read_Authors.cfm

Find author blogs and websites, as well as book reviews by teen readers.

Reading Rants: Out of the Ordinary Teen Book Lists <http://www.readingrants.org/>

Librarian Jennifer Hubert Swan offers a "thinking teen's" set of book suggestions, organized by topic.

For more information about the Shaker Heights Schools Library Media Program, call (216) 295-1400.

Acampora, Paul *Defining Dulcie*

When Dulcie's father dies, her mother makes a decision to move them to California, where Dulcie makes an equally radical decision to steal her dad's old truck and head back home. *Fiction*

Aguilar, David A. *11 Planets: A New View of the Solar System*

Aguilar uses brilliant photo-realistic illustrations and fascinating up-to-date facts straight from the latest astronomy news to bring you a comprehensive look at our solar system. *Nonfiction*

Anderson, Laurie Halse *Chains*

After being sold to a cruel couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War. *Fiction*

Anderson, Laurie Halse *Speak*  

A traumatic event near summer's end has a devastating effect on Melinda's freshman year in high school. *Fiction*

Armstrong, Jennifer *Photo by Brady: A Picture of the Civil War*

Renowned photographer Matthew Brady documented the course of the Civil War in a way that had never been done before. *Nonfiction*

Ashland, Monk *The Sky Village*

In a future where wild beasts, humans, and mechanical beings battle for control, 2 children on opposite sides of the earth, connect through a mysterious journal that comes alive, revealing a powerful primal force and a frightening destiny. *Fiction*

Asimov, Isaac *Foundation and Earth* 

Asimov chronicles the rise and fall of the Galactic Empire in this science fiction series which includes *Foundation and Empire*, *Second Foundation*, *Foundation's Edge*, *Foundation*, *Prelude to Foundation*, and *Forward the Foundation*. *Fiction*

Avi *Beyond the Western Sea: Book 1: The Escape from Home and Book 2: Lord Kirtle's Money* 

Maura and her younger brother meet their landlord's runaway son in Liverpool when they are driven from their poor Irish village. Their fates intertwine on board ship and in America. *Fiction*

Balliett, Blue *The Calder Game*

When 7th-grader Calder Pillay disappears from a remote English village, his friends Petra and Tommy fly from Chicago to help his father find him. *Fiction*

Barron, T. A. *The Lost Years of Merlin; The Seven Songs of Merlin; Fires of Merlin; The Merlin Effect; The Mirror of Merlin* 

Merlin has no memory of his past when he washes ashore on the coast of Wales. Eventually he helps King Arthur found Camelot. *Fiction*

Bauer, Joan *Peeled*

High school reporter Hildy Biddle investigates strange occurrences at a house rumored to be haunted. *Fiction*

Beam, Matt *Can You Spell Revolution?*

New student Clouds MacFadden joins forces with 4 other 8th graders against their boring teacher and their principal's rules. They take a lesson from history and plot a revolution at Laverton Middle School. *Fiction*

Beccia, Carlyn *The Raucous Royals: Test Your Royal Wits: Crack Codes, Solve Mysteries, and Deduce Which Royal Rumors Are True*

What do Dracula and Marie Antoinette have in common? Misinformation! See how truth can become twisted over time in this combination of picture book, graphic novel, and tabloid magazine featuring famous leaders in history. *Nonfiction*

Beker, Jeanne *Passion for Fashion: Careers in Style*

This practical career guide details the ins and outs of fashion production, capturing the inspiration and passion of the fashion industry, from designers, models, photographers, stylists and colorists. *Nonfiction*

Bernier-Grand, Carmen T. *Frida: Viva La Vida = Long Live Life*

Poems highlight the turbulent life and colorful work of Mexican artist Frida Kahlo. *Poetry*

Bloor, Edward *Tangerine*

Paul lives in the shadow of his brother Erik, a football star. When Paul fights for the right to play soccer, despite his near blindness, he begins to remember the incident that damaged his eyesight. *Fiction*

Boas, Jacob *We are Witnesses*

Using the unfinished diaries of 5 Jewish teenagers, Holocaust survivor Jacob Boas bears powerful witness to ordinary families as they were crowded into ghettos, persecuted, and murdered. *Nonfiction*

Bodeen, S.A. *The Compound*

Eli and his family spend 6 years in a vast underground compound built by his wealthy father to protect them from a nuclear holocaust. Eli discovers that his father has lied to them all. *Fiction*

Bondoux, Anne-Laure *The Killer's Tears*

When Angel Allegria arrives at the Poloverdos' farmhouse, he kills the farmer and his wife, but spares their child, Paolo. Together the killer and the boy begin a new life in a remote area of Chile. *Fiction*

Borden, Sara *Middle School: How to Deal*

With humor, 5 middle school girls write about how to navigate middle school and deal with the changes in your life. *Nonfiction*

Boyne, John *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*

Bored and lonely after his family moves from Berlin to a place called "Out-With" in 1942, Bruno, the son of a Nazi officer, befriends a boy in striped pajamas who lives behind a wire fence. *Fiction*

Budhos, Marina *Ask Me No Questions*

Nadira and her family leave Bangladesh for New York City, but the expiration of their visas and the events of September 11, 2001, bring frustration, sorrow, and terror for the whole family. *Fiction*

Burns, Olive Ann *Cold Sassy Tree* 

Will Tweedy, a 14-year-old boy in a Georgia town at the turn of the century, must adjust to the news that his Grandpa Rucker has married a young woman barely three weeks after Grandma's death. *Fiction*

Cabot, Meg *All-American Girl* 

Red-haired "urban rebel" Samantha Madison stops a Presidential assassination attempt, becomes teen ambassador to the United Nations and dates the President's son in this hilarious tale. *Fiction*

Carbone, Elisa *Blood on the River: James Town 1607*

When Samuel Collier boards a ship bound for the New World as Captain John Smith's page, he can't believe his good fortune. Samuel can be whoever he wants in Jamestown, but so can everyone else. *Fiction*

Choldenko, Gennifer *Al Capone Does My Shirts*

Moose leaves his friends behind when his family moves to Alcatraz Island so his sister can go to a special school. He joins the warden's daughter in a moneymaking scheme involving Al Capone. *Fiction*

Collins, Suzanne *The Hunger Games*

In the futuristic world of Panem, control is maintained by an annual televised survival competition that pits young people from each of the 12 districts against one another. Katniss is put to the test when she volunteers to take her younger sister's place. *Fiction*

Cooney, Caroline B. *The Terrorist*

Laura, an American living in London, tries to find the person responsible for the terrorist bombing death of her brother Billy. *Fiction*

Cormier, Robert *The Chocolate War*  

A high school freshman refuses to join in the school's annual fund-raising drive and arouses the wrath of the school bullies. *Fiction*

Crane, Stephen *The Red Badge of Courage* 

This is a psychological portrait of a country boy who, as a Civil War soldier, must cope with indifference to the horrors of war. *Fiction*

Crutcher, Chris *Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes*

Formerly obese Eric "Moby" Calhoun helps friend Sarah, disfigured at the age of 3, face the world after years of abuse. *Fiction*

Cushman, Karen *The Midwife's Apprentice* 

A young, homeless waif in medieval England finds out she's not ugly or stupid or alone. *Fiction*

Daldry, Jeremy *The Teenage Guy's Survival Guide: The Real Deal on Girls, Growing Up, and Other Guy Stuff*

Boys, you'll like this practical guide to modern life, loaded with advice that'll keep you laughing *and* make you the coolest guy! *Nonfiction*

Deem, James M. *Bodies from the Ice: Melting Glaciers and the Rediscovery of the Past*

Glaciers are now offering up secrets from the past. In the 1990s, 2 mountain climbers discovered on the Austrian border the oldest human mummy on record. *Nonfiction*

Dobkin, Bonnie *Neptune's Children*

When a biological terrorist attack kills all adults on Earth, children stranded at an amusement park work together to survive, led by Milo, whose father was an engineer there. *Fiction*

Dowell, Frances O'Roark *Shooting the Moon*

When her brother is sent to fight in Vietnam, Jamie begins to reconsider the army world that she has grown up in. *Fiction*

Draper, Sharon *Copper Sun*

Two girls - one a black slave and the other a white indentured servant - escape their Carolina plantation and try to make their way to Fort Moses, Florida, a Spanish colony that gives sanctuary to slaves. *Fiction*

Draper, Sharon *Darkness Before Dawn; Forged By Fire; Tears of a Tiger*

Keisha grieves her boyfriend's suicide; Gerald tries to protect his sister from abuse; and Andy was drinking and driving when his best friend was killed - all in the Hazelwood High series books. *Fiction*

Duncan, Lois *Gallows Hill*

When Sarah works in the fortune-telling booth at a school carnival, she finds that she really sees the future in the crystal ball. This disturbs some of the other students who think she may be a witch. *Fiction*

Engle, Margarita *The Poet Slave of Cuba: A Biography of Juan Francisco Manzano*

Juan was born into the household of wealthy slave-owners in Cuba. His poetry was his outlet, reflecting both the beauty and the cruelty of his world. *Poetry*

Engle, Margarita *The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom*

In free verse and using alternating voices Engle tells the story of Cuba's 3 wars for independence from Spain. *Poetry*

Feinstein, John *Last Shot* 

While covering basketball's Final Four tournament, Stevie and Susan Carol discover that a talented player is being blackmailed. *Fiction*

Flake, Sharon *Bang!* 

A teenage boy faces the harsh realities of inner city life, a disintegrating family, and destructive temptations after his younger brother is shot in an act of random violence. *Fiction*

Flake, Sharon *The Skin I'm In* 

Maleeka is uncomfortable because her skin is extremely dark. When she meets a new teacher who has a birthmark on her face, Maleeka discovers how to love who she is and to accept what she looks like. *Fiction*

Fleming, Candace *Ben Franklin's Almanac: Being a True Account of the Good Gentleman's Life*

A unique scrapbook-style captures the spirit of Ben Franklin, exploring his efforts at invention and his role in America's founding. *Biography*

Freedman, Russell *Freedom Walkers: The Story of the Montgomery Bus Boycott*

Noted writer Russell Freedman covers the events surrounding the Montgomery Bus Boycott, which marked the beginning of the end of segregation on buses. Illustrated with photographs. *Nonfiction*

Freedman, Russell *The Wright Brothers: How They Invented the Airplane*

Read the amazing story of the first powered, controlled airplane flight and the men behind it. Many of the stunning black-and-white photographs were taken by the Wright Brothers themselves. *Biography*

Friesner, Esther M. *Nobody's Princess*

Headstrong Helen, determined to fend for herself in a world where only men have real freedom, disguises herself as a boy so she can fight, hunt, and ride horses. She becomes Queen of Sparta - Helen of Troy. *Fiction*

Funke, Cornelia *Inkheart*

Meggie, who shares her father's gift of bringing fictional characters to life, wants to send the villain Capricorn back between the pages where he belongs. Read other titles in this trilogy: *Inkspell* and *Inkdeath*. *Fiction*

Funke, Cornelia *The Thief Lord*  

Welcome to the magical underworld of Venice, Italy, where hidden canals, an old theater, and crumbling rooftops shelter runaways and children with incredible secrets - the world of the Thief Lord. *Fiction*

Gardner, Sally *The Red Necklace: A Story of the French Revolution*

Sido, daughter of a self-indulgent marquis, and Yann, a Gypsy orphan raised to perform in a magic show, face a common enemy at the start of the French Revolution. *Fiction*

Gifford, Clive *Ten Leaders Who Changed the World*

Gifford profiles the lives of 20th century leaders such as Gandhi, Castro, and Mandela, who have impacted the course of recent history. *Nonfiction*

Golding, Julia *The Diamond of Drury Lane*

Orphan Catherine "Cat" Royal lives at the Drury Lane Theater in 1790s London. She seeks the "diamond" hidden in the theater, unmasking a treasonous political cartoonist and involving her in the gangs of Covent Garden. Read other titles in the *Cat Among the Pigeons* series. *Fiction*

Grandits, John *Technically, It's Not My Fault: Concrete Poems*

You'll enjoy these visual, funny poems that explore moments like a boring school day, a baseball game, a sick day and more. *Poetry*

Grant, K. M. *Blue Flame*

Enemies from the north endanger the Blue Flame, and young lovers Raimon and Yolanda are enmeshed in the 13th century Occitanian conflict, facing separation and death in this first book of a trilogy. *Fiction*

Greenberg, David. *A Tugging String: A Novel About Growing Up During the Civil Rights Era*

Greenberg bases this novel on his experiences growing up in Great Neck, NY, during the turbulent civil rights struggles of the 1950s and 1960s, when his father was a lawyer for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. *Fiction*

Guy, Rosa *The Disappearance*

The disappearance of the daughter of a Brooklyn family casts suspicion on a juvenile offender from Harlem who has come to live with them. *Fiction*

Haddix, Margaret Peterson *Found*

Adopted boys Jonah and Chip receive mysterious letters warning that someone is coming back to get them. They are caught in a mystery involving the FBI, smuggling, and people who appear and disappear at will. *Found* is the first book in "The Missing" series. *Fiction*

Hahn, Mary D. *Look For Me by Moonlight*

At the remote, reputedly haunted Maine inn run by her father and pregnant stepmother, Cynda feels isolated from her father's new family. She finds solace in a charming, mysterious guest. *Fiction*

Hale, Shannon *Rapunzel's Revenge*

In this Old West version of the story, Rapunzel is raised in a villa surrounded by towering walls. When she learns that her real mother, Kate, is a slave in Gothel's gold mine, Rapunzel climbs over the wall and teams up with an outlaw named Jack to save her. *Graphic Novel*

Hamilton, Virginia *The People Could Fly: American Black Folktales*

This anthology of African-American folktales uses animals, fantasy, and the supernatural to convey the sorrow of slaves as well as their hope and desire for freedom. Illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon. *Folk Tale*

Haney, Eric L. *Inside Delta Force: The Story of America's Elite Counterterrorist unit*

One of its founding operatives finally tells the story of how Delta Force, America's elite counterterrorism unit, came to be. *Nonfiction*

Harness, Cheryl *The Groundbreaking, Chance-taking Life of George Washington Carver and Science & Invention in America*

Confederate raiders kidnap young Carver and sell his family to Arkansas slaveholders. Too ill to work in the fields, he spends his days studying plants and becomes the first black student and later the first black faculty member at the state university. *Biography*

Herlong, Madaline *The Great Wide Sea*

Still mourning the death of their mother, 3 brothers sail with their father on an extended sailing trip off the Florida Keys and have a harrowing adventure at sea. *Fiction*

Hesse, Karen *Out of the Dust* 

Billie Joe relates in verse the hardships of living in Oklahoma during the Depression and her healing from a family tragedy. *Fiction*

Hiaasen, Carl *Scat*

Nick and his friend Marta decide to investigate when a mysterious fire starts near a Florida wildlife preserve and an unpopular teacher goes missing. *Fiction*

Holt, Kimberly Willis *When Zachary Beaver Came to Town*

Toby and his best friend Cal meet the star of a sideshow act, 600-pound Zachary, the fattest boy in the world. Amid tears and laughter their summer is transformed through their friendship. *Fiction*

Horowitz, Anthony *Eagle Strike* 

Teen spy Alex Rider survives a bullfight, a high-speed bicycle chase, and a human video-game only to face his most disturbing challenge yet! You'll come back for more in this series: *Stormbreaker*, *Point Blank*, *Skeleton Key*, *Scorpia*, *Ark Angel*, and *Snakehead*. *Fiction*

Johnson, Angela *Bird*

As Bird follows her stepfather from Cleveland to Alabama, she meets Ethan, a heart transplant recipient, and Jay, who mourns his brother's death. How can they overcome the heartbreak in their lives? *Fiction*

Johnson, Angela *The First Part Last* 

At 16, Bobby is an artist and a single father. Read about his life "now" as he talks about caring for baby Feather and "then" as he remembers her mother's pregnancy. *Fiction*

Kadohata, Cynthia *Weedflower*

Sumiko and her Japanese-American family are relocated from their Californian farm to an internment camp in Arizona. She becomes friends with a local Indian boy, and dreams of owning a flower shop. *Fiction*

Korman, Gordon *Son of the Mob* 

Vince is the son of a powerful Mafia boss. How will this affect his romance with the daughter of an FBI agent? *Fiction*

Kuhlman, Evan *The Last Invisible Boy*

In the wake of his father's sudden death, Finn feels he is becoming invisible as his hair and skin become whiter by the day. He writes and illustrates a book to try to understand what is happening and to hold on to himself and his father. *Fiction*

Lasky, Kathryn *Beyond the Burning Time*

When accusations of witchcraft surface in her New England village in 1691, Mary fights to save her mother from execution. *Fiction*

L'Engle, Madeleine *Troubling A Star*

As she tries to stay alive stranded on an iceberg in the Antarctic, 16-year-old Vicky Austin recalls the series of events that brought her to the bottom of the world and involved her in a dangerous mystery. *Fiction*

Levine, Gail C. *Ella Enchanted*  

In this novel based on the story of Cinderella, Ella struggles against the childhood curse that forces her to obey any order given to her. *Fiction*

Lipsyte, Robert *Heroes of Baseball: The Men Who Made It America's Favorite Game*

Read about men who did more than hit home runs or pitch perfect games. These heroes changed the way America looks at itself and the goals we set as people and as a nation. *Nonfiction*

Lisle, Holly *The Ruby Key*

In a world where an uneasy peace binds Humans and Nightlings, Genna and her brother Dan learn of their uncle's plot to gain immortality in exchange for human lives. They strike their own bargain with the Nightling lord. *Fiction*

Lisle, Janet Taylor *Black Duck*

Ruben Hart tells the story of how, in 1929 in Newport, Rhode Island, his family and his best friend's family were caught up in the violent competition for control of the local rum-smuggling trade. *Fiction*

Lobel, Anita *No Pretty Pictures: A Child of War*

Lobel, a well-known illustrator of children's books, tells of her personal experiences during and after World War II in this unforgettable Holocaust survivor story. *Biography*

Lowry, Lois *The Giver*  

At the Ceremony of Twelve, Jonas becomes the receiver of memories and discovers the terrible truth about the society in which he lives. Read more in *Gathering Blue* and *The Messenger*. Newbery winner. *Fiction*

Lynch, Chris *Extreme Elvin*

As he enters high school, 14-year-old Elvin continues dealing with his weight problem and tries to find his place among his peers. *Fiction*

Marsalis, Wynton *Jazz ABZ*

Trumpeter Marsalis presents personal stylized biographical profiles of 26 legendary jazz performers including Louis Armstrong, Dizzy Gillespie, Ella Fitzgerald, and Count Basie. *Poetry*

Mayer, Robert H. *When the Children Marched: The Birmingham Civil Rights Movement*

In chronicling the Birmingham (AL) civil rights movement, Mayer spotlights the great leaders of the movement and the role of the children who helped fight for equal rights and an end to segregation in Birmingham. *Nonfiction*

McCaffrey, Anne *Dragonflight*; *Dragonquest*; *The White Dragon*; *Nerilka's Story*; *Dragonsdawn*; *The Renegades of Pern*; *All the Weyrs of Pern*

Meet the inhabitants of Pern in the DragonRiders of Pern series: dragons, their riders, fire lizards, and the harpers who sing songs and legends of this land. Read one or all in any order you choose. *Fiction*

McCaughrean, Geraldine *The Kite Rider*

In 13th-century China, Haoyou tries to save his widowed mother from a horrendous second marriage. He takes to the sky as a circus kite rider and meets the great Mongol ruler Kublai Khan. *Fiction*

McKissack, Patricia, and Arlene Zarembka *To Establish Justice: Citizenship and the Constitution*

Our country was founded on principles of freedom and equality. Do all citizens enjoy the same rights? Find out what the Supreme Court has done to support our rights. *Nonfiction*

Moore, Yvette *Freedom Songs*

When her Uncle Pete joins the Freedom Riders down South, Sheryl organizes a gospel concert in Brooklyn to help. *Fiction*

Moranville, Sharelle Byars *A Higher Geometry*

After the death of her grandmother in 1959, Anna is torn between her wish to attend college and her family's expectation that she will marry and be a housewife after high school. *Fiction*

Mortenson, Greg *Three Cups of Tea*

Mountaineer Greg Mortenson recounts being lost on a descent from K2 and saved by people in a remote Pakistani village. In gratitude he returns to build them a school. This becomes his life mission -- building schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan. *Nonfiction*

Moss, Marissa *Galen: My Life in Imperial Rome*

Galen, a 12-year-old artist, describes his life as a slave in Emperor Augustus' palace. His notebook-style jottings and sketches bring Rome to life, with gladiator fights, celebrations, and chariot races. *Fiction*

Murdock, Catherine Gilbert *Dairy Queen: A Novel*

After spending her summer running the family farm and training the quarterback of a rival school's football team, 16-year-old D.J. decides to go out for football herself - with unexpected reactions. *Fiction*

Mussi, Sarah *The Door of No Return*

Zac never believed his grandfather's tales about their enslaved ancestors being descended from an African king. When his grandfather is murdered and the villains come after him, Zac sets out for Ghana to find King Baktu's long-lost treasure before the murderers do. *Fiction*

Napoli, Donna Jo *Spinners*

Spinners is based on the fairy tale, "Rumpelstiltskin," in which a strange little man helps a miller's daughter spin straw into gold for the king, on the condition that she give him her first-born child. *Fiction*

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds *Sang Spell*

After his mother is killed in an automobile accident, Josh hitchhikes across the country. Strange Appalachian villagers called Melungeons trap him, and he learns no one has ever left their village alive. *Fiction*

Nixon, Joan Lowery *Don't Scream*

Jess thinks things are looking up when 2 new guys come to her school, but she isn't aware of their real identities. Can she trust them? *Fiction*

Nolan, Han *A Summer of Kings*

In 1963, Esther's privileged white family in NY takes in King-Roy Johnson, an African-American youth accused of murder in Alabama. *Fiction*

Pearsall, Shelley *All Shook Up*

Josh goes to stay with his father in Chicago and discovers--to his horror--that his dad has become an Elvis impersonator! *Fiction*

Perkins, Lynne Rae *Criss Cross*

Teenagers in a small town in the 1960s experience new thoughts and feelings, question their identities, connect and disconnect as they search for the meaning of life and love. *Fiction*

Perkins, Mitali *First Daughter: White House Rules*

When Sameera Righton's father is elected president of the United States, the adopted Pakistani-American girl moves into the White House. How will she live her life in the spotlight? *Fiction*

Perkins, Mitali *Monsoon Summer*

Secretly in love with Steve, her best friend and business partner, Jazz must spend the summer away from him when her family goes to India during monsoon season to help set up a clinic. *Fiction*

Pixley, Marcella Fleischman *Freak*

The popular girls at her middle school treat smart, quirky Miriam as if she were a freak. Miriam eventually explodes in response to her bullying with an inner strength she did not know she had. *Fiction*

Powell, Ben *Skateboarding Skills: The Rider's Guide*

Become a master boarder with this guide for both first-time riders learning the basic skills and for more experienced riders wanting to perfect a maneuver or finesse a move. *Nonfiction*

Pratchett, Terry *Nation*

After a devastating tsunami destroys all that they have ever known, island boy Mau, and English aristocrat Daphne set about rebuilding their community and all the things that are important in their lives. *Fiction*

Preller, James *Six Innings: A Game in the Life*

In the Little League championship game, Sam, who has cancer and is in a wheelchair, has to call the play-by-play instead of participating in the game. *Fiction*

Price, Charlie *Dead Connection*

Murray, a loner who communes with the dead in the town cemetery, hears the voice of a murdered cheerleader and tries to convince the adults that he knows how she was killed. *Fiction*

Reynolds, David. *Apollo: The Epic Journey to the Moon*

This spectacular visual history of the Apollo program re-creates the drama and excitement of America's race to the Moon in the 1960s. *Nonfiction*

Riordan, Rick *The Battle of the Labyrinth*

When demonic cheerleaders invade his high school, Percy Jackson hurries to Camp Half Blood. He and his demigod friends set out on a quest through the Labyrinth as war between the Olympians and the evil Titan Lord Kronos draws near. *Fiction*

Rosen, Michael *Dickens: His Work and His World*

Influential English author Charles Dickens is profiled, featuring four of his major works including *A Christmas Carol* and *Oliver Twist*. *Biography*

Russell, P. Craig, adapter *Coraline*

Russell adapts Neil Gaiman's story of Coraline into a graphic novel. Coraline ventures through a mysterious door into a world that is similar, yet disturbingly different from her own. She challenges a gruesome entity to save herself, her parents, and the souls of 3 others. *Graphic Novel*

Saksena, Kate *Hang On In There, Shelley*

When Shelley's life turns upside down, she begins writing to pop star Ziggy, sharing her fears about her alcoholic mother and her troubles with girls at school. She is delighted when he writes back with insight and encouragement. *Fiction*

Sandler, Martin W. *Lincoln Through the Lens: How Photography Revealed and Shaped an Extraordinary Life*

Though born in a humble log cabin in the backwoods of Kentucky, Abraham Lincoln was savvy enough to embrace photography--the new technology of his time. His speeches and period photos provide a portrait of this president. *Biography*

Schmidt, Gary *Trouble*

To honor the dying wish of his brother Franklin, Henry sets out to hike Maine's Mount Katahdin with his best friend and dog. Fate adds another companion--the Cambodian refugee accused of fatally injuring Franklin--and reveals troubles that predate the accident. *Fiction*

Scieszka, Jon, ed. *Guys Write for Guys Read*

There's something for every boy in this collection of short stories, poems, memories, advice and drawings written for boys by a collection of boys' all-time favorite authors. *Nonfiction*

Scott, Michael *The Alchemyst: The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel*

Twins Sophie and Josh find themselves caught up in the deadly, centuries-old struggle between rival alchemists over possession of a book containing secret formulas for alchemy and everlasting life. *Fiction*

Sheldon, Dyan *Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen*

In her first year at a New Jersey high school, Mary Elizabeth Cep, who calls herself "Lola," wants the lead in the annual drama production, and finds herself in conflict with the most popular girl in school. *Fiction*

Shull, Megan *Amazing Grace*

Tennis has a new "it" girl, Grace Kincaid. But Grace realizes that being a teen star isn't all it's cracked up to be. With fame and fortune just a backswing away, all she really wants is to be ...NORMAL! *Fiction*

Sleator, William *Beasties*

Doug and his sister Colette move to a wilderness area, where they encounter some weird creatures whose lives are endangered. *Fiction*

Sones, Sonya *One of Those Hideous Books Where the Mother Dies*

Ruby leaves her best friend, her boyfriend, her aunt, and her mother's grave to join her movie star father who left before she was born. *Fiction*

Sones, Sonya *Stop Pretending: What Happened When My Big Sister Went Crazy*

A younger sister has a difficult time adjusting to life after her older sister has a mental breakdown. *Fiction*

Spiegler, Louise *The Amethyst Road*

Having fled the city of Oestia after she attacked an official, 16-year-old Serena--an outcast as well as a mixed-race child of a Gorgio father and Yulang mother--seeks to reunite her family and regain her honor. *Fiction*

Stalder, Erika *Fashion 101: A Crash Course in Clothing*

Ready to be a fashionista? Find out everything you need to know about clothing styles and style setters in this A to Z guide. *Nonfiction*

Staples, Suzanne *Shabanu: Daughter of the Wind* 

What will Shabanu do when she's promised to an older man in an arranged marriage that will bring riches to her family? *Fiction*

Stern, Sam, with Susan Stern *Cooking up a Storm: The Teenage Survival Cookbook*

Read this and eat! Find recipes for basic meals, snacks, party dishes and for boosting brainpower during exams. *Nonfiction*

Strasser, Todd *Con-fidence*


What price is Lauren willing to pay to be part of the popular crowd at school? When an attractive new girl befriends her and offers a chance at popularity, Lauren does not see that she is being manipulated. *Fiction*

Strauss, Rochelle *Tree of Life: The Incredible Biodiversity of Life on Earth*

Explore the diversity of life and the interdependence of species in this marvelously illustrated oversized book. *Nonfiction*

Taylor, Mildred *The Land*

Paul-Edward, son of a white plantation owner and a slave mother, is determined to own his own land. This is a prequel to Taylor's *Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry*. *Fiction*


Taylor, Theodore *The Cay*  

When a German submarine torpedoes their freighter during World War II, a 12-year-old white boy and an elderly black man are stranded on a small desert island in the Caribbean. *Fiction*

Tolan, Stephanie *Surviving the Applewhites*

Jake Semple is a scary kid who burned down his old school. The only place that will take him now is the Applewhites' home school. *Fiction*

Tolkien, J. R. R. *The Lord of the Rings Trilogy: The Fellowship of the Ring; The Two Towers; The Return of the King*

 The inhabitants of Middle Earth struggle to keep a magic ring from falling into the hands of the powers of darkness. *Fiction*

Westerfeld, Scott *Uglies*

Tally's 16th birthday brings an operation that turns her from "ugly" into beautiful. Her friend Shay isn't sure she wants to be "pretty." Read the sequels *Pretties* and *Specials*. *Fiction*

Woodson, Jacqueline *After Tupac & D Foster*

Life changes for 2 girls in a New York neighborhood when D Foster joins their double Dutch game. They bond over their love of Tupac's music and find their friendship tested by unpredictable and tragic events. *Fiction*

Woodson, Jacqueline *Hush*

Courageous Evie Thomas leaves behind the past, family, and friends to reinvent herself in a witness protection program. *Fiction*

Yeager, Selene *What's With My Body? The Girls' Book of Answers to Growing Up, Looking Good, and Feeling Great*

Here's a *great* guide, in a Q&A format, packed with essential information for all the tricky stuff that goes along with growing up. *Nonfiction*

Yee, Lisa *Stanford Wong Flunks Big Time*

After flunking 6th-grade English, basketball prodigy Stanford Wong struggles to pass his summer-school class. *Fiction*