



MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING LIST

***I Kill the Mockingbird* by Paul Acampora**

Lucy, Elena, and Michael are excited to see *To Kill a Mockingbird* on their summer reading list, but not everyone feels the same. The friends hatch a plot to get their entire town talking about the book, but their plans quickly spiral out of control, with all sorts of unintended consequences. *Lexile 640L*

***I Will Always Write Back: How One Letter Changed Two Lives* by Caitlin Alifirenka & Martin Ganda**

The true story of an all-American girl and a boy from Zimbabwe and the letter that changed both of their lives forever. *Lexile 790L*

***The Night Gardener* by Jonathan Auxier**

Irish orphans Molly (14) and Kip (10) travel to England to work as servants in a crumbling manor where nothing is quite what it seems. Soon the siblings are confronted by a mysterious stranger and the dark secrets of the cursed house. *Lexile 690L*

***Abby Spencer Goes to Bollywood* by Varsha Bajaj**

What 13-year-old Abby wants most is to meet her father. She just never imagined he would be a huge film star - in Bollywood! Abby travels from Texas to Mumbai to get to know her famous father, and as she learns to navigate her new surroundings, she just might discover where she really belongs. *Lexile 640L*

***The Iron Trial* by Holly Black & Cassandra Clare**

Warned away from magic all of his life, Callum planned to fail the trials that would admit him to the Magisterium - only to be drawn into its ranks against his will and forced to confront dark elements from his past. *Lexile 830L*

***Tangerine* by Edward Bloor**

Twelve-year-old Paul has always lived in the shadow of his football-star older brother Erik, but even though Paul is almost completely blind, he can see that strange things are happening in their new home in Tangerine, Florida. *Lexile 680L*

***The War That Saved My Life* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley**

Born with a twisted foot, Ada has never left her tiny London apartment, but with World War II looming, Ada and her little brother Jamie escape to the countryside. Ada's world opens up as she gains confidence and learns to trust grownups...but is trust enough to keep her family safe? *Lexile 580L*

***Turn Left at the Cow* by Lisa Bullard**

Thirteen-year-old Trav has always wondered about his long-gone father. When he travels from his home in California to rural Minnesota to learn about his dad, he gets a lot more than he bargained for: bank robberies, missing money, and someone who thinks Trav knows where the cash is. *Lexile 850L*

***The Testing* by Joelle Charbonneau**

Sixteen-year-old Malencia Vale is chosen to participate in the Testing, the exam that reveals the best and the brightest: the chosen few who will help rebuild the United Commonwealth. At first Cia is excited, but then she starts to wonder what happens to the students who fail the Testing? *Lexile 830L*

***Swagger* by Carl Deuker**

High school senior point guard Jonas Dolan is on the fast track to a basketball scholarship until an unthinkable choice puts his future on the line. *Lexile 760L*

***Professor Gargoyle* by Charles Gilman**

Seventh grade at Lovecraft Middle School is a lot creepier than Robert Arthur was expecting. Students are missing, there are rats in the lockers, and something is definitely wrong with the science teacher, Professor Goyle. *Lexile 660L*

***Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein**

Twelve-year-old Kyle is one of the lucky students picked to stay overnight in the new town library designed by his hero (famous game-maker Luigi Lemoncello), but when morning comes, they discover they've been locked in. Can they work together in order to escape? *Lexile 720L*

***One Dead Spy* by Nathan Hale**

Nathan Hale was America's first spy, a Revolutionary War hero who famously said, "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country," before being hanged by the British. This is book one in a series presenting history's roughest, toughest, and craziest stories in graphic novel format.

***Full Cicada Moon* by Marilyn Hilton**

Mimi dreams of being an astronaut, but moving from Berkeley, California, to small-town Vermont in 1969 comes with its own challenges - especially when your mom is Japanese and your dad is African American. *Lexile 790L*

***The Circuit* by Francisco Jimenez**

A collection of interconnected short stories that explore the experiences of a migrant family as they move through labor camps, facing poverty and impermanence, and enduring through faith, hope, and back-breaking work. *Lexile 880L*

***The Mark of the Dragonfly* by Jaleigh Johnson**

Since her father's death in a factory in the Dragonfly territories, 13-year-old Piper has eked out a living as a scrapper in Merrow Kingdom, but the arrival of a mysterious girl sends her on a dangerous journey to distant lands. *Lexile 820L*

***The Last Boy at St. Edith's* by Lee Gjertsen Malone**

Jeremy is the only boy left at St. Edith's after the school's failed experiment at co-education. One boy, 475 girls. He's desperate to leave, but his mom won't let him, so he pulls a series of pranks in hopes of getting expelled. Needless to say, events do not go as planned. *Lexile 780L*

***The Novice* by Taran Matharu**

When Fletcher accidentally summons a Familiar, he is forced to leave his home to attend Adept Military Academy, where he is taught to use his newfound powers. Originally posted on Wattpad. *Lexile 890L*

***Far Far Away* by Tom McNeal**

Jeremy Johnson Johnson can communicate with the ghost of Jacob Grimm. When his classmate Ginger Boltinghouse discovers his secret, the two find themselves at the center of a series of disappearances in their hometown. *Lexile 790L*

***Cinder* by Marissa Meyer**

As plague ravages the overcrowded Earth, Cinder, a gifted mechanic and cyborg, becomes involved with handsome Prince Kai and must uncover secrets about her past in order to protect the world in this futuristic take on the Cinderella story. *Lexile 790L*

***Touching Spirit Bear* by Ben Mikaelson**

After his anger erupts in violence, Cole avoids going to prison by agreeing to participate in a sentencing alternative based on Native American Circle Justice. Cole figures he is scamming the system, but he is sent to a remote Alaskan Island where an encounter with a huge Spirit Bear changes his life. *Lexile 670L*

***Primates: The Fearless Science of Jane Goodall, Dian Fossey, and Birute Galdikas* by Jim Ottaviani & Maris Wicks**

An action-packed account of the three greatest primatologists of the last century. Each was a student of the great Louis Leakey, and each made profound contributions to primatology and our understanding of ourselves. Told in a graphic novel format.

***The Seventh Most Important Thing* by Shelley Pearsall**

After his father's death in 1963, Arthur throws a brick at the local "Junk Man" when he sees him wearing his father's favorite hat. Arthur is sentenced to community service working alongside the Junk Man to complete his mysterious project. *Lexile 760L*

***I Am Princess X* by Cherie Priest**

When they were young, May and Libby created a comic about Princess X. When Libby died, the comic died with her. Years later, May starts seeing images of Princess X around Seattle. No one knew about Princess X except her and Libby. Could Libby somehow be alive? *Lexile 790L*

***The Boy in the Black Suit* by Jason Reynolds**

Matt's mom just died from cancer, so it might seem strange to take an after-school job at a funeral home. Oddly enough, though, seeing other people's grief helps Matt process his own, and just when he thinks he can't handle anything else, he meets a girl who's been through it all. *Lexile 760L*

***Orbiting Jupiter* by Gary Schmidt**

Fourteen-year-old Joseph is already a father, although he's never seen his daughter, Jupiter. After spending time in a juvenile facility, he's placed with a foster family on a farm in rural Maine. Damaged and withdrawn, Joseph now has a brother in 12-year-old Jack, who narrates Joseph's story and his desperate efforts to find his baby at any cost. *Lexile 740L*

***Thirteen Chairs* by Dave Shelton**

One cold night, Jack is drawn into the creepy house in his neighborhood. He finds a room filled with twelve unusual people, who invite him to sit down in the thirteenth chair. One by one they tell ghost stories of doom and death, revenge and reward, until finally it's Jack's turn.... *Lexile 930L*

***Goodbye Stranger* by Rebecca Stead**

Bridge is an accident survivor who's wondering why she's still alive. Emily has new curves and an almost-boyfriend who wants a certain kind of picture. Tabitha sees through everybody's games - or so she tells the world. The three girls are best friends with one rule: No fighting. Can it get them through seventh grade? *Lexile 560L*

***A Time to Dance* by Padma Venkatraman**

Veda is an elite dancer - until she loses part of her leg after an injury. Slowly, she begins retraining on her prosthetic leg and falling in love with a young man who approaches dance from a spiritual perspective, which helps Veda understand herself and the world. *Lexile 720L*

***Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson**

Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American girl in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. *Lexile 990L*