

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

Greetings! As the school year comes to a close and the warm, sunny days of summer beckon, we hope this letter finds you excited for a well-deserved break. This year we want you to enjoy spending time with your families as much as possible. So instead of a structured reading assignment, may we make the following recommendations: visit your local library (most have some kind of summer reading program), go to a museum (or two, or three), try an arboretum or botanical garden, take a hike (literally!), visit local historical sites, start a National Parks tour; closer to home you could camp out in your backyard, build something together as a family, start exploring a new cuisine. You get the idea!

We encourage you to read to and with your children (yes, your middle school children—they like being read to also). Grab some books from the library, or the local book store, or Amazon, and take them to the beach, or camping, or on your next road trip. Explore new people, places, and cultures...through great books! To that end, you will find attached a list of books to help your child discover new interests. Please do not limit your child to books on their “level”, if they want to try a book...go for it!

Wishing you an incredible summer filled with unforgettable adventures, both within the pages of your books and beyond. Enjoy the sunshine, relax, and let your imagination soar!

Happy reading!

Warm regards,

The Middle School Reading Team

## Middle School Summer Enrichment Reading List

*Pay it Forward* Katherine Ryan Hyde (young readers edition)  
*Harry Potter (Series)* J.K. Rowling  
*Sign of the Beaver* Elizabeth George Speare  
*Dork Diaries* Rachel Renee Russell  
*Freak the Mighty* Rodman Philbrick  
*The Candymakers* Wendy Mass  
*The Land of the Lawn Weenies* David Lubar  
*The One and Only Ivan* Katherine Applegate  
*Treasure Hunters (Series)* James Patterson  
*Esperanza Rising* Pam Munoz Ryan  
*Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life* Wendy Mass  
*Ghost (Series)* Jason Reynolds  
*Fever 1793* Laurie Halse Anderson  
*Middle School-The Worst Years of My Life* Chris Tebbetts & James Patterson  
*Long Shot* Chris Paul  
*Mudville* Kurtis Scaletta  
*A Single Shard* Linda Sue Park  
*Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie* Jordan Sonnenblick  
*The Next Person You Meet In Heaven* Mitch Albom  
*An Elephant in the Garden* Michael Morpurgo  
*The People We Keep* Allison Larkin  
*Heartless* Stephanie Meyer  
*Survivors Club* Michael Bornstein  
*Legend* Marie Lu  
*Inheritance* Christopher Paolini  
*The Uglies (Series)* Scott Westerfeld  
*Unwind (Series)* Neal Shusterman  
*The Thief Lord* Cornelia Funke  
*Counting by 7s* Holly Goldberg Sloane  
*Amal Unbound* Aisha Saeed  
*The Crossover* Kwame Alexander  
*Divergent (series)* Veronica Roth  
*Code Talker* Joseph Bruchac

# Kaleidoscope Summer Enrichment Reading List

## 6th Grade:

*The Watsons Go to Birmingham* by Christopher Paul (Historical Fiction)

*Inkheart* by Cornelia Funke (Fantasy)

*Project 1065* by Alan Gatz (Historical Fiction; WWII)

*Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott (Semi-autobiographical novel)

*Hope Was Here* by Joan Bauer (Realistic Fiction)

*Life of Pi* by Yann Martel (Adventure)

*Obsessed* by Allison Britz (Memoir)

*Lucky Broken Girl* by Ruth Behar (Historical fiction; autobiographical fiction)

## 7th Grade:

*Lord of the Flies* by William Golding (Adventure; allegorical novel)

*Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson (Historical Fiction; Revolutionary War)

*Pride and Prejudice* or *Emma* by Jane Austen (Novel)

*The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom (Novel)

*The Uglies* by Scott Westerfeld (Dystopian Fiction)

*Heartless* by Marissa Meyer (Fantasy)

*Life in Motion* by Misty Copeland (Memoir; ballet)

*Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice* by Phillip Hoose (Nonfiction)

## 8th Grade:

*The Help* by Kathryn Stockett (Historical Fiction; Civil Rights)

*1984* by George Orwell (Science Fiction; Dystopian)

*The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd (Historical Fiction; Civil Rights)

*Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* by Dusti Bowling (Novel; disability)

*A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith (Novel; coming-of-age)

*The Berlin Boxing Club* (Historical fiction; WWII)

*Imperfect* by Tim Brown (Memoir; baseball)

*The Raft* by S.A Bodeen (Adventure; survival)