

# Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List 2017

Dear Parents and Students,

In collaboration with Santa Monica Public Library, Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) is pleased to announce our summer reading program prepared by our school librarians.

Because students' maturity and reading levels vary, we encourage parents to participate actively in selecting and/or discussing these titles.

**Students are required to read two (2) books from the list for the grade they are entering in the fall. Students are responsible for obtaining their own books. The public libraries, as well as local booksellers, carry most of these titles.**

We are very excited about this program and hope the books listed will provide knowledge and pleasure for your child. Have a fantastic summer filled with reading and adventure!

Sincerely, your librarians,

*Sarah Ryan*, Malibu High School  
*Amy Di Dario*, Lincoln Middle School  
*Andrea Jarvis*, John Adams Middle School

Students must read two (2) books from the 2017 Summer Reading List. When you return in August, you will be assigned a project by your English teacher. To prepare for your in-class assignment, consider taking notes on each book including:

## Book Information

\*Title/Author

\*Genre

\*Fiction or Nonfiction

## Main Character(s)

\*Name(s)

\*Age(s)

\*Traits

## Summarize the plot.

## Rate the book on a scale of 1 to 5.

\*1 = I did not like it

\*5= It was fantastic!

## Realistic Fiction

### Baskin, Nora Raleigh | **Anything but Typical**

Jason, a twelve-year-old boy who wants to become a writer, relates what his life is like as he tries to make sense of the world.

### Flake, Sharon | **The Skin I'm In**

Thirteen-year-old Maleeka, uncomfortable because her skin is extremely dark, meets a new teacher with a birthmark on her face. She learns how to love who she is and what she looks like.

### Lupica, Mike | **Heat**

Twelve-year-old Michael Arroyo is a star pitcher struggling with this father's death. He pursues his dream of leading his South Bronx All-Stars to the Little League World Series.

### Myers, Walter Dean | **SLAM!**

Sixteen-year-old "Slam" Harris is counting on his noteworthy basketball talents to get him out of the inner city. He hopes basketball will give him a chance to succeed, but his coach sees things differently.

### Sloan, Holly Goldberg | **Counting by 7s**

Twelve-year-old genius and outsider Willow Chance must figure out how to connect with other people and find a surrogate family for herself after her parents are killed in a car accident.

### Soto, Gary | **Facts of Life**

Gaby Lopez, Michael Robles, and Cynthia Rodriguez have a lot in common: irritating siblings, parents that don't understand, and frustrating crushes.

### Van Draanen, Wendelin | **Flipped**

In alternating chapters, two teenagers describe how their feelings about themselves, each other, and their families have changed over the years.

## Classics

### Steinbeck, John | **The Pearl**

Kino is a poor diver gathering pearls from the Gulf of California in order to support his family. Then one extraordinary day, he finds a pearl as large as a sea gull's egg, as "perfect as the moon."

### Wells, H.G. | **The War of the Worlds**

Extraterrestrials arrive to exterminate all of mankind. Will they succeed?

## Fantasy & Science-Fiction

### Hartman, Rachel | **Seraphina**

In a world where dragons can assume human form, Seraphina grapples with her identity amid magical secrets and royal scandals, while struggling to accept and develop her extraordinary musical talents.

### Pfeffer, Susan Beth | **Life as We Knew It**

Miranda journals about her life after an asteroid knocks the moon closer to Earth, causing tsunamis, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.

### Shusterman, Neal | **The Schwa Was Here**

Eighth-grader Antsy Bonano realizes his friend Calvin Schwa has the ability to be nearly invisible, so he concocts a money-making scheme.

## Non-Fiction

### Heiligman, Deborah | **Charles and Emma: the Darwins' Leap of Faith**

Charles Darwin and his wife, Emma, were deeply in love and very supportive of each other, but their opinions often clashed. Emma was extremely religious, and Charles questioned God's very existence.

### Tunnel, Michael O. | **Candy Bomber: The Story of the Berlin Airlift's "Chocolate Pilot"**

An American pilot decides to embark on a secret mission in his plane to drop off candy to children during World War II.

## Historical Fiction

### Levine, Kristin | **The Lions of Little Rock**

Painfully shy twelve-year-old Marlee sees her city and family divided over school integration, but her friendship with Liz, a new student, helps her find her voice and fight against racism.

### Smith, Sherri | **Flygirl**

Will Ida Mae Jones be able to hide that she is biracial in order to be a female pilot for the WASPs (Women Airforce Service Pilots) during World War I?

### Yang, Gene Luen | **Boxers**

Little Bao has had enough of missionaries and soldiers roaming the countryside bullying and robbing peasants. Harnessing the powers of ancient Chinese gods, he recruits an army of Boxers--commoners trained in Kung Fu to fight to free China.

## Mystery & Adventure Fiction

### Patterson, James | **Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment**

Max leads her feisty half-human, half-bird "family" on an action-packed journey to rescue their youngest sister Angel.

### Paulsen, Gary | **Brian's Winter**

Brian is forced to survive a winter in the wilderness with only his survival pack and hatchet.