

Incoming 6th Grade Summer Reading List 2019

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 2019 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

Draper, Sharon | Out of My Mind

Eleven-year-old Melody has cerebral palsy and cannot speak. When she gets a talking device, students and teachers learn of her smarts and inner strength. Coretta Scott King Award-winning author.

Hiaasen, Carl | Hoot

Roy, who is new to Florida, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site. Newbery Medal Honor book.

Spinelli, Jerry | Crash

Meet Crash Coogan, seventh-grade super-jock. Crash seems to be all brawn and no brains, but he will need more than mere muscles to face the upcoming challenges in his life.

Telgemeier, Raina | Smile

As if sixth grade isn't hard enough, Raina has to overcome braces, retainers, headgear, earthquakes, boy troubles and frenemies.

Gino, Alex | George

When people look at George, they think they see a boy. But she knows she's not a boy. She knows she's a girl. When her teacher announces the class play will be Charlotte's Web, George sees her opportunity to show everyone who she really is, once and for all.

Non-Fiction

Fleischman, Sid | Escape!: The Story of the Great Houdini

An entertaining account of the magician and king of escape artists, Harry Houdini.

Hopkinson, Deborah | Titanic: Voices from the Disaster

Tells the story of the Titanic and that fateful April night, drawing on the voices of survivors and archival photographs. A Sibert Award Honor book.

Kamkwamba, William; Mealer, Bryan | The Boy Who Harnessed The Wind: Young Readers' Edition

William Kamkwamba's village in Malawi is struck by a terrible drought. By studying old science books at the library, he builds a windmill from scrap metal, which pumps water to the farmland and saves his village.

Turner, Pam | Samurai Rising

As a boy, Minamoto Yoshitsune loses his family in a bitter war with a rival clan. But he returns years later to defeat his enemies and become a legendary samurai.

Historical Fiction

Dumas, Firoozeh | It Ain't So Awful, Falafel

It's the late 1970s in Southern California, and Zomorod (Cindy) Yousefzadeh must navigate a new town and a new school at a time of rising anti-Iran sentiment in America.

Herlong, M.H. | Buddy

Twelve-year-old Li'l T and his family face great losses caused by Hurricane Katrina, including leaving Buddy, their very special three-legged dog, behind when they must evacuate.

Meloy, Maile | The Apothecary

Follows a fourteen-year-old American girl whose life unexpectedly transforms when she moves to London in 1952 and gets swept up in a race to save the world from nuclear war.

Williams-Garcia, Rita | One Crazy Summer

Three sisters travel to Oakland, California in 1968 to spend a month with the mother who abandoned them. Newbery Honor and Coretta Scott King Award Winner.

Fantasy & Science-Fiction

Nelson, O.T. | The Girl Who Owned a City

When a plague sweeps over the Earth killing everyone except children under 12, ten-year-old Lisa organizes a group to build a new way of life.

Oppel, Kenneth | Airborn

Matt, a young cabin boy aboard an airship, and Kate, a wealthy young girl traveling with her chaperone, team up to search for the existence of mysterious winged creatures.

Stead, Rebecca | When You Reach Me

Sixth-grader Miranda receives mysterious notes that predict future tragic events in her New York neighborhood.

Tolkien, J.R.R. | The Hobbit

Hobbit Bilbo Baggins faces adventures in a land inhabited by dwarves, elves, goblins, dragons, and humans.

Mystery & Adventure Fiction

Dowd, Siobhan | The London Eye Mystery

After Ted and Kat's cousin, Salim, vanishes from the London Eye ferris wheel, the siblings investigate to solve the mystery of his disappearance.

Hahn, Mary Downing | Closed for the Season

When thirteen-year-old Logan and his family move to a house in rural Virginia, he discovers that a woman was murdered there and becomes involved in the search to uncover the killer.

Horowitz, Anthony | Stormbreaker

After the death of his uncle, fourteen-year-old Alex Rider continues his uncle's dangerous work for Britain's intelligence agency, MI-6.

Nielsen, Jennifer A. | The False Prince

In a discontented kingdom, civil war is brewing. To unify the divided people, a plan is devised to find an impersonator of the king's long-lost son and install him as a puppet prince.