

SRCS 6th - 8th Grade Summer Reading List 2018-2019

Directions: Pick two choices and be prepared to do a project on one upon our return to school and do an activity with the second choice.

****Please choose two books you have not previously read. Also, keep in mind you will need these books for reference during the first week of school. ****

The Crossover by Kwame Alexander

Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health.

The Nine Pound Hammer by Jean Claude Bemis

Drawn by the lodestone his father gave him years before, twelve-year-old orphan Ray travels south, meeting along the way various characters from folklore who are battling against an evil industry baron known as the Gog.

Wild Things by Clay Carmichael

Stubborn, self-reliant, eleven-year-old Zoe, recently orphaned, moves to the country to live with her prickly half-uncle, a famous doctor and sculptor, and together they learn about trust and the strength of family.

Etiquette and Espionage Gail Carriger

In an alternate England of 1851, spirited fourteen-year-old Sophronia is enrolled in a finishing school where, she is surprised to learn, lessons include not only the fine arts of dance, dress, and etiquette, but also diversion, deceit, and espionage.

Diamonds in the Shadow by Caroline Cooney

The Finches, a Connecticut family, sponsor an African refugee family of four, all of whom have been scarred by the horrors of civil war, and who inadvertently put their benefactors in harm's way.

Ashes to Asheville by Sarah Dooley

Twelve-year-old Fella is swept away on a wild road trip by her older sister Zany to fulfill their late mother's dying wish"--

Out of My Mind by Sharon M. Draper

Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time

Incarceron by Catherine Fisher

To free herself from an upcoming arranged marriage, Claudia, the daughter of the Warden of *Incarceron*, a futuristic prison with a mind of its own, decides to help a young prisoner escape.

One of the Murphys by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

After heartbreaking betrayal, Carley is sent to live with a foster family and struggles with opening herself up to their love"--

Paper Things by Jennifer Richard Jacobson

When Ari's mother died four years ago, she had two final wishes: that Ari and her older brother, Gage, would stay together always, and that Ari would go to Carter, the middle school for gifted students. So when nineteen-year-old Gage decides he can no longer live with their bossy guardian, Jenna, Ari knows she has to go with him. But it's been two months, and Gage still hasn't found them an apartment. He and Ari have been "couch surfing," staying with Gage's friend in a tiny apartment, crashing with Gage's girlfriend and two roommates, and if necessary, sneaking into a juvenile shelter to escape the cold Maine nights. But all of this jumping around makes it hard for Ari to keep up with her schoolwork, never mind her friendships, and getting into Carter starts to seem impossible. Will Ari be forced to break one of her promises to Mama?

Roller Girl by Victoria Jamieson

"A graphic novel adventure about a girl who discovers roller derby right as she and her best friend are growing apart"--Provided by publisher

Alexander Hamilton: The Making of America by Teri Kanefield

Gr 5-8—Kanefield has produced an informative yet accessible biography of the famed Founding Father for a middle school audience. The narrative begins with Alexander Hamilton's often difficult youth in the West Indies, where he gained his first lessons in the power of finance. The text covers his departure to school in Colonial New York City, his rising star during the American Revolution, his role in the development of the Constitution, and his fateful duel with Aaron Burr. Mount Pleasant Public Library, IA

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer

This story is a factual account of a young boy's search for a way to help his village. His interest in windmills to generate electricity led him to his community library where he researched the idea.

Death cloud by Andrew Lane

In 1868, with his army officer father suddenly posted to India, and his mother mysteriously "unwell," fourteen-year-old Sherlock Holmes is sent to stay with his eccentric uncle and aunt in their vast house in Farnham, where he uncovers his first murder and a diabolical villain.

White Fang by Jack London

Follows the adventures of a dog who is part wolf as he eventually makes his peace with man in the wilderness of northern Canada.

Under the Mesquite by Guadalupe Garcia McCall

Throughout her high school years, as her mother battles cancer, Lupita takes on more responsibility for her house and seven younger siblings, while finding refuge in acting and writing poetry. Includes glossary of Spanish terms.

Cinder by Marissa Meyer

As plague ravages the overcrowded Earth, observed by a ruthless lunar people, **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.

All of the Above by Shelley Pearsall

Five urban middle school students, their teacher, and other community members relate how a school project to build the world's largest tetrahedron affects the lives of everyone involved.

Ghost by Jason Reynolds

"**Ghost**, a naturally talented runner and troublemaker, is recruited for an elite middle school track team. He must stay on track, literally and figuratively, to reach his full potential"--

The Wednesday Wars by Gary D. Schmidt

During the 1967 school year, on **Wednesday** afternoons when all his classmates go to either Catechism or Hebrew school, seventh-grader Holling Hoodhood stays in Mrs. Baker's classroom where they read the plays of William Shakespeare and Holling learns much of value about the world he lives in.

Between Shades of Gray by Ruta Sepetys

In 1941, fifteen-year-old Lina, her mother, and brother are pulled from their Lithuanian home by Soviet guards and sent to Siberia, where her father is sentenced to death in a prison camp while she fights for her life, vowing to honor her family and the thousands like hers by burying her story in a jar on Lithuanian soil. Based on the author's family, includes a historical note.

Undefeated by Steve Sheinkin

A great American sport and Native American history come together in this true story of how Jim Thorpe and Pop Warner created the legendary Carlisle Indians football team"--

Everlost by Neal Shusterman

When Nick and Allie are killed in a car crash, they end up in **Everlost**, or limbo for lost souls, where although Nick is satisfied, Allie will stop at nothing--even skin jacking--to break free.

Counting by 7's by Holly Goldberg Sloan

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.

Deathwatch by Robb White

Needing money for school, a college student accepts a job as a guide on a desert hunting trip and nearly loses his life.

Beyond the Bright Sea by Lauren Wolk

"Twelve-year-old orphan Crow embarks on a journey to discover who her parents were and why they abandoned her as an infant"--

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson

"Jacqueline Woodson, one of today's finest writers, tells the moving story of her childhood in mesmerizing verse. 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 in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement.