

# Alton C. Crews Middle School 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List

Read any two books from this list.

## Fiction

**Birdsall, Jeanne - The Penderwicks : A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a very Interesting boy** While vacationing with their widowed father in the Berkshire Mountains, four lovable sisters, ages four through twelve, share adventures with a local boy, much to the dismay of his snobbish mother. Realistic/Series

**Burnett, Frances Hodgson - The Secret Garden** Ten-year-old Mary comes to live in a lonely house on the Yorkshire moors and discovers an invalid cousin and the mysteries of a locked garden. Classic

**Cottrell, Bruce - Framed** (2007 ALA Notable Children's Book) Dylan and his sisters have some ideas about how to make Snowdonia Oasis Auto Marvel into a more profitable business, but it is not until some strange men arrive in their small town of Manod, Wales with valuable paintings, and their father disappears, that they consider turning to crime. Realistic/Mystery/Humor

**Etchemendy, Nancy - The Power of Un** (Ga. Book Award Winner) When he is given a device that will allow him to "undo" what has happened in the past, Gib Finney is not sure what event from the worst day of his life he should change in order to keep his sister from being hit by a truck. Science Fiction/Time Travel

**Farmer, Nancy - The Sea of Trolls** After Jack becomes apprenticed to a Druid bard, he and his little sister Lucy are captured by Viking Berserkers and taken to the home of King Ivar the Boneless and his half-troll queen, leading Jack to undertake a vital quest to Jotunheim, home of the trolls. Fantasy

**Graff, Lisa - The Thing About Georgie** (Georgia Book Award Nominee '08) Georgie's dwarfism causes problems, but he could always rely on his parents, his best friend, and classmate Jeanie the Meanie's teasing, until a surprising announcement, a new boy in school, and a class project shake things up. Realistic/Humor

**\*Hesse, Karen - Stowaway** A fictionalized journal relates the experiences of a young stowaway from 1768 to 1771 aboard the "Endeavor" which sailed around the world under Captain James Cook. Historical Fiction/Adventure

**Kadohata, Cynthia - Cracker!: The Best Dog in Vietnam** A young soldier in Vietnam bonds with his bomb-sniffing dog. Historical

**\*Karwoski, Gail Langer - Quake! Disaster in San Francisco** Tells the story of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake through the eyes of Jacob, a thirteen-year-old Jewish boy who lives in a boarding house with his father and younger sister. Historical Fiction

**Patron, Susan- The Higher Power of Lucky** (Newbery Award Winner '07) Fearing that her legal guardian plans to abandon her to return to France, ten-year-old aspiring scientist Lucky Trimble determines to run away while also continuing to seek the Higher Power that will bring stability to her life. Realistic

**Riordan, Rick - The Lightning Thief** (Georgia Book Award Nominee '08) Percy, expelled from six schools for being unable to control his temper, learns the truth from his mother that his father is the Greek god Poseidon, and is sent to Camp Half Blood where he is befriended by a satyr and the demigod daughter of Athena who join him in a journey to the Underworld to retrieve Zeus's lightning bolt and prevent a catastrophic war. Fantasy/Adventure/Series

**Roy, Jennifer Rozines - Yellow Star** From 1939, when Sylvia is four and a half years old, to 1945 when she has just turned ten, a Jewish girl and her family struggle to survive in Poland's Lodz ghetto during the Nazi occupation. Historical Fiction/WWII

**Urban, Linda - A Crooked Kind of Perfect** Ten-year-old Zoe Elias, who longs to play the piano but must resign herself to learning the organ, instead, finds that her musicianship has a positive impact on her workaholic mother, her jittery father, and her school social life. Realistic

## Non-Fiction

**Burns, Loree Griffin - Tracking Trash: Flotsam, Jetsam, and the Science of Ocean Motion** Describes the work of a man who tracks trash as it travels great distances by way of ocean currents.

**Dahl, Roald - Boy: Tales of Childhood** Presents humorous anecdotes from the author's childhood, including his summer vacations in Norway and life at an English boarding school.

**Jackson, Donna M. - ER Vets: Life in an Animal Emergency Room** Describes life in an animal emergency room and the courage of the ER vets, and discusses a number of actual cases.

**\*Karwoski, Gail Langer - Tsunami: The True Story of an April Fools' Day Disaster** Chronicles the tsunami that hit Hawaii on April Fools' Day 1946.

**Sy, Montgomery - The Tarantula Scientist** Describes the research that Samuel Marshall and his students are doing on tarantulas, including the largest spider on earth, the Goliath birdeating tarantula.

**\*Curriculum Related**

**Summer 2008**