

# Beaumont Middle School

## Summer Reading List

### Grade 7

All students who will be attending Beaumont Middle School in the seventh grade are required to read three books over the summer. Please choose from the books listed below. These books can be found at the Lexington Public Library and local book stores. Upon returning to school from summer break, students will be tested over the books that they have read.

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1. **Alchemyst** – Michael D. Scott  
Fifteen-year-old twins find themselves caught up in the deadly struggle between rival alchemists over the possession of an ancient book that holds the secret formula for everlasting life.
2. **Al Capone Does My Shirts** – Gennifer Choldenko  
This historical fiction novel, set in 1935, is about a twelve-year-old boy who lives on Alcatraz Island with his autistic sister, Natalie.
3. **All Creatures Great & Small** – James Herriott  
Read about one of the world’s favorite veterinarians, James Herriott, and learn about his beloved, hilarious, and touching animal patients.
4. **Catherine Called Birdy** – Karen Cushman  
A historical fiction book that details the life of an adolescent girl during the Middle Ages. Through her diary, the reader learns about Catherine’s opposition to the many rich suitors arranged by her father.
5. **Cracker: The Best Dog in Vietnam** – Cynthia Kadohata  
The story of a young soldier in Vietnam who bonds with his bomb-sniffing dog through the trials and tribulations of war.
6. **Crispin** – Avi  
Set in medieval England, the main character is a thirteen-year-old homeless boy. He is accused of a crime that he didn’t commit, so he sets out on a journey filled with twists, turns and treachery across the English countryside.
7. **Diamonds in the Shadow** – Caroline B. Cooney  
When his family decides to sponsor four African refugees in need, fifteen-year-old Jared seems to be the only person questioning the inconsistent facts surrounding this Nigerian family, leading him on a journey to discover the truth behind their lies.
8. **Elijah of Buxton** – Christopher Paul Curtis  
Eleven-year-old- Elijah Freeman is the first free-born child in Buxton, Canada, a haven for slaves fleeing the American South in 1859. Elijah’s eyes are opened to the perils of slavery when he must use his wits and skills to travel south to bring to justice the person who has stolen money that was to be used to buy a family’s freedom.

9. **Esperanza Rising** – Pam Munoz Ryan  
Esperanza and her mother must give up their lives of wealth in Mexico and work in the labor camps of Southern California during the Great Depression.
10. **Eragon** – Christopher Paolini  
A suspense filled fantasy book about dragons, wizards, and heroes. The book details a boy's coming of age and his relationship with the first dragon born in over a century.
11. **Love That Dog** – Sharon Creech  
This book is a series of free-verse poems written from the point of view of Jack, the main character. With the help of a teacher and a dog, Jack finds his own voice.
12. **The Midwife's Apprentice** – Karen Cushman  
Set in a medieval village, this is a tale of a lower-class homeless girl who becomes an apprentice to a midwife. This book is filled with fast-paced action and plucky, original characters.
13. **Pictures of Hollis Woods** – Patricia Reilly Giff  
A realistic fiction book about a twelve-year-old girl's journey through the foster care system and how she finds love, friendship, and a sense of belonging.
14. **Sabriel** – Garth Nix  
Sabriel, daughter of the necromancer, Abhorsen, must journey into the mysterious and magical Old Kingdom to rescue her father from the land of the dead.
15. **The Sea of Trolls** – Nancy Farmer.  
A tale set in A.D. 793, full of surprising twists and turns combining history, humor, and Norse mythology to create adventure and action for the reader.
16. **The Skin I'm In** – Sharon Flake  
Thirteen-year-old Maleeka is dissatisfied because her skin is extremely dark until she meets a new teacher with a birthmark on her face. Through her teacher, Maleeka discovers who she is and what she looks like.
17. **Stargirl** – Jerry Spinelli  
An eccentric student named Stargirl changes Mica High School in this story of first love and the hazards of popularity.
18. **Travel Team** – Mike Lupica  
This exciting sports fiction book is about a seventh-grader, Danny, who is cut from his basketball team. Danny and his father start their own basketball team. It is written by a New York Daily News sports columnist.
19. **Treasure Island** – Robert Louis Stevenson  
While going through the possessions of a deceased guest who owed them money, the mistress of the inn and her son find a treasure map that leads to a pirate fortune as well as great danger.