

LTMS 6th Grade Language Arts Summer Reading List

Please select **two** books from the list below to read during summer break. Be prepared for an assessment activity when school begins in the fall.

Al Capone Does My Shirts by Gennifer Choldenko

Moose Flannigan, 12, is dismayed when his family moves to Alcatraz after his father gets a new job as a prison guard. Life on the island is confining, the warden's daughter is a pain, and baseball is the best game around.

Bella at Midnight by Diane Stanley

A modern fairy tale story of a girl who was left by her father, an arrogant and unpleasant knight, to be raised by her nurse, after her mother's death. When she is older and has been summoned to her father's household, she finds that her new stepmother is unwelcoming and there is no place to sleep except in the kitchen. Bella uses her powers to change the destiny of the kingdom and save the prince she loves.

Eragon by Christopher Paolini

When Eragon finds a polished blue stone in the forest, he thinks it is the lucky discovery of a poor farm boy; perhaps it will buy his family meat for the winter. But when the stone brings a dragon hatchling, Eragon realizes he has stumbled upon a legacy nearly as old as the Empire itself.

Escape! The Story of the Great Houdini by Sid Fleischman

Harry Houdini was an early 20th century magician whose name is still a household word. Houdini traveled in vaudeville shows and amazed his audience by escaping from straightjackets, chains, and locks. Photos and commentary by the author, a magician himself, make the readers feel they are part of the action.

Hardy Boys Mysteries by Franklin Dixon

If you enjoy mysteries you will love these classics. Students may select any title from the original series.

Nancy Drew Mysteries by Carolyn Keene

If you enjoy mysteries you will love these classics. Students may select any title from the original series.

Penny from Heaven by Jennifer Holm

Penny Falucci is 11 in 1953 when she learns the secret that has kept her mother and her deceased father's family apart since she was a baby. Restrictions on Italian Americans during World War II, the fear of polio, wringer washing machines, and Penny's mother starting to date the milkman combine to make this an interesting story of an imperfect family.

Porch Lies: Tales of Slicksters, Tricksters, and Other Wiley Characters by Patricia McKissack

Stories, characters, and jokes in this collection of 10 tales contain "the essence of truth but are fiction from beginning to end." Various narrated by boys and girls these southern African American stories are great fun to read.

Team Moon: How 400,000 People Landed Apollo 11 on the Moon by Catherine Timmes

An account of the space mission that landed a man on the moon is told from the point of view of the behind-the-scenes workers at the Kennedy Space Center, the Grumman employees who built the lunar module and the designers and seamstresses who constructed the space suits.

The Watsons go to Birmingham by Christopher Paul Curtis

Ten year old Kenny and his family, the Watsons of Flint, Michigan, are heading to Birmingham, Alabama. Because Kenny's older brother has gotten into trouble one too many times, the family is taking him "back home" for some straightening out. Their adventure provides many laugh-out-loud hilarious moments along with some sad ones.

Weedflower by Cynthia Kadohata

After Pearl Harbor is attacked, twelve year old Sumiko and her family are relocated from their flower farm in California to an internment camp in Arizona. The camp is on a Mohave Indian reservation. Sumiko struggles to adjust to her new surroundings, becomes friends with a Mohave boy, and tries to hold on to her dream of owning a flower shop someday.

MORE ON REVERSE SIDE

Challenging Reads

Black Beauty by Anna Sewell

A horse in nineteenth-century England recounts his experiences with both good and bad masters.

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows by J.K. Rowling

The seventh and final book in the series continue Harry's journey in pursuit of the destruction of archenemy, Lord Voldemort.

Little Men by Louisa May Alcott

This story follows the adventures of Jo March and her husband Professor Bhaer as they try to make their school for boys a happy, comfortable, and stimulating place.

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

This classic chronicles the joys and sorrows of the four March sisters as they grow into young ladies in nineteenth-century New England.

Shabanu by Suzanne Staples

When eleven-year old Shabanu, the daughter of a nomad in the Cholistan Desert of present-day Pakistan, is pledged in marriage to an older man whose money will bring prestige to the family, she must either accept the decision, as is the custom, or risk the consequences of defying her father's wishes.

Uglies by Scott Westerfield

Tally is faced with a difficult choice when her new friend Shay decides to risk life on the outside rather than submit to the forced operation that turns sixteen year old girls into gorgeous beauties, and realizes that there is a whole new side to the pretty world that she doesn't like.