

Summer 2008 Reading List S.C.A.P.A. Rising Sixth Graders

Students are required to read a total of three books during the summer. Within two weeks of returning to school, students will be required to take Accelerated Reader (A.R.) tests on all of the books. The books listed below can be found at the Lexington Public Library and at local or on-line book stores. S.C.A.P.A. Library will also be open Wednesday mornings June 18 through August 6 from 10:00 to 12:00.

(Choose two or three from this list.)

1. **The A.B.C. Murders** by Agatha Christie. When Alice Ascher is murdered in Andover, Hercule Poirot is already on to the clues. Alphabetically speaking, it's one down, twenty-five to go. (6.1 B.L.)
2. The Abhorsen Trilogy by Garth Nix. **Sabriel** (7.1 B.L.), **Lirael** (7.1 B.L.), and **Abhorsen** (6.6 B.L.) the books of a trilogy of charter magic, necromancy, the power of life and death and the thin line that separates both. Fantastic series, great for adolescent and young adult readers.
3. **The Acorn People** by Ron Jones. Even though he knows the camp is for disabled children, Ron Jones anticipates sunny days as a counselor at Camp Wiggin. A group of severely disabled kids who teach him that, inside, they are the same as any average kid, and with encouragement, determination, and friendship, nothing is impossible. (7.0 B.L.)
4. **Anne of Green Gables** by L.M. Montgomery. One thing's for certain, no house that Anne's in will ever be dull." That's what Marilla Cuthbert says about Anne, the lively red-headed orphan she and her brother Matthew adopt. For decades, girls have agreed, eagerly reading every book in Lucy Maud Montgomery's series that chronicles Anne's coming of age. (May read any of the five books in this series (7.5-7.7 B.L.)
5. **The Beggar Queen** by Lloyd Alexander. Chaos reigns in Marienstat as Duke Conrad of Regia, the king's uncle, plots to overthrow the new government of Westmark and bring an end to the reforms instituted by Mickle, now Queen Augusta, Theo, and their companions. . (7.2 B.L.)
6. **Code Talker** by Joseph Bruchac. During WWII, Ned is trained by the U.S. Marines to be a Code Talker—A soldier who uses the Navajo language as military code for radio messages. (6.4 B.L.)
7. **Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court** by Mark Twain. It is the tale of a commonsensical Yankee who is carried back in time to Britain in the Dark Ages, and it celebrates homespun ingenuity and democratic values in contrast to the superstitious ineptitude of a feudal monarchy. (6.9 B.L.)
8. **The Dark is Rising** by Susan Cooper. On his eleventh birthday, Will Stanton discovers he is the last of the Old Ones, dedicated to fighting the forces of evil. Will searches for the six magical signs that will be needed for the battle between the Dark and the Light. (6.9 B.L.)
9. **Dead Water Zone** by Kenneth Oppel. Muscular sixteen-year-old Paul tries to find his genetically stunted younger brother Sam in the polluted ruins of Watertown, where Sam is trying to cure himself with toxic "dead water" that alters the metabolism of those who drink it. (7.1 B.L.)
10. **Dragon Gate** by Lawrence Yep. This 1994 Newbery Honor Book, a prequel to Dragonwings, tells of 14-year-old Otter's 1865 emigration from China and subsequent travails in California. (7.1 B.L.)
11. **Eva** by Peter Dickinson. After a terrible accident, a young girl wakes up to discover that she has been given the body of a chimpanzee. (8.1 B.L.)
12. **The Eye, the Ear, and the Arm** by Nancy Farmer. In Zimbabwe in the year 2194, the military ruler's 13-year-old son and his younger brother and sister leave their technologically over controlled home and find themselves on a series of perilous adventures. (7.4 B.L.)
13. **Harris and Me** by Gary Paulson. Sent to live with relatives on their farm because of his unhappy home life, an eleven-year-old city boy meets his distant cousin Harris and is given an introduction to a whole new world. (6.9 B.L.)
14. **Hatchet** by Gary Paulson. This Newbery Honor book is a dramatic, heart-stopping story of a boy who, following a plane crash in the Canadian wilderness must learn to survive with only a hatchet and his own wits. Ages 12-up. (6.1 B.L.)
15. **The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy** by Douglas Adams. Join Douglas Adams's hapless hero Arthur Dent as he travels the galaxy with his intrepid pal Ford Prefect, getting into horrible messes and generally wreaking hilarious havoc. Dent is grabbed from Earth moments before a cosmic construction team obliterates the planet to build a freeway. You'll never read funnier science fiction; Adams is a master of intelligent satire, barbed wit, and comedic dialogue. (6.6 B.L.)

16. **Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow** by Susan Campbell Bartoletti. What was it like to be a teenager in Germany under Hitler? Bartoletti draws on oral histories, diaries, letters, and her own extensive interviews with Holocaust survivors, Hitler Youth, resisters, and bystanders to tell the history from the viewpoints of people who were there. Newbery Honor (7.8 B.L.)
17. **Incident at Hawks Hill** by Allan W. Eckert. A shy, lonely six-year-old wanders into the Canadian prairie and spends a summer under the protection of a badger. (7.5 B.L.)
18. **A Mango Shaped Space** by Wendy Moss. Afraid that she is crazy, thirteen-year-old Mia, who sees a special color with every letter, number, and sound, keeps this a secret until she becomes overwhelmed by school, changing relationships, and the loss of something very important to her. (4.7 B.L.)
19. **Queenie Peavy** by Robert Burch. A captivating story about the biggest troublemaker in school a remarkable girl named Queenie who learns a lesson about responsibility when her father is put in jail. (7.2 B.L.)
20. **Redwall** by Brian Jacques. When the peaceful life of ancient Redwall Abbey is shattered by the arrival of the evil rat Cluny and his villainous hordes, Matthias, a young mouse, determines to find the legendary sword of Martin the Warrior which, he is convinced, will help Redwall's inhabitants destroy the enemy. (6.8 B.L.) You may read another from this series if you have already read Redwall.
21. **Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry** by Mildred Taylor. The story of one African American family fighting to stay together and strong in the face of brutal racist attacks, illness, poverty, and betrayal in the Deep South of the 1930s "Vivid--complex--powerful--convincing--The novel shows the rich inner rewards of black pride, love, and independence." (7.1 B.L.)
22. **The Secret Garden** by Frances Burdett. Neglected Colin lives the life of a spoilt and incurable invalid until the arrival of an orphaned cousin. The two children secretly combine to restore his mother's locked garden and Colin to health and his father's affection. (7.5 B.L.)
23. **Souder** by William H. Armstrong. This Newbery Award-winning novel quickly became a classic as a moving portrayal of resilience and hope in the face of profound human tragedy. Decades later, the bittersweet story still rings true, as strong-spirited individuals continue to battle the evil of prejudice. (6.9 B.L.)
24. **Sphere** by Michael Crichton. It turns out that the downed flying machine, resting 1,000 feet under the sea, is a huge spaceship that crashed at least 300 years ago.... A satisfactory degree of "Hmm?" and a judicious measure of "Eek!" are involved when the hero and several dispensable colleagues submerge to investigate. (7.1 B.L.)
25. **The Twenty-One Balloons** by William Pene duBois. Professor William Waterman Sherman intends to fly across the Pacific Ocean. But through a twist of fate, he lands on Krakatoa, and discovers a world of unimaginable wealth, eccentric inhabitants, and incredible balloon inventions. This classic fantasy-adventure was winner of the 1948 Newbery Medal. (7.9 B.L.)
26. **The Westing Game** by Ellen Raskin. The mysterious death of an eccentric millionaire brings together an unlikely assortment of heirs who must uncover the circumstances of his death before they can claim their inheritance. A super sharp mystery...Confoundingly clever, and very funny. (6.3 B.L.)

****Math Related Books-(Choose one from this list.)**

- 1) **Animal Farm** by George Orwell. This is a brilliant 1946 satire, chronicling a revolution staged by the animals on Mr. Jones's farm. (8.8 B.L.)
- 2) **Charlie and the Glass Elevator** by Roald Dahl. Charlie and Willy Wonka are back, this time in a fantastic journey to outer space in their glass elevator. (5.8 B.L.)
- 3) **Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone** by J.K. Rowling. Harry's terrible life with his wretched aunt and uncle changes with the arrival of a mysterious letter that carries with it an invitation to an astonishing place. (5.1 B.L.)
- 4) **Holes** by Louis Sachar. As further evidence of his family's bad fortune which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself. (4.8 B.L.)