All Morton Middle School students are required to read two books over the summer. Our diverse summer reading list consists of books from a variety of genres and reading levels, as well as a middle grades interest level. Below, please find the list of approved books. Upon returning to school from summer break, students will be required to take an Accelerated Reader (AR) test over the books read from the approved list. The AR point value for each book is listed by the title. Happy reading!

1. **The Adventures of Tom Sawyer** (unabridged) (12 points) – Mark Twain. A classic adventure about the boyhood pranks and schooldays of the main character, Tom Sawyer, on the American frontier.

2. **Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking-Glass** (unabridged) (10 points) – Lewis Carroll. Advanced readers will enjoy this classical favorite fantasy tale as they journey through Wonderland with the protagonist, Alice, as she encounters many amazing, whimsical characters.

3. **Anne of Green Gables** (unabridged) (17 points) – Lucy Maud Montgomery. This classic book details the life of a lively young orphan girl who delights her new home and community with her spirit and imagination.

4. **Code Orange** (8 points) – Caroline Cooney. The main character of this suspense/mystery book is a teenage boy named Mitty who isn’t motivated to do his school report on infectious disease. However, when he finds an envelope of smallpox scabs in an antique textbook, his school work becomes “real world,” as this discovery makes Mitty a target of a terrorist group that plans to harvest the smallpox virus.

5. **Counting by 7s** (10 points) – Holly Goldberg Sloan. Willow, a young genius, is devastated after the death of her adoptive parents. However, she learns to rebuild her life as she develops new relationships with unusual, quirky characters.

6. **Esperanza Rising** (6 points) – 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.

7. **Fantasy League** (10 points) – Mike Lupica. Charlie, a twelve year old fantasy football expert and a celebrity famous for his football game picks, befriends a NFL team owner and becomes part of his inner circle. Football enthusiasts will love this sports fiction novel.
8. *Grace, Gold & Glory: My Leap of Faith* (8 points) - Gabrielle Douglas and Michelle Burford. An inspiring autobiography about Gabby Douglas, the first African American gymnast to win the all-around competition in the Olympics. Gabby shares with readers the message that any dream is possible with faith, perseverance, and determination.

9. *The Hobbit* (16 points) - J.R.R. Tolkien. Fantasy lovers will enjoy this classic heroic tale of a Hobbit named Bilbo Buggins and the other mythical creatures that live in a land called Middle Earth.

10. *Lula Bell on Geekdom, Freakdom, and the Challenges of Bad Hair* (7 points) - C.C. Payne. A touching and humorous novel about the life of Lula Bell, a girl who tries desperately to fit in at school only to be brutally bullied by another classmate. Through the cast of quirky characters, the reader explores many themes such as friendship, family, and forgiveness.

11. *Masters of Disaster* (3 points) - Gary Paulsen. Readers will enjoy this humorous adventure book about three twelve-year-old boys who decide to increase the excitement in their lives by participating in a series of daring stunts like riding a bicycle off of a roof top.

12. *The Mother-Daughter Book Club Series* (AR points vary based on each book in the series.) - Heather Vogel Frederick. Read any of the six books in this delightful series about a few mothers who force their daughters to join a book club to the dismay of their daughters who aren’t even friends. The humorous twists and turns, pranks, and struggles in the lives of the book club daughters are highly entertaining! The club members mature from middle school to the end of high school throughout the series, and each book focuses on a different Classic novel as the topic of book club meetings.

13. *Scat* (12 points) - Carl Hiaasen. The Florida Everglades is the setting for this twisted, hysterical mystery. The drama unfolds after a feared biology teacher mysteriously disappears following a school field trip to Black Vine Swamp.

14. *The Skin I’m In* (4 points) - 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 in this realistic fiction book.

15. *The Boys in the Boat: The True Story of an American Team's Epic Journey to Win Gold at the 1936 Olympics* (9 points) - Daniel James Brown. This nonfiction book details the inspirational background story of the eight-oar crew from the University of Washington who, unexpectedly, went on to capture gold at the 1936 Olympics.

16. *The White Giraffe* (7 points) - Lauren St. John. On the night Martine turns eleven, her life changes forever. She must leave her beloved childhood home and move in with her unfamiliar grandmother on a game reserve in South Africa. There her African adventure begins as she befriends a mythical white giraffe.