

Over Study of Excellence
REGIONAL SCHOOL
 1001 W. BARKER RD. CHANDLER, AZ 85224-2100



First Grade-Seventh Grade Summer Reading Lists

All books are *Best Books* from School Library Journal, or have received some other award.

First Grade Summer Reading List

- BARBER, Tiki.** *Game Day.* Brothers Tiki and Ronde Barber, two NFL superstars, tell their story and explain how loyalty, determination and the power of teamwork help all to succeed.
- BRUCHAC, Joseph.** *Crazy Horse's Vision.* Embodying the spirit and culture of the legendary Lakota warrior, this fictionalized biography focuses on his journey to adulthood and the life paths that created the man he was.
- FALCONER, Ian.** *Olivia.* Whether she is playing dress-up, enduring a time-out, or bargaining for more bedtime reading, this effervescent young pig's indomitable spirit and boundless imagination shine through.
- GRAHAM, Bob.** *Max.* Young Max has no interest in following in his superhero parents' footsteps, but when a baby bird is in peril, he leaps to the rescue with a single bound. Droll details and a tongue-in-cheek text create a caped crusader who is just a regular child.
- GRAHAM, Lorenz.** *How God Fix Jonah.* Breath-taking blockprints, the vibrant vernacular of West-Africa and lyrical retellings showcase twenty-three Bible stories in this pioneering collection.
- GUEST, Elissa Haden.** *Iris and Walter.* In our easy-to-read chapters, Iris discovers a new friend and decides that maybe life in the country is not so bad after all.
- HENKES, Kevin.** *Wemberly Worried.* The real and imagined "what ifs" about starting school are seen through the eyes of a dyed-in-the-wool worrywart. Whimsical watercolors will win over even the mousiest readers.
- HOBERMAN, Mary Ann.** *You Read to Me, I'll Read to you: Very Short Fairy Tales to Read Together.* This title presents short retellings of familiar fairy tales, each told in two voices and designed especially for young children and adults to read together. *Series.*
- LANDRY, Leo.** *Sea Surprise.* Kate, a mermaid and her best friend Dave, a shark, have planned a special surprise to their best friend Ed who has lost his zap. A funny story with silly illustrations makes this a delightful tale of friendship.
- LINDBERGH, Reeve (Editor).** *In Every Tiny Grain of Sand: A Child's Books of Prayers and Praise.* A diverse collection of prayers, affirmations and poems in praise of God, nature, and the good things in life is supported by joyous, colorful illustrations.
- MCDONALD, Megan.** *Judy Moody.* Judy Moody, an impressive third-grader is working on her class project, a "Me Collage," in this contemporary story full of child-appealing humor and situations, presented in an accessible, attractive, generously illustrated package.
- MYERS, Christopher.** *Wings.* New to the neighborhood, Ikarus Jackson's ability to fly casts him in the role of outsider, until a shy, quiet girl finds the courage and voice to speak for a friend's special gift.
- SHANNON, David.** *Too Many Toys.* After he finally concedes that he had far too many toys, Spencer agrees to give many of them away but realizes that there is one special toy that he absolutely can't part with.
- SHARMAT, Marjorie.** *Nate the Great Talks Turkey.* Nate the Great and his cousin Olivia are on the case of a runaway turkey, but unfortunately the clues appear to contradict each other. *Series.*
- STEIG, William.** *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble.* In a moment of fright, Sylvester the donkey asks his magic pebble to turn into a rock but then can not hold the pebble to wish himself back to normal again.
- THOMAS, Shelley Moore.** *Good Night, Good Knight.* A courageous cavalier hears a roar in the forest and investigates, only to discover three tiny dragons in need of tucking in. Warm watercolors and inventive language work together to take beginning readers on a delightful quest.

Easy Readers:

"Hello Reader" series *Or Can Read* series

Chapter Books:

Cam Jansen series

Pinky and Rex series Henry and Mudge series

Second Grade Summer Reading List

ADLER, David. *Cam Jansen and the Mystery of the Dinosaur Bones.* Who is taking the bones from the museum? .

ALIKI. *A Weed is a Flower: The Life of George Washington Carver.* A slave becomes a great scientist. .

BRUCHAC, Joseph. *Crazy Horse's Vision.* Embodying the spirit and culture of the legendary Lakota warrior, this fictionalized biography focuses on his journey to adulthood and the life paths that created the man he was.

BRUCHAC, Joseph. *The First Strawberries: A Cherokee Story.* Sun brings sweet berries to Earth. .

CAMERON, Ann. *The Stories Julian Tells.* Julian loses a tooth and finds a new friend.

CHRISTELOW, Eileen. *What Do Authors Do?* How authors write, get published, and sign autographs. .

COLE, Brock. *Buttons.* When a portly gent bursts the buttons off his britches, his wife and daughters go to great lengths to procure new ones. A rib-tickling tale with comically unfettered illustrations.

JOHNSON, D. B. *Henry Hikes to Fitchburg.* While his friend works to earn the train fare to make a 30-mile journey, Henry hooles it instead, taking the time to smell the roses. Simple text and parallel poses reveal both bears' experiences and guiding philosophies as they follow their paths.

KLINE, Suzy. *Song Lee and the Hamster Hunt.* The whole class searches for the missing pet.

LEEDY, Loreen. *Missing Math: A Number Mystery.* A numerical mystery ensues when the numbers all over town suddenly disappear bringing a halt to everyday activities.

LINDBERGH, Reeve (Editor). *In Every Tiny Grain of Sand: A Child's Books of Prayers and Praise.* A diverse collection of prayers, affirmations and poems in praise of God, nature, and the good things in life is supported by joyous, colorful illustrations. .

LOBEL, Arnold. *Frog and Toad are Friends.* Be entertained by the classic, short, delightful tales about best friends Frog and Toad. *Series*

MCDONALD, Megan. *Judy Moody.* Judy Moody, an irrepressible third-grader is working on her class project, a "Me Collage," in this contemporary story full of child-appealing humor and situations, presented in an accessible, attractive, generously illustrated package.

MOSS, Lloyd. *Zin! Zin! Zin! a Violin.* The instruments of the orchestra assemble onstage for a joyful and rhythmic concert.

MOSS, Marissa. *Amelia's Notebook.* Amelia writes about her older sister, a new school and an old best friend. .

MYERS, Christopher. *Wings.* New to the neighborhood, Icarus Jackson's ability to fly casts him in the role of outsider, until a shy, quiet girl finds the courage and voice to speak for a friend's special gift.

NAMIOKA, Lonscy. *Yang the Youngest and His Terrible Ear.* Yingtao would rather play baseball than the violin. .

OSBORNE, Mary Pope. *Kate and the Beanstalk.* A saucy girl outwits an unctuous-looking giant, avenges her father's death, and recovers his castle in this clever twist on the traditional tale.

PRINGLE, Laurence. *Bats!: Strange and Wonderful.* A first-rate introduction to the anatomy, lifestyle, and environmental benefits of these flying mammals. Delightful watercolor paintings illustrate the unusual abilities, physical features, and habits of some of the individual species.

RYLAND, Cynthia. *Poppleton.* A small-town pig goes to the library.

VOLEN, Jane. *Commander Toad and the Planet of the Grapes.* The spaceship "Star Warts" goes where no toad has gone before. .

VOLEN, Jane. *Here's a Little Poem: A Very First Book of Poetry.* A collection of poems for children with the various themes of self, family, going outside, and when it is time for bed.

Third Grade Summer Reading List

BAGERT, Brod. *School Fever.* Hilarious poems, clever art work, and wacky subjects combine to change the way you'll think of school forever.

BLACKWOOD, Gary. *The Shakespeare Stealer.* A young orphan boy is ordered by his master to infiltrate Shakespeare's acting troupe in order to steal the script of "Hamlet," but he discovers instead the meaning of friendship and loyalty.

BUNTING, Eve. *Reggie.* 8 yr old Alex is determined to keep the toy mouse he finds tied to a balloon even after posters appear asking for it's return. But when his dog Patch disappears, Alex discovers what it is like to lose something you love more than anything.

BUTTS, Nancy. *The Door in the Lake.* After vanishing without a trace one night during a camping trip, twelve-year-old Joey reappears two years later, showing no signs of having aged and carrying memories of a strange light in the sky.

CLEMENTS, Andrew. *The Laundry News: A Brand New School Story.* A fifth-grader starts a newspaper with an editorial that prompts her burnt-out classroom teacher to really begin teaching again, but he is later threatened with disciplinary action as a result.

FLEISCHMAN, Sid. *Bandid's Moon.* Twelve-year-old Annyrose, left behind when her brother joins the Gold Rush, escapes the unscrupulous woman she is staying with and sets out on a grand adventure with the notorious bandit Joaquín Murrieta and his band of outlaws.

HADDIX, Margaret Peterson. *Among the Hidden.* In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke has lived all his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm, until another "third" convinces him that the government is wrong.

HENKES, Kevin. *Sun & Spoon.* After the death of his grandmother, ten-year-old Spoon tries to find the perfect artifact to preserve his memories of her.

HOLT, Kimberly Willis. *When Zachary Beaver Came to Town.* During the summer of 1971 in a small Texas town, thirteen-year-old Toby and his best friend Cal meet the star of a sideshow act, 600-pound Zachary, the fattest boy in the world.

KARR, Kathleen. *The Great Turkey Walk.* In 1860, fifteen-year-old third-grader Simon Green attempts to herd one thousand turkeys from Missouri to Denver, Colorado, in hopes of selling them at a profit.

KLISE, Kate. *Regarding the Fountain: A Tale in Letters, of Liars and Loafs.* When the principal asks a fifth-grader to write a letter regarding the purchase of a new drinking fountain for their school, he finds that all sorts of chaos results.

LAMARCHE, Jim. *The Raft.* Spending the summer with his "river rat" grandmother, a city boy discovers the joys of rafting and of sketching the wildlife and "hitchhikers" he encounters. Luminous art filled with the wonders of nature capture the reflective text.

McDONALD, Megan. *Judy Moody Around the World in 8 1/2 Days.* Judy Moody's new friendship causes problems with her old friends as they try to work together on a school project. Series

MYERS, Laurie. *Surviving Brick Johnson.* Fifth-grader Alex discovers that the classmate he fears as bully is nothing of the sort—in fact, he becomes a friend. With an open format and quirky, humorous illustrations, it's a perfect choice for reluctant readers.

PECK, Richard. *A Long Way from Chicago: A Novel in Stories.* A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother.

SOREL, Edward & Cheryl Carlesimo. *The Saturday Kid.* Leo imagines himself right alongside his Saturday matinee heroes. When his routine is threatened, the boy bests a bully by playing the violin and landing a spot on the silver screen. Gloriously rendered cartoon images bring the world of the 1930s to life.

Fourth Grade Summer Reading List

ARNOLD, Caroline. *Easter Island: Giant Stone Statues Tell of a Rich and Tragic Past.* In their search for the meaning of the monolithic statues on a

remote Polynesian island, archeologists have uncovered a fascinating tale of clashing clans and decimated resources. Spectacular color photos capture the mystery and drama of the stones and the setting.

BARASCH, Lynne. *Radio Rescue.* In 1923, a 10-year-old boy learns Morse code and follows his dream of becoming a licensed ham radio operator. Story and art unite together to telegraph one child's persistence and cool, focused attention in a crisis.

BLACKWOOD, Gary. *The Shakespeare Stealer.* A young orphan boy is ordered by his master to infiltrate Shakespeare's acting troupe in order to steal the script of "Hamlet," but he discovers instead the meaning of friendship and loyalty.

BUTTS, Nancy. *The Door in the Lake.* After vanishing without a trace one night during a camping trip, twelve-year-old Joey reappears two years later, showing no signs of having aged and carrying memories of a strange fight in the sky.

CLEARY, Beverly. *Ramona the Pest.* Ramona is off to kindergarten, and it's the greatest day of her life. So why is she sitting on the bench while the rest of the students play the game gray duck? Laughs and minor upsets abound in an enormously popular story starring the one and only Ramona Quimby! Check out other books in the Ramona series!

CLEMENTS, Andrew. *The Landry News. A Brand New School Story.* A fifth-grader starts a newspaper with an editorial that prompts her burnt-out classroom teacher to really begin teaching again, but he is later threatened with disciplinary action as a result.

CLINE-RANSOME, Lesa. *Satchel Paige.* The life of one of baseball's greatest pitchers and the first African American inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame is celebrated in a biography that captures the spirit of this sports legend.

CUSHMAN, Karen. *Matilda Bone.* Apprenticed to a medieval bonesetter, Matilda struggles to reconcile her privileged, pious upbringing with the coarser ways of the common folk. This coming-of-age novel has fascinating accounts of medicine, a touch of romance, and a healthy dose of humor, sets out on a grand adventure with the notorious bandit Joaquin Murieta and his band of outlaws.

GANTOS, Jack. *Joey Pigza Loses Control.* Having gotten his hyperactivity in hand at last, Joey visits his father and discovers an adult version of his off-kilter self. Insightful, outrageously funny, and heartbreakingly real, this novel is right on target and in perfect control.

HADDIX, Margaret Peterson. *Among the Hidden.* In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke has lived all his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm, until another "third" convinces him that the government is wrong.

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HOLT, Kimberly Willis. *When Zachary Beaver Came to Town.* During the summer of 1971 in a small Texas town, thirteen-year-old Toby and his best friend Cal meet the star of a sideshow act, 600-pound Zachary, the fattest boy in the world.

KARR, Kathleen. *The Great Turkey Walk.* In 1860, fifteen-year-old third-grader Simon Green attempts to herd one thousand turkeys from Missouri to Denver, Colorado, in hopes of selling them at a profit.

KLISE, Kate. *Regarding the Fountain: A Tale in Letters, of Liars and Leaks.* When the principal asks a fifth-grader to write a letter regarding the purchase of a new drinking fountain for their school, he finds that all sorts of chaos results.

MARKLE, Sandra. *Animal Heroes. True Rescue Stories.* Nine riveting talks share examples of animals saving humans, along with photos and extra information and insights into animal behavior.

MILLS, Claudia. *Being Teddy Roosevelt.* When he is assigned Teddy Roosevelt as his biography project in School, 4th grader Riley finds himself inspired by Roosevelt's tenacity and perseverance and resolves to find a way to get what he most wants – a saxophone and music lessons.

MYERS, Laurie. *Surviving Brick Johnson.* Fifth-grader Alex discovers that the classmate he fears as bully is nothing of the sort--in fact, he becomes a friend. With an open format and quirky, humorous illustrations, it's a perfect choice for reluctant readers.

PECK, Richard. *A Long Way from Chicago: A Novel in Stories.* A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother.

ST. GEORGE, Judith. *So You Want to Be President?* Quotes, quips, and comical anecdotes provide a lighthearted picture of our nation's highest office and the 42 men who have held it. The piquant political cartoons put a human profile--warts and all--on this powerful post.

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THAYER, Ernest Lawrence. *Casey at the Bat: A Ballad of the Republic Sung in the Year 1888.* In the format of an aging 1888 scrapbook, the immortal ballad of Ernest Thayer finds new life through Christopher Bing's innovative treatment. Pen and ink scratchboard "engravings" in the late 19th century style are seamlessly blended with memorabilia and trompe l'oeil recreations in an homage to the great American pastime. *Caldecott Honor Book.*

Fifth Grade Summer Reading List

ADA, Alma Flor. *Under the Royal Palms: A Childhood in Cuba.* Of books comprising nuggets of memory there seems to be no end, and in a companion volume to her *Where the Flame Trees Bloom* (1994, not reviewed), Ada recounts small stories of growing up in the town of in Camaguey, Cuba. She captures with some feeling the powerful effect of scent on memory: night jasmine, coffee, ylang-ylang, and her grandmother's perfume of lavender and sage.

BLACKWOOD, Gary. *The Shakespeare Stealer.* A young orphan boy is ordered by his master to infiltrate Shakespeare's acting troupe in order to steal the script of "Hamlet," but he discovers instead the meaning of friendship and loyalty.

BUTTS, Nancy. *The Door in the Lake.* After vanishing without a trace one night during a camping trip, twelve-year-old Joey reappears two years later, showing no signs of having aged and carrying memories of a strange light in the sky.

CLEMENTS, Andrew. *The Laundry News: A Brand New School Story.* A fifth-grader starts a newspaper with an editorial that prompts her burnt-out classroom teacher to really begin teaching again, but he is later threatened with disciplinary action as a result.

CLINE-RANSOME, Lesa. *Satchel Paige.* The life of one of baseball's greatest pitchers and the first African American inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame is celebrated in a biography that captures the spirit of this sports legend.

CORBETT, Sue. *Free Baseball.* Baseball is in 11 yr old Felix Piloto's blood. His Cuban father plays professionally, but Felix knows little else about him. When he runs away to serve as a batboy for a professional baseball team, Felix ultimately discovers his father's story, as well as his love for his mother, a dog and of course, the game.

CREECH, Sharon. *The Wanderer.* A transatlantic sail Sophie, her three uncles, and two male cousins to her adopted family's ancestral homeland. Alternating points of view reveal disparate personalities and rocky relationships as the unseasoned crew pulls together to weather a whale of a storm.

DASH, Joan. *The Longitude Prize.* Set in the exciting historical framework of the 18th century, *The Longitude Prize* chronicles the invention of a seagoing clock by John Harrison and the surrounding scientific, economic and political activity of 18th-century Great Britain. Patricia's black-and-white illustrations chart with levity Harrison's drive to solve the longitude problem with his clocks and his struggle to receive recognition for his ultimate achievement. A detailed glossary and concise timeline complement the book's bibliography and index. *Sibert Honor Book*

DICAMILLO, Kate. *Because of Winn-Dixie.* India Opal, a motherless preacher's daughter, is lonely in her new Florida home until a scraggly, smiling, stray mutt enters her life and together they win over the town. A heartfelt story that is sure to touch a chord with readers.

DIXON, Dougal. *The Future is Wild.* This companion book to the Animal Planet series uses a variety of scientific principles to imagine how life on planet Earth may evolve over the next 200 million years.

FELDMAN, Jody. *The Gollywhopper Games.* When the Golly Toy & Game Company announces the Gollywhopper Games, Gil Goodson wants to be the lucky winner; this could be the perfect opportunity for his family to move away from Orchard Heights. Can he solve the puzzles and complete the stunts? This may remind you of a modern day *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory!*

FLEISCHMAN, Sid. *Bandit's Moon.* Twelve-year-old Annyrose, left behind when her brother joins the Gold Rush, escapes the unscrupulous woman she is staying with and sets out on a grand adventure with the notorious bandit Joaquin Murieta and his band of outlaws.

HADDIX, Margaret Peterson. *Among the Hidden.* In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke has lived all his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm, until another "third" convinces him that the government is wrong.

HENKES, Kevin. *Sun & Spoon.* After the death of his grandmother, ten-year-old Spoon tries to find the perfect artifact to preserve his memories of her.

HOBBS, Will. *Jackie's Wild Seattle.* 14 ear old Shannon and her little brother Cody spend the summer with their uncle, helping at a wildlife rescue center named Jackie's Wild Seattle.

HOLT, Kimberly Willis. *When Zachary Beaver Came to Town.* During the summer of 1971 in a small Texas town, thirteen-year-old Toby and his best friend Cal meet the star of a sideshow act, 600-pound Zachary, the fattest boy in the world.

IBBOYSON, Eva. *Island of the Aunts.* Four aunts bring three children to their remote island to help them guard and care for the unique and magical

wildlife that thrives there. A wacky fantasy of intrigue, kidnapping, and derring-do.

KARR, Kathleen. *The Great Turkey Walk.* In 1860, fifteen-year-old third-grader Simon Green attempts to herd one thousand turkeys from Missouri to Denver, Colorado, in hopes of selling them at a profit.

KLISE, Kate. *Regarding the Fountain: A Tale in Letters, of Liars and Leaks.* When the principal asks a fifth-grader to write a letter regarding the purchase of a new drinking fountain for their school, he finds that all sorts of chaos results.

LYNCH, Chris. *Gold Dust.* Set against the backdrop of the Boston bussing order of the 1970's, baseball-obsessed Richard Riley Moncrief befriends Napoleon Charlie Ellis, newly arrived from Dominica, at St. Colmeille's parochial school.

PECK, Richard. *A Long Way from Chicago: A Novel in Stories.* A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother.

PECK, Richard. *A Year Down Yonder.* Mary Alice is sent to live with her unscrupulous, conniving grandmother and comes to discover the soft side of this hardheaded individual. A warm and winning novel set in 1937.

PULLMAN, Philip. *The Amber Spyglass.* As war rages and Dust drains from the sky, the fate of the living and dead comes to depend on Lyra and Will, two ordinary children with extraordinary powers.

ROWLING, J.K. *The Tales of Beedie the Bard.* Readers are first introduced to *The Tales of Beedie the Bard* as the book bequeathed to Hermione in *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*. The five wizard fairy tales are cleverly noted and commented upon by Dumbledore.

ST. GEORGE, Judith. *So You Want to Be President?* Quotes, quips, and comical anecdotes provide a lighthearted picture of our nation's highest office and the 42 men who have held it. The piquant political cartoons put a human profile--warts and all--on this powerful post.

TOWNLEY, Roderick. *The Great Good Thing.* Nothing ever changes inside the storybook kingdom inhabited by 12 yr old Princess Sylvie, her parents and many other characters until Sylvie discovers that by allying herself with the Reader she can experience new adventure beyond the confines of the book. Sequel is into the *Labyrinth: A Novel*.

THAYER, Ernest Lawrence. *Casey at the Bat: A Ballad of the Republic Sung in the Year 1888.* In the format of an aging 1888 scrapbook, the immortal ballad of Ernest Thayer finds new life through Christopher Bing's innovative treatment. Pen and ink scratchboard "engravings" in the late 19th century style are seamlessly blended with memorabilia and trompe l'oeil recreations in an homage to the great American pastime.

WEBB, Sophie. *My Season with Penguins: An Antarctic Journal.* Webb deftly uses illustrated journal entries to document her participation in a two-month expedition to Antarctica to study Adelle penguins in 1996. She includes absorbing details of daily life for a scientist in the field, as well as the life and behavior of penguins. Clear prose and engaging illustrations done in watercolor, gouache and graphite convey how an ornithologist works and lives in the field.

Sixth Grade Summer Reading List

ALLEN, Thomas B. *Harriet Tubman, Secret Agent: How Daring Slaves and Free Blacks Spied for the Union During the Civil War.* Tells the story of Harriet Tubman and other slaves and free African-Americans who risked death to gather information about the Confederacy for the Union during the Civil War.

ALMOND, David. *Kit's Wilderness.* In an old coal-mining town, thirteen-year-old Kit meets a boy who invites him to play the game of "Death," and discovers the stories and ghosts of his child-ancestors.

BRENNER, Barbara (Editor). *Voices: Poetry and Art From Around the World.* A sampler of traditional, ancient and modern poetry from six continents is interspersed with illustrations of world art and sculpture.

CARMI, Daniella (Translated from Hebrew by Yael Lotan). *Samir and Yonatan.* Samir, a Palestinian boy, enters an Israeli hospital for surgery. The initial fear and antagonism that he feels is mitigated by his bond with Yonatan, an Israeli. The relationship of the children in the ward grows as they face their own physical and emotional trials.

DASH, Joan. *The Longitude Prize.* Set in the exciting historical framework of the 18th century, *The Longitude Prize* chronicles the invention of a seagoing clock by John Harrison and the surrounding scientific, economic and political activity of 18th-century Great Britain. Peiric's black-and-white illustrations chart with levity Harrison's drive to solve the longitude problem with his clocks and his struggle to receive recognition for his ultimate achievement. A detailed glossary and concise timeline complement the book's bibliography and index.

FRADIN, Dennis Brindley & Judith Bloom Fradin. *Ida B. Wells: Mother of the Civil Rights Movement.* This compelling narrative examines the life of an unconventional, untiring, and often-overlooked crusader for justice. Graphic archival photographs document Wells's extraordinary life and times.

GIFF, Patricia Reilly. *Nory Ryan's Song.* When the potato blight destroys an Irish community's sole source of food, Nory and her neighbors must draw on their inner strength to survive. A powerfully written historical novel with a spirited and resourceful heroine.

HESSE, Karen. *Stowaway.* A boy bribes his way onboard the *Endeavour* with Captain James Cook and learns that adventure can be deadly serious business. Nicholas records his impressions, insights, and internal dialogues in this deliberately paced and dutifully detailed diary.

JACKSON, Ellen. *The Mysterious Universe: Supernova, Dark Energy and Black Holes.* A fascinating and mysterious look at the universe with beautiful photographs, this book discusses various space phenomena: supernova, black holes and dark energy.

LYNCH, Chris. *Gold Dust.* Set against the backdrop of the Boston bussing order of the 1970's, baseball-obsessed Richard Riley Moncrief befriends Napoleon Charlie Ellis, newly arrived from Dominica, at St. Colmcille's parochial school.

MURPHY, Jim. *Blizzard!* Dramatic period photos, news accounts, and personal stories take readers into the eye of a storm that halted the East Coast of the United States in March 1888, altering lives and public policy forever.

PECK, Richard. *A Year Down Yonder.* Mary Alice is sent to live with her unscrupulous, conniving grandmother and comes to discover the soft side of this hardheaded individual. A warm and winning novel set in 1937.

PULLMAN, Philip. *The Amber Spyglass.* As war rages and Dust rains from the sky, the fate of the living and dead comes to depend on Lyra and Will, two ordinary children with extraordinary powers.

RYAN, Pam Muñoz. *Becoming Naomi Leon.* When Naomi's absent mother resurfaces to claim her, Naomi runs away to Mexico with her great grandmother and younger brother in search of her father.

WEBB, Sophie. *My Season with Penguins: An Antarctic Journal.* Webb deftly uses illustrated journal entries to document her participation in a two-month expedition to Antarctica to study Adelle penguins in 1996. She includes absorbing details of daily life for a scientist in the field, as well as the life and behavior of penguins. Clear prose and engaging illustrations done in watercolor, gouache and graphite convey how an ornithologist works and lives in the field.

Seventh Grade Summer Reading List

ALMOND, David. *Kit's Wilderness.* In an old coal-mining town, thirteen-year-old Kit meets a boy who invites him to play the game of "Death," and discovers the stories and ghosts of his child-ancestors.

ARONSON, Marc. *Sir Walter Raleigh and the Quest for El Dorado.* Ambitious, brave, calculating, romantic, all these adjectives and many more describe Sir Walter Raleigh (his own spelling), the English explorer who forged a place for his country in the New World. This is much more than just a traditional biography. It's a portrait of the Elizabethan age, when the metaphor of exploration made its way into politics, literature, and even religion. The book chronicles Raleigh's rise from his country-bumpkin origins to Elizabeth's courtier and goes on to describe how his ambition pointed him toward the New World.

BAUER, Joan. *Hope Was Here.* An engaging teen is a crackerjack waitress but is less adroit at handling personal relationships and trusting others. An upbeat, offbeat, and wise novel.

BRENNER, Barbara (Editor). *Voices: Poetry and Art From Around the World.* A sampler of traditional, ancient and modern poetry from six continents is interspersed with illustrations of world art and sculpture.

DASH, Joan. *The Longitude Prize.* Set in the exciting historical framework of the 18th century, *The Longitude Prize* chronicles the invention of a sea-going clock by John Harrison and the surrounding scientific, economic and political activity of 18th-century Great Britain. Petricic's black-and-white illustrations chart with levity Harrison's drive to solve the longitude problem with his clocks and his struggle to receive recognition for his ultimate achievement. A detailed glossary and concise timeline complement the book's bibliography and index.

GRIMES, Nikki. *The Road to Paris.* Inconsolable at being separated from her older brother, 8 yr old Paris is apprehensive about her new foster family but just as she learns to trust them, she faces a life-changing decision.

RYLANT, Cynthia. *Boris.* The narrator of these nineteen poems speaks directly to her cat, Boris, about his life and her own, since his arrival at her door. This book is a good introduction for newcomers to poetry and is especially appealing to cat lovers.

VERNE, Jules. *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea.* This is a nineteenth-century science fiction tale of an electric submarine. It's eccentric captain, and undersea world, which anticipated many of the scientific achievements of the twentieth century.

WEBB, Sophie. *My Season with Penguins: An Antarctic Journal.* Webb deftly uses illustrated journal entries to document her participation in a two-month expedition to Antarctica to study Adelle penguins in 1996. She includes absorbing details of daily life for a scientist in the field, as well as the life and behavior of penguins. Clear prose and engaging illustrations done in watercolor, gouache and graphite convey how an ornithologist works and lives in the field.