Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the Middlebrook Summer '09 Reading and Writing Program!
Summer is a perfect time for pleasure reading. Whether relaxing at the beach, camping, or sitting in your own backyard, summer is an ideal time to pick up a book of your choice and relax. Last summer Middlebrook students read more than 6,000 books or about six books per student, and we hope to increase our school's total books read this summer.

Because we understand that during any summer some reading and writing skills may be lost, and because we all understand that students who read become both better readers and better writers, we join many area towns in supporting a summer reading program. Every Middlebrook student is required to choose and read three books. Those three titles should be recorded, along with the titles of all other books read, on the page provided in this reading list. It will be collected by one of your child's language arts teachers within the first week of school. In addition, your child will be asked within the first week or so of school to write about one of those books by choosing one of the writing prompts also included in this packet. The completion of the writing assignment will allow both your child to carefully consider one of the books and the staff to reinforce the qualities of good writing at the beginning of the school year.

Besides the space to record titles of the books read, you will also find in this grade-level booklet a "suggested reading list" compiled by Middlebrook's Media Center Specialists and Language Arts teachers. There is an essential core of books of varying difficulty and depth that is repeated in all grade levels, but grade-level titles are also included. Peruse the list carefully. Many of the authors included here have written other wonderful books, but due to space limitations, we could not include them all. Be sure to check out additional titles by your favorite author even if they are not listed here. In addition, Wilton's Public Library has an extensive bibliography shelf and should be considered another great source from which your child could choose titles. There is also a page of web sites at the end of this packet, and it offers yet another resource for additional titles. We encourage parents to actively participate in this program by assisting in the selection of relevant and challenging titles.

Reading this summer is the very best preparation for next year. Begin to turn the pages in the books you choose, and enjoy the summer!

Sincerely,

Middlebrook's Language Arts Teachers
and Media Center Specialists
Welcome, New Students, to Wilton...

If you are new to the Wilton school district, try to read the following titles, which many of your classmates have already read:

If you are entering seventh grade:
North to Freedom
Ulysses by B. Evslin
Hatchet
Voyage of the Frog
Beyond the Western Sea, vol. 1
Treasure Island

If you are entering eighth grade:
The Incredible Journey
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry
The Call of the Wild
The Contender
Macbeth
A Christmas Carol
Summer of My German Soldier

If you are entering ninth grade:
To Kill A Mockingbird
A Tree Grows in Brooklyn
Animal Farm
Hiroshima
Killer Angels
Johnny Tremain
April Morning
The Pearl
As You Like It
A Midsummer Night's Dream
7th GRADE WRITING PROMPTS

In September, each seventh grader will choose one of the following writing prompts to share some thoughts about the summer reading he/she did and to review and practice all of the qualities of good writing. Each student will have freedom to choose the prompt and to choose the book to be considered in this piece of writing.

PROMPT #1:

Write a letter to your teacher to persuade him/her to add this book to the curriculum for the class to study this year. Be sure to give strong reasons and good supporting details to convince him/her that this is a good idea.

- OR -

PROMPT #2:

Write a letter to your best friend to persuade your friend to read this book. Be sure to give strong reasons with good supporting details in order to convince your friend of your thinking.

- OR -

PROMPT #3:

Write a letter to the author to try to persuade him/her to write a sequel to the book you read. Be sure to use strong reasons with good supporting details in order to convince the author that the story should be carried on in another book.
PLAN - OF - ACTION
FOR
SUMMER READING

After reviewing this reading list, I think I might like to read the following:

1. ____________________________________________ (title)
   WHY?__________________________________________

2. ____________________________________________ (title)
   WHY?__________________________________________

3. ____________________________________________ (title)
   WHY?__________________________________________

4. ____________________________________________ (title)
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NAME ___________________________ GRADE ___________________________

PARENT SIGNATURE ____________________________________________

NOTE: Please post this sheet of paper on your refrigerator, and bring it with you on the first day of school. If you need more space, just attach another piece of paper to this one. Happy reading!
1. NEWBERY MEDAL AND HONOR BOOKS 2005 - 2009

These prizes are awarded yearly by the American Library Association for the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children.

2009 Medalist: 

Gaiman, Neil  
The Graveyard Book  
A child named Nobody Owens is marked for death by a group of assassins. Where can he go to survive? The answer is to hide in a graveyard and to find help from the ghosts who live there.

2009 Honor Books: 

Appelt, Kathi  
The Underneath  
Under the canopy of the loblolly pines and in the swamp which lies on the floor of the forest are many unusual characters whose stories of love, loss, loneliness, and hope capture the reader’s curiosity.

Engle, Margarita  
The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba’s Struggle for Freedom  
Cuba’s three wars for independence from Spain are shared in free verse form and various voices, including both fictional characters and some real-life heroes who struggled to save everyone involved.

Law, Ingrid  
Savvy  
Mibs Beaumont and her friends wind their way through the countryside on a wild bus ride and learn much about themselves as they do so.

Woodson, Jacqueline  
After Tupac & D Foster  
Life changes for two girls in a New York neighborhood when a third girl joins their game of Double Dutch. Freedom and friendship are just some of the ideas explored as the girls redefine their own identities.

2008 Medalist: 

Schlitz, Laura A.  
Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices From a Medieval Village  
Hugo, Nellie, and nineteen other young individuals share narratives about their lives in their 13th century village and manor. These performances create a dramatic pageant revealing many of the village’s relationships in this different time and space.

2008 Honor Books: 

Curtis, Christopher Paul  
Elijah of Buxton  
Elijah is the first free-born child in Buxton, the Canadian community of escaped slaves. The realities of slavery in 1860 and the meaning of freedom become abundantly clear as Elijah’s story unfolds.

Schmidt, Gary D.  
The Wednesday Wars  
Holling Hoodhood believes his seventh grade teacher hates him. In their Wednesday afternoon Shakespeare sessions they both experience some funny and some serious lessons in life.

Woodson, Jacqueline  
Feathers  
Frannie begins to recognize the barriers that separate people and the hope needed to bridge that separation when a new boy arrives in her sixth grade classroom.
2007 Medalist: 
Patron, Susan

The Higher Power of Lucky

Lucky Trimble eavesdrops from her hiding place behind the museum and learns quirky details about some people in town. These details lead to both adventures and some hilarious moments as children learn to support each other.

2007 Honor Books:

Holm, Jennifer L.

Penny From Heaven

Penny looks forward to spending the summer rooting for the Brooklyn Dodgers and scheming with her cousin Frankie but winds up navigating between her two families and trying to find ways to bring them back together.

Larson, Kirby

Hattie Big Sky

Hattie strives to forge a new life and "prove her claim" to a new home when she moves from Iowa to Montana.

Lord, Cynthia

Rules

Catherine tries to create rules for her younger autistic brother David in an attempt to normalize his life and her own.

2006 Medalist:

Perkins, Lynne Rae

Criss Cross

Debbie and Hector narrate this story about their lives, problems, and friends as they all face choices that can change their lives and relationships forever.

2006 Honor Books:

Armstrong, Alan W.

Whittington

Two characters, Whittington, a tomcat whose famous ancestor lived in the Middle Ages, and Ben, a boy with reading difficulties, find they can help each other with their problems.

Bartoletti, Susan

Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow

The youth of Germany helped to empower Hitler, and Bartoletti helps the reader understand how Hitler exchanged the promise of excitement and power for the service and loyalty of those young men and women.

2005 Medalist:

Kadohata, Cynthia

Kira-Kira

Two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950's and early 1960's have a close friendship but then somehow have to cope with despair when one of the sisters becomes terminally ill.

2005 Honor Books:

Choldenko, Gennifer

Al Capone Does My Shirts

A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and he has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.

Freedman, Russell

The Voice That Challenged a Nation: Marian Anderson and the Struggle for Equal Rights

This life story of Marian Anderson describes her famous 1939 Lincoln Memorial performance and explains how she helped end segregation in the American arts after being refused the right to perform at Washington's Constitution Hall because of the color of her skin.

Schmidt, Gary

Lizzy Bright and The Buckminster Boy

In 1911 Turner Buckminster hates his new home of Phippsburg, Maine, but things improve when he meets Lizzie Bright Griffin, a girl from a poor, nearby island community founded by former slaves. The town leaders, including Turner's dad, want to change that island into a tourist spot. This haunting novel explores powerlessness, possibility, and the profound impact individuals can make.
Association for Library Service to Children
Newbery Medal Winners, 1922 – Present

2008: *Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices from a Medieval Village* by Laura Amy Schlitz (Candlewick)
2006: *Criss Cross* by Lynne Rae Perkins (Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins)
2005: *Kira-Kira* by Cynthia Kadohata (Atheneum Books for Young Readers/Simon & Schuster)
2004: *The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess, Some Soup, and a Spool of Thread* by Kate DiCamillo (Candlewick Press)
2003: *Crispin: The Cross of Lead* by Avi (Hyperion Books for Children)
2002: *A Single Shard* by Linda Sue Park (Clarion Books/Houghton Mifflin)
2001: *A Year Down Yonder* by Richard Peck (Dial)
2000: *Bud, Not Buddy* by Christopher Paul Curtis (Delacorte)
1999: *Holes* by Louis Sachar (Frances Foster)
1998: *Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse (Scholastic)
1997: *The View from Saturday* by E.L. Konigsburg (Jean Karl/Atheneum)
1996: *The Midwife's Apprentice* by Karen Cushman (Clarion)
1995: *Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech (HarperCollins)
1994: *The Giver* by Lois Lowry (Houghton)
1993: *Missing May* by Cynthia Rylant (Jackson/Orchard)
1992: *Shiloh* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor (Atheneum)
1991: *Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli (Little, Brown)
1990: *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry (Houghton)
1989: *Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices* by Paul Fleischman (Harper)
1988: *Lincoln: A Photobiography* by Russell Freedman (Clarion)
1987: *The Whipping Boy* by Sid Fleischman (Greenwillow)
1986: *Sarah, Plain and Tall* by Patricia MacLachlan (Harper)
1985: *The Hero and the Crown* by Robin McKinley (Greenwillow)
1984: *Dear Mr. Henshaw* by Beverly Cleary (Morrow)
1983: *Dickey's Song* by Cynthia Voigt (Atheneum)
1982: *A Visit to William Blake's Inn: Poems for Innocent and Experienced Travelers* by Nancy Willard (Harcourt)
1981: *Jacob Have I Loved* by Katherine Paterson (Crowell)
1979: *The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin (Dutton)
1978: *Bridge to Terabithia* by Katherine Paterson (Crowell)
1977: *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor (Dial)
1976: *The Grey King* by Susan Cooper (McElderry/Atheneum)
1975: *M. C. Higgins, the Great* by Virginia Hamilton (Macmillan)
1974: *The Slave Dancer* by Paula Fox (Bradbury)
1973: *Julie of the Wolves* by Jean Craighead George (Harper)
1972: *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH* by Robert C. O'Brien (Atheneum)
1971: *Summer of the Swans* by Betsy Byars (Viking)
1969: *The High King* by Lloyd Alexander (Holt)
1968: *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E.L. Konigsburg (Atheneum)
1967: *Up a Road Slowly* by Irene Hunt (Follett)
1966: *I, Juan de Pareja* by Elizabeth Borton de Trevino (Farrar)
1965: *Shadow of a Bull* by Maia Wojciechowska (Atheneum)
1964: *It's Like This, Cat* by Emily Neville (Harper)
1963: *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle (Farrar)
1962: *The Bronze Bow* by Elizabeth George Speare (Houghton)
1961: *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell (Houghton)
1960: *Onion John* by Joseph Krumgold (Crowell)
1959: *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* by Elizabeth George Speare (Houghton)
1958: *Rifles for Watie* by Harold Keith (Crowell)
1957: *Miracles on Maple Hill* by Virginia Sorenson (Harcourt)
1956: *Carry On, Mr. Bowditch* by Jean Lee Latham (Houghton)
1955: *The Wheel on the School* by Meindert DeJong (Harper)
1954: *...And Now Miguel* by Joseph Krumgold (Crowell)
1953: *Secret of the Andes* by Ann Nolan Clark (Viking)
1952: *Ginger Pye* by Eleanor Estes (Harcourt)
1951: *Amos Fortune, Free Man* by Elizabeth Yates (Dutton)
1950: *The Door in the Wall* by Marguerite de Angeli (Doubleday)
1949: *King of the Wind* by Marguerite Henry (Rand McNally)
1948: *The Twenty-One Balloons* by William Pène du Bois (Viking)
1947: *Miss Hickory* by Carolyn Sherwin Bailey (Viking)
1946: *Strawberry Girl* by Lois Lenski (Lippincott)
1945: *Rabbit Hill* by Robert Lawson (Viking)
1944: *Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes (Houghton)
1943: *Adam of the Road* by Elizabeth Janet Gray (Viking)
1942: *The Matchlock Gun* by Walter Edmonds (Dodd)
1941: *Call It Courage* by Armstrong Sperry (Macmillan)
1940: *Daniel Boone* by James Daugherty (Viking)
1939: *Thimble Summer* by Elizabeth Enright (Rinehart)
1938: *The White Stag* by Kate Seredy (Viking)
1937: *Roller Skates* by Ruth Sawyer (Viking)
1936: *Caddie Woodlawn* by Carol Ryrie Brink (Macmillan)
1935: *Dobby* by Monica Shannon (Viking)
1934: *Invincible Louisa: The Story of the Author of Little Women* by Cornelia Meigs (Little, Brown)
1933: *Young Fu of the Upper Yangtze* by Elizabeth Lewis (Winston)
1932: *Waterless Mountain* by Laura Adams Armer (Longmans)
1931: *The Cat Who Went to Heaven* by Elizabeth Coatsworth (Macmillan)
1930: *Hitty, Her First Hundred Years* by Rachel Field (Macmillan)
1929: *The Trumpeter of Krakow* by Eric P. Kelly (Macmillan)
1928: *Gay Neck, the Story of a Pigeon* by Dhan Gopal Mukerji (Dutton)
1927: *Smoky, the Cowhorse* by Will James (Scribner)
1926: *Shen of the Sea* by Arthur Bowie Chrisman (Dutton)
1925: *Tales from Silver Lands* by Charles Finger (Doubleday)
1924: *The Dark Frigate* by Charles Hawes (Little, Brown)
1923: *The Voyages of Doctor Dolittle* by Hugh Lofting (Lippincott)
1922: *The Story of Mankind* by Hendrik Willem van Loon (Liveright)
The following list of titles is taken from "Timeless Classics", a booklist published in 1995 by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Titles with asterisks denote titles recommended by Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth.

**Alcott, Louisa May**

*Little Women*

The four March sisters are definitely individuals as they work their way toward adulthood, but they are also united in their devotion to each other and their family as they struggle to survive in New England during the Civil War.

**Austen, Jane**

*Emma*

Pretty, spunky Emma thinks she knows what is best for everybody. A young woman about to enter society, Emma is the center of Austen's rich and amusing portrayal of English middle class life. Readers will enjoy becoming acquainted with the delightful Emma and the novel's other characters as well.

**Blackmore, Richard D.**

*Lorna Doone*

This is the romantic love story of the outlaw Doone maid brought up in their midst, and plain John Ridd's service to James I during Monoliths' Rebellion.

**Bradbury, Ray**

*Fahrenheit 451*

A book burning official in a future oppressive state finds out that books are actually an important part of the culture he never knew. He secretly begins reading to learn about his world's past.

**Bronte, Charlotte**

*Jane Eyre*

Jane Eyre's early life is filled with abuse and cruelty until she secures a position as governess for the wealthy and moody master of Thornfield, Mr. Rochester. This marks the beginning of a strange love affair that is threatened by some evil secret hidden in the attic of the Rochester home.

**Carroll, Lewis**

*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*

Follow Alice as she falls down a rabbit hole to find herself in a crazy world where nothing is ever as it appears to be. The Mad Hatter, the Queen of Hearts, and the Cheshire Cat are some of the unforgettable characters Alice meets.

**Cather, Willa**

*My Antonia*

The prairie of Nebraska serves as the setting for Cather's strong portrayal of Antonia, the daughter of an immigrant Bohemian farmer. It is not only a story of Antonia's strength and determination, but it is a realistic description of pioneer life on the American frontier.

**Crane, Stephen**

*The Red Badge of Courage*

Young Henry Fleming, a private in the Union Army, faces the enemy for the first time during the Battle of Chancellorsville. Fear overcomes him and Henry runs, only to return to the action to lead an important and heroic charge.
Defoe, Daniel  
Robinson Crusoe*  
This famous tale of adventure, based on a true story, chronicles Crusoe’s escape from a shipwreck and his subsequent life on a deserted island.

Dickens, Charles  
Great Expectations*  
This famous story follows Pip’s discovery of the realities of life and how they affect his pride and the values by which he leads his life.

Dumas, Alexander  
The Three Musketeers*  
The adventures of high-spirited Frenchmen set against the historical background of the courts of Louis XIII and Louis XIV.

Ferber, Edna  
Cimarron  
Sabra Cravat, gentle and well-bred, finds a new life during the Oklahoma Land Rush of 1889. The disappearance of her husband forces her to attempt tasks she never dreamed possible, and she becomes a successful newspaper editor and later a congresswoman.

Gunther, John  
Death Be Not Proud  
This deeply moving book is a father’s memoir of his seventeen-year-old son’s brave and spirited fight to overcome a brain tumor.

Hemingway, Ernest  
The Old Man and The Sea  
This modern classic tells the tragic yet triumphant story of an old Cuban fisherman and his battle with a giant marlin far out in the Gulf Stream.

Irving, Washington  
The Sketch Book  
This famous and classic book contains both “Rip Van Winkle” and “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow,” two humorous stories which mark the acceptance of short stories in American literature.

Kipling, Rudyard  
Kim*  
Kim O’Hara, the orphaned son of an Irish soldier, lives the life of a beggar in colonial India. Rescued by members of his father’s regiment, Kim is sent away to be educated but returns to India as an agent for the British Secret Service.

Lord, Walter  
A Night to Remember  
April 14, 1912 became a night to remember for those on the ill-fated liner, Titanic. This book describes in gripping detail the ship’s first and last voyage.

McCullers, Carson  
Member of the Wedding  
An imaginative teenager, Frankie, learns her older brother is going to be married and plots to accompany him and his bride on their honeymoon.

O’Dell, Scott  
Island of the Blue Dolphins  
An Indian girl, Karana, spends eighteen years alone on an island. There she learns about nature and herself as she struggles to survive.
TIMELESS CLASSICS - OR -
DON'T LEAVE MIDDLEBROOK WITHOUT READING THESE (cont.)

Paton, Alan  
Cry, The Beloved Country  
This is the compassionate story of the Zulu pastor, Stephen Kumalo, and his son, Absalom, told against a background of the beautiful and troubled land of South Africa.

Roberts, Kenneth  
Northwest Passage  
An epic story of adventure and exploration in pre-Revolutionary America is presented in this well-known story.

Shelley, Mary  
Frankenstein*  
Using assorted body parts stolen from graves, Dr. Frankenstein creates a monster.

Stevenson, Robert Louis  
The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*  
Edward Hyde is a vile and obnoxious person. Henry Jekyll is a pleasant, reputable doctor. The recent relationship between Jekyll and Hyde puzzles the doctor's friends, but little do they know that the good doctor has created the weird Mr. Hyde.

Tolkien, J.R.R.  
The Hobbit* and The Lord of the Rings Trilogy  
In a world inhabited by dwarfs, dragons, elves, and an occasional human, the hobbit, Bilbo Baggins, attempts to recover the stolen treasure hidden on Lonely Mountain.

Twain, Mark  
Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*  
Huck Finn and Jim, a runaway slave, travel down the Mississippi River, witnessing murders and robberies along the way.

Verne, Jules  
20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*  
A large sea monster menacing shipping is actually a submarine, the Nautilus, commanded by the eccentric Captain Nemo. Pursued by Professor Aronnay and his good friend, Conseil, Nemo will show these men a part of the sea they have never explored.

Wells, H.G.  
War of the Worlds*  
When war machines from Mars descend upon Earth shooting destructive light rays, humans are defenseless. No weapon seems to damage the Martian ships and the existence of Earth is in question.
3. SOME OUTSTANDING MYSTERY TITLES

Avi  
**Wolf Rider**
Andy, 15, receives an anonymous phone call about a murder. Andy is sure the message was serious, but his father dismisses it as just a crank call. Andy is determined to find out the truth.

Babbitt, Natalie  
**Knee-Knock Rise**
The villagers of Knee-knock Rise seem to be under a spell. At night weird howls come from the mountain. Young Egan is determined to find the source.

Bawden, Nina  
**Carrie’s War**
During World War II, Carrie and her brother Nick were evacuees. They went to live in a small Welsh mining town where they stayed with strict Mr. Evans.

Bunting, Eve  
**The Haunting of Safekeep**
While Trying to understand her mother, who abandoned her as a child, eighteen-year-old Sara takes a summer job as a caretaker at a Victorian restoration site and encounters a foundling and two ghosts.

Cameron, Eleanor  
**The Court of The Stone Children**
Lonely, Nina plays an imaginary game in a San Francisco museum. She ends up solving a murder mystery that has been unsolved since the early 19th century.

Christie, Agatha  
**Murder On The Orient Express**
On a snowbound European train, a wealthy American is found stabbed in his bunk. Monsieur Poirot must search for the murderer among his fellow passengers.

Clements, Bruce  
**The Treasure of Plunderell Manor**
Fourteen-year-old Laurel is hired as Lady’s maid to Alice Plunderell. This young heiress is threatened by her evil relatives, Lord and Lady Stayne, who want Alice dead in order to take possession of a hidden treasure.

Cooney, Caroline B.  
**The Face On The Milk Carton**
Fifteen-year-old Janie Johnson stares at the picture on the milk carton. It is the face of a little girl who was kidnapped 12 years ago in a shopping mall. It is her own face!
Cooney, Caroline B. **Whatever Happened to Janie?**
Fifteen-year-old Janie is suddenly faced with the fact that she was kidnapped as an infant. Two different families love her and want her. But who is she really: Janie Johnson or Jennie Spring? Sequel to *The Face on the Milk Carton*.

Dixon, Franklin W. **The Twisted Claw**
The Hardy Boys embark on another puzzling mystery when they try to discover who is stealing a rare collection of ancient pirate treasure and smuggling them out of the United States.

Du Maurier, Daphne **Rebecca**
A shy young bride comes home to Manderley, her husband's lavish estate. But she is haunted by the evil presence of his beautiful first wife who died there.

Erwin, Vicki **Jamie and the Mystery Quilt**
Jamie finds an old quilt in the attic. Which is an exact map of her house as it used to be fifty years ago. Then the quilt is stolen. Can she get it back and find out what clue the quilt silently holds?

Fleischman, Paul **A Fate Totally Worse Than Death**
In this parody of teen horror novels, something ghastly is happening to the leaders of the ruling clique at Cliffside High. Could Helga, the beautiful exchange student from Norway, be a vengeful ghost?

George, Jean Craighead **The Fire Bug Connection**
Two faculty kids, 12-year-old Maggie and pesky 10-year-old Mitch (who happens to be a computer whiz), become ecological detectives when Maggie's exotic fire bugs start to die.

Hahn, Mary Downing **The Doll In The Garden: a Ghost Story**
Ashley and Kristi discover they can travel through time back to the turn of the century by going through a hole in the hedge. They meet a sickly girl named Louisa whose beloved doll has disappeared.

Hahn, Mary Downing **The Dead Man in Indian Creek**
When Parker talks Matt into camping out at Indian Creek, he never dreams that they will stumble over a dead body...or that their own lives will be in danger from a killer who guesses that the boys know too much.

Hall, Lynn **Ride A Dark Horse**
Seventeen-year-old Gusty finds herself in increasing danger as she tries to prove her suspicions about dishonest breeding practices at the farm where she works.
Hayes, Daniel | **Trouble With Lemons**  
Two eighth-grade outsiders, Tyler (who is convinced he is a loser) and his friend Lymie, discover a body floating in the local quarry. They are determined to solve the mystery and find the murderer themselves.

Hobbs, Will | **Ghost Canoe**  
In 1874, a ship is wrecked off Washington's Cape Flattery. Nathan, the 14-year-old son of the lighthouse keeper, searches for a lone survivor...and finds himself caught up in a dangerous mystery involving Spanish treasure.

Holland, Isabelle | **The Unfrightened Dark**  
When her beloved seeing eye dog is kidnapped, Jocelyn, orphaned and blind since the age twelve, determines to solve the mystery surrounding his disappearance.

Howe, James | **Stage Fright**  
Young Sebastian Barth investigates the tangle of warnings and ominous accidents surrounding a famous actress visiting his home town.

Martin, Ann M. | **Missing Since Monday**  
First Maggie's 4-year-old sister disappears. Then Maggie begins to receive threatening phone calls and is followed by a green car. Maggie wonders if she's going to be the next one to turn up missing.

Pullman, Philip | **The Ruby In The Smoke**  
In Victorian London, 16-year-old Sally Lockhart tries to solve the mystery of her father's death. She finds herself in danger as she uncovers information about the opium trade and about a stolen ruby.

Raskin, Ellen | **The Westing Game**  
At the reading of the will of Samuel Westing, 16 heirs are given a set of clues. The game is dangerous but the prize is a million dollars.

Snyder, Zilpha Keatley | **The Egypt Game**  
April is the new girl in Melanie's 6th grade class. They become friends building an Egyptian model together and dealing with strange events.

Temple, Frances | **Grab Hands and Run**  
Despite the danger, Felipe's father Jacinto works actively with the opposition in El Salvador. When Jacinto disappears, 12-year-old Felipe, his mother, and sister find themselves on the run.

Voight, Cynthia | **The Calendar Papers**  
It is the summer of 1894 in New England. Thirteen-year-old Jean stumbles onto a mystery in some old family papers. Suddenly her life is in danger.
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<th>Author</th>
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<td>Adams, Douglas</td>
<td><em>The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy</em></td>
<td>This is the first book in Adams' trilogy which follows Arthur Dent and his friend Ford Prefect's adventures through the universe after the end of the earth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asimov, Isaac</td>
<td><em>Fantastic Voyage: a Novel</em></td>
<td>A miniature submarine and its five inhabitants travel through the human body to locate a blood clot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bova, Ben</td>
<td><em>City of Darkness</em></td>
<td>Trapped in a Manhattan of the future, populated only by gangs, young Ron fights for his life and tries to make sense of this brutal world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameron, Eleanor</td>
<td><em>Stowaway to the Mushroom Planet</em></td>
<td>A snooping stowaway tries to learn the secrets of space travel on a voyage to a planet inhabited by shy Mushroom people. This is the second book in the Mushroom Series.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Card, Scott Orson</td>
<td><em>Ender's Game</em></td>
<td>Ender Wiggin, bred to be a military genius, quickly realizes time is running out for Earth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher, John</td>
<td><em>The White Mountains</em></td>
<td>The known Earth has been taken over by Tripods which control human minds by &quot;capping&quot; them at an early age. Three boys escape their capping and embark on an adventure to find the White Mountains and freedom. This is the first in a trilogy and is followed by <em>The City of Gold</em> and <em>The Pool of Fire</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crichton, Michael</td>
<td><em>Jurassic Park</em></td>
<td>Scientists get tragic results when they use fossilized DNA to create dinosaurs for an unusual theme park.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funke, Cornelia</td>
<td><em>Inkspell</em></td>
<td>What is real life and what is fiction when the characters and actions in the story come alive? Join Meggie as she finds action, romance, and danger in Inkworld.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jones, Diana Wynne</td>
<td><em>A Tale of Time City</em></td>
<td>In 1939 an 11-year-old London girl is kidnapped to Time City where she finds the inhabitants facing the worst hours of crisis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L'Engle, Madeline</td>
<td><em>A Wrinkle in Time</em></td>
<td>After a mysterious visit of an intriguing stranger, a young girl and her brother try to solve their father's disappearance by stepping through time.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LeGuin, Ursula  
**Wizard of Earthsea**  
Ged is a young goat herder who discovers his talent for magic and begins a quest to discover and understand his own identity.

Lowry, Lois  
**The Giver**  
In a futuristic world twelve-year-old Jonas is chosen to receive special training from The Giver, the only one who holds the memories of real pain and real joy in life. This is the first in a series and is followed by *Gathering Blue* and *The Messenger*.

Maguire, Gregory  
**I Feel Like the Morning Star**  
A young boy's small act of rebellion and his brutal suppression cause his friends to challenge the authority of their space colony.

Norton, Andre  
**Exiles of the Stars**  
While on a mission for the Thothian priests, the Free Trader ship is forced down on a barren and seemingly uninhabited planet.

Pullman, Philip  
**The Golden Compass**  
Lyra is a smart orphan who lives near Oxford University in England, but her world is not like ours, for she has her own "daemon" or manifestation of her soul in the form of an animal. This is the first in a series and is followed by *The Subtle Knife* and *The Amber Spyglass*.

Sleator, William  
**The Boy Who Reversed Himself**  
When Laura discovers the boy next door has the ability to go into the Fourth Dimension, she decides to accompany him.

**The Duplicate**  
A machine that duplicates matter enables David to duplicate himself. When the duplicate begins to duplicate itself, though, problems arise.

Wells, H.G.  
**The Time Machine**  
A scientist invents a time machine and uses it to travel to the year 802,701 AD, where he discovers the childlike Eloi and the hideous underground Morlocks.

**The War of the Worlds**  
Earth is invaded by extraterrestrial beings from Mars.

Williams, Jay  
**Danny Dunn, Invisible Boy**  
By accidentally triggering Prof. Bullfinch's circuits, Danny enables the professor to create a new machine that makes Danny invisible.
5. SOME OUTSTANDING SPORTS STORIES

Bauer, Marion Dane  
FACE TO FACE
Michael is fed up with school bullies and his stepfather, so when he gets an invitation to visit the father he barely remembers - now a white-water rafting guide - he sets out to prove himself.

Christopher, Matt  
SOCCER HALFBACK
Jabber Morris, in love with soccer, faces pressure from his family to switch his sport to football. Pete even tries to guilt trip Jabber, telling him their football star father, if he were alive, would want Jabber to play football.

Duder, Tessa  
IN LANE THREE, ALEX ARCHER
Up until now, Alex has done everything except concentrate on swimming. Will the shock of her best friend Andy's death force Alex back to her goal of swimming on the New Zealand Olympic team in Rome?

Dygard, Thomas  
HALFBACK TOUGH
At his old school, Joe had always looked down upon the goody-goody football players. Now he is a star on the team of his new school, and his attitude changes.

Harris, Mark  
BANG THE DRUM SLOWLY
This poignant, time tested-tale, narrated by New York Mammoth pitcher Henry Wiggen, re-creates the 1955 baseball season when a close teammate continues playing ball while suffering from Hodgkin's disease.

Hobbs, Will  
DOWNRIVER
When Jessie's had two car accidents before getting her driver's license, her father decides it's time to send her to "Discovery Unlimited" in the hopes it will teach her personal responsibility. Instead, she and the group members steal their guide's equipment and raft the treacherous Colorado River. By the end of the trip Jessie has learned responsibility, but not without a lot of disastrous consequences.

Hurwitz, Johanna  
BASEBALL FEVER
Ezra has a big problem with his dad. Mr. Feldman doesn't understand baseball, having grown up in Europe, and he doesn't understand Ezra's passion for the game. How can Ezra come up a winner if he and his dad are on opposite teams?

Levy, Elizabeth  
COLD AS ICE
Thanks to her mother being in charge of security for "The Dome" sports/entertainment complex, Kelly has a great job in a concession stand. The Olympic skating tour is booked, Kelly falls for skater Ken Swanson and becomes involved in a mystery surrounding Ken and his rival Andre.

Lupica, Mike  
TRAVEL TEAM
Though Danny is considered too small to play basketball on the travel team, he and his dad decide on a new plan of action and start a new travel team. Does he have the determination he needs to meet his new goals?
Miklowitz, Gloria  
**ANYTHING TO WIN**
When Cam Potter is told that he needs to gain 30 pounds in order to win a college football scholarship, he struggles with the moral and medical dilemmas of using steroids. Will he do anything to win?

Myers, Walter Dean  
**HOOPS**
Growing up in the streets of Harlem, Lonnie Jackson dreams of making a better life. He has a "game," and he sees basketball as his way out of the ghetto.

**SLAM!**
Slam lives in Harlem and faces many very real problems, but his abilities on the basketball court give him some great fantasies, too. Will his attitude help him or hurt him?

O'Dell, Scott  
**BLACK STAR, BRIGHT DAWN**
Bright Dawn takes over for her injured father in the Iditarod Sled Dog Race from Anchorage to Nome. She faces not only the competition but the dangers of the race itself, including the conflict of Eskimo and white cultures.

Paulsen, Gary  
**WINTERDANCE: THE FINE MADNESS OF WINNING THE IDITAROD**
The author outlines the preparations and training that go into running the famous annual Alaskan dog race - a real test of human and animal endurance.

Soto, Gary  
**BASEBALL IN APRIL AND OTHER STORIES**
This collection of 11 short stories describes the trials and triumphs of growing up and coming of age. From the title story about a spring junior league baseball team to the tale of a marble champion, Soto captures the small events of everyday life.

Wells, Rosemary  
**WHEN NO ONE WAS LOOKING**
For teenage tennis star Kathy, driven by coach and parents, winning has become an obsession - and then her most challenging rival is found drowned.

Wolff, Virginia Euwer  
**THE MOZART SEASON**
Softball practice and violin lessons overlap in Allegra's mind as she prepares to play a Mozart Concerto in the Ernest Bloch Competition. This summer of practice is a summer of revelation for her, bringing her both an inner peace and a greater understanding of the adversities faced by her family and her friends.
6. A SAMPLE OF NON-FICTION TITLES
Recommended by John Hopkins Center for Talented Youth

Animal Studies

Herriot, James: *All Creatures Great and Small*
Montgomery, Sy: *Walking with the Great Apes*
Pringle, Laurence: *Batman: Exploring the World of Bats*
Reed, Don C.: *The Dolphins and Me*

Anthropology and Archaeology

Attenborough, David: *The First Eden: The Mediterranean World and Man*
Bisel, Sara C.: *The Secrets of Vesuvius*
Peters, David: *From the Beginning: The Story of Human Evolution*
Thompson, Peggy: *Auks, Rocks, and the Odd Dinosaur: Inside Stories from the Smithsonian Museum*

Art

Adams, Steven: *The Impressionists*
Beardsley, John: *Pablo Picasso*
Ernst, Bruno: *The Magic Mirror of M.C. Escher*
Janson, H.W.: *History of Art for Young People*
Meryman, Richard: *Andrew Wyeth*
Meyer, Susan E.: *Mary Cassatt*

History and Geography

Chaikin, Miriam: *A Nightmare in History: The Holocaust*
Devaney, John: *America Goes to War: 1949*
Epler, Doris: *The Berlin Wall: How It Rose and Why It Fell*
Fritz, Jean: *China's Long March: 6,000 Miles of Danger*
Hackwell, W. John: *Desert of Ice: Life and Work in Antarctica*
Ray, Delia: *A Nation Torn, Behind the Blue and Gray*
Solberg, S.E.: *The Land and People of Korea*
Uitz, Erika: *The Legend of Good Women: Medieval Women in Towns and Cities*
Mathematics

Blackwell, William: Geometry in Architecture
Ecker, Michael: Getting Started in Problem Solving and Math Contests
Kaplan, Andrew: Careers for Number Lovers
Ore, Oystein: Invitation to Number Theory
Peitgen, H.O. and P.H. Richter: The Beauty of Fractals
Thomas, David: Math Projects for Young Scientists

Math Games and Puzzles

Barr, Stephen: Mathematical Brain Benders
Dunn, Angela: Mathematical Bafflers
Pallas, Norvin: Calculator Puzzles, Tricks and Games
Smullyan, Raymond: Alice in Puzzland
Summers, George: New Puzzles in Logical Deduction

Poetry

Atwood, Ann: Haiku: The Mood of the Earth
Fleischman, Paul: Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices
Larry, Nancy: Crazy to be Alive in Such a Strange World
Rainis, Kenneth G.: Exploring with a Magnifying Glass

Science and Engineering

Anderson, Margaret J.: Food Chains: The Unending Cycle
Barr, George: Sports Science for Young People
Bates, Robert: Industrial Minerals: How They Are Found
Berger, Melvin: Lights, Lenses and Lasers
Booth, Nicholas: Space: The Next 100 Years
Dolan, Edward F. and Margaret Scarlano: Nuclear Waste
Hawkes, Nigel: Genetic Engineering
Macauley, David: The Way Things Work
Neal, Philip: The Greenhouse Effect
Patent, Dorothy: The Quest for Artificial Intelligence
7. Other Titles Recommended by 7th Grade Students and Teachers

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<td>Ballard, Robert</td>
<td>The Discovery of the Titanic, Exploring the Titanic</td>
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<td>Berke, Art</td>
<td>They Cage the Animals At Night</td>
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<td>Birch, Michael Jennings</td>
<td>I Have Lived A Thousand Years</td>
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<td>Bitton Jackson, Livia</td>
<td>Chicken Soup for the Soul</td>
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<td>Canfield, Jack</td>
<td>Education of Little Tree</td>
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<td>Carter, Forest</td>
<td>House on Mango Street</td>
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<td>Cisneros, Sandra</td>
<td>J.R.R. Tolkien</td>
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<td>Collins, David</td>
<td>Tunes for Bears To Dance To</td>
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<td>Cormier, Robert</td>
<td>Ryan White</td>
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<td>Cunningham, Anne-Marie</td>
<td>Tiger Woods</td>
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<td>Edwards, Nicholas</td>
<td>Zlata's Diary</td>
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<td>Filipovic, Zlata</td>
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<td>Fox, Paula</td>
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<td>Frank, Anne</td>
<td>Inkspell</td>
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<td>Funke, Cornelia</td>
<td>Cheaper By the Dozen, Belles on Their Toes</td>
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<td>Gilbreth, Jr., Frank</td>
<td>Death Be Not Proud</td>
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<td>Gunther, John</td>
<td>Ghost Girl, Murphy's Boy, One Child</td>
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<td>Hayden, Torey</td>
<td>All Creatures Great and Small</td>
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<td>Herriott, James</td>
<td>The Outsiders</td>
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<td>Hinton, S.E.</td>
<td>Biography of Helen Keller</td>
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<td>Keller, Helen</td>
<td>Ballerina: My Story</td>
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<td>Kistler, Darci</td>
<td>Into the Wild, Into Thin Air</td>
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<td>Krakauer, Jon</td>
<td>A Night To Remember</td>
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<td>Lord, Walter</td>
<td>Long Walk to Freedom</td>
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<td>Mandela, Nelson</td>
<td>Black Elk Speaks</td>
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<td>Neihardt, John G.</td>
<td>Jacob Have I Loved</td>
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<td>Paterson, Katherine</td>
<td>Cry the Beloved Country</td>
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<td>Paton, Alan</td>
<td>Eleven Seconds</td>
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<td>Roy, Travis</td>
<td>When I Was Puerto Rican</td>
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<td>Santiago, Esmerelda</td>
<td>Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sonnenblick, Jordan</td>
<td>The Elephant Man</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sparks, Christine</td>
<td>The Crystal Cave</td>
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<td>Stewart, Mary</td>
<td>Let The Circle Be Unbroken</td>
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<td>Taylor, Mildred</td>
<td>Edgar Allen Poe</td>
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<td>Van Doren Stern, Philip</td>
<td>Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wiesel, Elie</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
A VARIETY OF CHILDREN'S LITERATURE WEB SITES

Author Information
http://falcon.jmu.edu/~ramseyil/biochildhome.htm
Internet School Library Media Center
This site provides an index to children's book authors and illustrators.

The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books
http://bccb.lis.uiuc.edu
This is the homepage for the BCCB, one of the best sites for information on quality literature for children.

EBSCOHOST: Novelist K-8
This site allows you to browse by theme, author, series, title, and subject. Plus, Novelist K-8 will suggest other titles based on your favorites. To access Novelist K-8, go to the site listed above and enter USER ID = 'mbklib' and PASSWORD = 'wilton'. Then, choose Novelist K-8 from the list of resources.

Guys Read
http://www.guysread.com/
Young adult author Jon Scieszka has established this web site to connect boys with books they will want to read. Part of the program's larger mission is to "help boys become better readers, better students, and better guys".

Kids Webrary
http://www.webrary.org/kids/jbibmenu.html
This site is useful for anyone looking for children's stories about specific topics. The author of each book is included, and short plot synopses give readers an idea of what each book is about.

Bookwink
http://www.bookwink.com
This site allows you to browse for books by grade level, title, author, subject, and read-alikes. In addition the site provides access to video booktalks. Each video is about three minutes long, and the booktalks are updated monthly. An archive of the video booktalks is also available.