



Hackettstown Middle School

Suggested Summer Reading

Looking for a great book to take to the beach or the pool, read under the shade of a big oak tree or next to a gurgling brook? Choose from the titles in our brochure or pick your own title according to what piques your interest--all we ask is that you keep up with your reading over the summer!

Here are a few more titles appropriate for grades 5-8 with descriptions to help you decide if this book is for you:

Bellairs, John ***The Ghost in the Mirror***

Rosa Rita Pottinger and Mrs. Zimmerman are transported back to 1828 one summer to save the Weiss family from being destroyed by a wicked wizard.

Peck, Richard ***The River Between Us***

When Noah runs off to join the war, Mama, nearly mad with fear and grief, sends Tilly and Delphine after him. Upon their arrival at Cairo, Illinois, where Noah's regiment is quartered, Peck opens up two windows for his readers. One looks out into the multiracial culture of New Orleans in the first half of the 19th century, the other into the war. The first is fascinating, the second, horrific.

Ruby, Louis ***Steal Away Home***

While her family is restoring an old house in Lawrence, Kansas, 12-year-old Dana discovers the diary of a Quaker woman whose family sheltered runaway slaves on the Underground Railroad.

Anderson, Laurie ***Fever 1793***

Based on an actual epidemic of yellow fever in Philadelphia that wiped out 5,000 people--or 10 percent of the city's population--in three months. At the close of the 18th century, Philadelphia was the bustling capital of the United States, with Washington and Jefferson in residence. In the foreground of this story is 16-year-old Mattie Cook, whose mother and grandfather own a popular coffee house on High Street. Mattie's comfortable and interesting life is shattered by the epidemic.

Bellairs, John ***The Mansion in the Mist***

While spending the summer in an old house on a desolate Canadian island, Anthony Monday and Miss Ells discover a chest that can transport them to another world and a maniacal group who are plotting the destruction of people on Earth.

HACKETTSTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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A BLUE RIBBON STAR SCHOOL DISTRICT



Hackettstown Middle School

SUGGESTED SUMMER READING 2009

Marie Griffin, Principal

**Jacqueline Turner
Supervisor of Humanities**



Incoming 5th Grade Summer Reading

Bauer, Marion *On My Honor*
Clements, Andrew, *Frindle*
Cushman, Karen *The Ballad of Lucy Whipple*
Creech, Sharon *Ruby Holler*
Fletcher, Ralph *Spider Boy*
Fritz, Jean *What's the Big Idea, Ben Franklin*
Gutman, Dan *The Kid Who Ran For President*
Jacques, Brian *Redwall*
Peck, Linda Sue *A Single Shard*
Peck, Richard *A Year Down Yonder*
Sachar, Louis *Wayside School is Falling Down*
Snyder, Zilpha *The Egypt Game*
Wiles, Deborah *Each Little Bird that Sings*
A biography of your choice!

Incoming 6th Grade Summer Reading

Avi, *The Fighting Ground*
Avi, *S.O.R. Losers*
Bellairs, John, *A House with a Clock in Its Walls*
Blume, Judy *Just as Long as We're Together*
Brittain, Bill *Shape Changer*
Conrad, Pam *Stonewords: A Ghost Story*
Fitzgerald, John D. *The Great Brain*
Fleischman, Sid *The 13th Floor: A Ghost Story*
Hahn, Mary Downing *Wait Till Helen Comes*
Ibbotsen, Eva *The Secret of Platform 13*
L'Engle, Madeline, *A Wrinkle in Time*



Levine, Gail Carson, *Dave at Night*
Merrill, Jean *The Pushcart War*
Griffin, Peni *The Switching Well*
Peck, Richard, *Lost in Cyberspace*
Roberts, Willo Davis *The Kidnappers*
Sleator, William *The Boy Who Reversed Himself*
Snickett, Lemony *The Bad Beginning*
Tamar, Erika *The Junkyard Dog*
Van Draanen, Wendelin *Sammy Keyes & the Hotel Thief* (and others in the series)

Incoming 7th Grade Summer Reading

Barrett, Tracy, *Anna of Byzantium*
Bloor, Edward *Tangerine*
Cooper, James Fenimore, *The Pathfinder*
Cooper, Susan *The Dark is Rising*
Duncan Lois *Stranger With My Face*
Keehn, Sally *I am Regina*
Kehret, Peg *Cages*
Levine, Gail Carson, *Ella Enchanted*
Park, Linda Sue *A Single Shard*
Reiss, Kathryn *Time Windows*
Ritter, John *Choosing Up Sides*
Sleator, William *The Beasties*
Spinelli, Jerry *Stargirl*
Stevenson, R.L. *Treasure's Island*
Voigt, Cynthia *Homecoming*
Zindel, Paul *Raptor*



Incoming Eighth Grade Summer Reading

Incoming eighth graders, please make sure you have a copy of the required reading August 2026:
There Will Come Soft Rains, by Ray Bradbury

Suggested Reading

Christie, Agatha *And Then There Were None*
Cooney, Caroline *Wanted*
Duncan, Lois *Locked in Time*
Hamilton, Virginia *The House of Dies Drear*
Kirkpatrick, Katherine *Trouble's Daughter*
Lawrence, Ian *The Wreckers*
Lowry, Lois *Gathering Blue*
Lunn, Janet *The Root Cellar*
Murphy, Jim *The Great Fire*
Paulsen, Gary *A Soldiers Heart*
Peck, Richard *Are You in the House Alone?*
Reiss, Johanna *The Upstairs Room*
Rinaldi, Ann *The Fifth of March*
Sleator, William *Interstellar Pig*
Smith, Roland *Sasquatch*



