

Wilson Reading Summer Book List
2008

DIRECTIONS: Each student is to complete the Summer Reading Assessment Forms for their grade level. Each grade level's requirements are listed below, as there are varying levels of books. It does not matter if the book you choose is easy or more challenging. The books should be read on your own and should not be listened to through audiotapes. This should not be a book you have read previously.

STUDENTS GOING INTO:

6th Grade: Read 2 books from the list below or the 6th grade list. Complete the Summer Reading Assessment Form as required for all 6th grade students.

7th Grade: Read 2 books from the list below or the 7th grade list. Complete the Summer Reading Assessment Form as required for all 7th grade students.

- Abbott, Tony. **Firegirl**
A middle school boy's life is changed when Jessica, a girl disfigured by burns, starts attending his Catholic school while receiving treatment at a local hospital.
- Birney, Betty. **Seven Wonders of Sassafras Springs**
Eben McAllister searches his small town to see if he can find anything comparable to the real Seven Wonders of the World
- 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 has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.
- Creech, Sharon. **The Castle Corona**
Two orphaned peasant children discover a mysterious pouch, the contents of which lead them to the majestic Castle Corona, where their lives may be transformed forever.
- Creech, Sharon. **Ruby Holler**
Thirteen-year-old fraternal twins Dallas and Florida have grown up in a terrible orphanage but their lives change forever when an eccentric but sweet older couple invites them each on an adventure, beginning in an almost magical place called Ruby Holler.
- Creech, Sharon. **Replay**
While preparing for a role in the school play, twelve-year-old Leo finds an autobiography that his father wrote as a teenager and ponders the ways people change as they grow up. Includes the text for the play, "Rumpopo's Porch."
- Crowley, Suzanne. **The Very Ordered Existence of Merilee Marvelous**
In the small town of Jumbo, Texas, thirteen-year-old Merilee, who has Asperger's Syndrome, tries to live a "very ordered existence," but disruptions begin when a boy and his father arrive in town and the youngster makes himself a part of the family.
- DiCamillo, Kate. **The Tiger Rising**
Rob, who passes the time in his rural Florida community by wood carving, is drawn by his spunky but angry friend Sistine into a plan to free a caged tiger.

- Fleischman, Paul. **Bull Run**
Northerners, Southerners, generals, couriers, dreaming boys and worried sisters describe the glory, the horror, the thrill, and the disillusionment of the first battle of the Civil War.
- Gardner, Lyn. **Into The Woods**
Pursued by the sinister Dr. DeWilde and his ravenous wolves, three sisters, Storm, the inheritor of a special musical pipe, the elder Aurora, and the baby Any, flee into the woods and begin a treacherous journey filled with many dangers as they try to find a way to defeat their pursuer and keep him from taking the pipe and control of the entire land.
- Gorman, Carol. **Games**
"A tale of two bullies"--Dust jacket. When fourteen-year-old rivals Boot Quinn and Mick Sullivan fight once too often, the new principal devises the punishment of having to play games together at his office, where they learn which battles are worth fighting.
- Gregory, Nan. **I'll Sing You One-O**
Reunited with her long-lost twin brother, twelve-year-old Gemma constantly tests the boundaries of acceptable behavior while relying on angels to help her connect with her new family.
- Haddix, Margaret Peterson. **Dexter, the Tough**
A sympathetic teacher and her writing assignment help fourth-grader Dexter deal with being the new kid in school after he punches a kid on the first day.
- Helgerson, Joseph. **Horns & Wrinkles**
Along a magic-saturated stretch of the Mississippi River near Blue Wing, Minnesota, twelve-year-old Claire and her bullying cousin Duke are drawn into an adventure involving Bodacious Deepthink the Great Rock Troll, a helpful fairy, and a group of trolls searching for their fathers.
- Hill, Kirkpatrick. **Do Not Pass Go**
When Deet's father is jailed for using drugs, Deet learns that prison is not what he expected, nor are other people necessarily the way he thought they were.
- Jinks, Catherine. **Evil Genius**
Child prodigy Cadel Piggot, an antisocial computer hacker, discovers his true identity when he enrolls as a first-year student at an advanced crime academy.
- Kay, Elizabeth. **The Divide**
While hiking on the Continental Divide of Costa Rica, a young boy with a heart condition falls into a magical otherworld full of fantastical creatures.
- Kay, Elizabeth. **Back to the Divide**
A japegrin, Snakeweed, has placed a spell on Felix's parents that is beginning to effect the rest of the Earth, and fourteen-year-old Felix must follow him back across the Divide to seek a counterspell.
- Korman, Gordan. **No More Dead Dogs**
Eighth-grade football hero Wallace is sentenced to detention attending rehearsals of the school play where, in spite of himself, he becomes wrapped up in the production and begins to suggest changes that improve not only the play but his life as well.

- Linda Sue Park. **Project Mulberry**
While working on a project for an after-school club, Julia, a Korean American girl, and her friend Patrick learn not just about silkworms, but also about tolerance, prejudice, friendship, patience, and more. Between the chapters are short dialogues between the author and main character about the writing of the book.
- Rex, Adam. **The True Meaning of Smekday**
Twelve-year-old Gratuity "Tip" Tucci is left to fend for herself after Earth is colonized by aliens and her mother is abducted, and must try to stop another alien invasion with only the help of a cat named Pig and an alien named J. Lo.
- Ryan, Pam Munoz. **Esperanza Rising**
Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.
- Sachar, Louis. **Small Steps**
Sequel to: Holes. Three years after being released from Camp Green Lake, Armpit is trying hard to keep his life on track, but when his old pal X-Ray shows up with a tempting plan to make some easy money scalping concert tickets, Armpit reluctantly goes along.
- Schumacher, Julie. **The Book of One Hundred Truths**
While visiting her grandparents in Port Harbor, New Jersey, thirteen-year-old Theodora lists one hundred truths that she discovers while baby-sitting her younger cousins.

Thompson, Kate. **The New Policeman**

Irish teenager JJ Liddy discovers that time is leaking from his world into Tir na Nog, the land of the fairies, and when he attempts to stop the leak he finds out a lot about his family history, the music that he loves, and a crime his great-grandfather may or may not have committed.

Non-Fiction / Biography

- Gherman, Beverly. **Norman Rockwell: Storyteller With a Brush**
Describes the life and work of the popular American artist who depicted both traditional and contemporary subjects, including children, family scenes, astronauts, and poor people.
- Greenberg, Jan. **Frank O. Gehry: Outside In**
Photographs and text help profile the life and career of architect Frank O. Gehry.
- Lalicki, Tom. **Spellbinder: The Life of Harry Houdini**
An illustrated biography of late nineteenth, early twentieth-century American magician Harry Houdini.
- McPherson, James. **Fields of Fury**
Examines the events and effects of the American Civil War.
- Murphy, Jim. **Inside the Alamo**
An Overview of the struggle between the Texan settlers and Mexico's General Santa Anna for control of Texas, with a detailed description of the 1836 siege of the Alamo. Includes biographical sketches and quotations of some of those involved.

- Myers, Walter Dean. **The Greatest: Muhammad Ali**
An illustrated biography of boxing great Muhammad Ali that addresses his politics, his fight against Parkinson's disease, and boxing's dangers.
- Paulson, Gary. **How Angel Peterson Got His Name**
Author Gary Paulsen relates tales from his youth in a small town in northwestern Minnesota in the late 1940s and early 1950s, such as skiing behind a souped-up car and imitating daredevil Evel Knievel.
- Sobey, Ed. **How to Build Your Own Prize-Winning Robot**
Teaches the fundamentals of robotics from motors to wheel alignment, and including the construction of a personal robot.
- St. George, Judith. **In the Line of Fire: Presidents' Lives at Stake**
Examines the assassinations of Presidents Abraham Lincoln, James Garfield, William McKinley, and John F. Kennedy, discussing the life and career of each man, the motivations of their killers, and the effect of their murders on the nation; and looks at attempts that have been made on the lives of seven additional U.S. presidents.
- Stanley, Diane. **Michelangelo**
A biography of the Renaissance sculptor, painter, architect, and poet, well known for his work on the Sistine Chapel in Rome's St. Peter's Cathedral.