

South Portland Middle School Incoming 6th Grade Summer Reading List 206

Welcome to your summer of reading!

Here are some recommendations from your middle school librarian.

Complete the World Cup Summer Reading Bracket to get entered to win prizes in September.



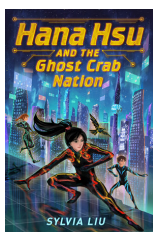
Rialto by Kate Milford (Mystery, Fantasy)

Sisters Ivy and Dahlia Vicar travel to the mysterious town of Rialto, Missouri, expecting an unusual summer vacation, but instead uncover a town filled with strange legends, magical creatures, and long-buried secrets. When a new friend asks for their help delivering mysterious gifts tied to an abandoned theme park, the sisters become tangled in a decades-old mystery that may require them to believe in magic to solve it.



The Shape of Time (Rymworld Arcana #1) by Ryan Claejo (Sci-Fi, Fantasy)

When Antares De La Vega is kidnapped and taken to a secret prison in the Bermuda Triangle, he discovers a hidden world filled with magic, ancient societies, and dangerous secrets. Alongside the fierce and determined Magdaveíia, Antares embarks on a thrilling adventure beyond the known world to uncover a legendary artifact and stop a powerful group determined to control time itself.



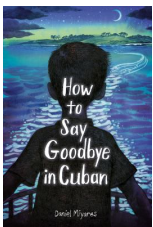
Hana Hsu and the Ghost Crab Nation by Sylvia Liu (Sci-Fi)

Hana Hsu dreams of earning a neural implant that will connect her to the powerful multiweb, but strange problems at her elite tech school make her question everything she has worked toward. As her friends begin getting sick and she uncovers secrets tied to a powerful corporation, Hana must use her skills and courage to expose a dangerous conspiracy before it's too late.



Candle Island by Lauren Wolk (Historical Fiction)

After the death of her father, Lucretia Sanderson and her mother retreat to remote Candle Island, Maine, hoping to escape grief and unwanted attention. As Lucretia spends the summer painting, exploring the island, and caring for an orphaned osprey, she uncovers hidden secrets and unexpected connections that help her discover healing, identity, and the courage to find her own voice.



How to Say Goodbye in Cuban by Daniel Miyares (Graphic Novel, Historical Fiction)

Set during the Cuban Revolution in 1957, this book follows young Carlos as his family's fortunes change dramatically after his father wins the lottery and moves them from the countryside to the city. When political unrest spreads across Cuba and his father suddenly disappears, Carlos must navigate fear, loss, and uncertainty as his family searches for freedom and the hope of a new life in America.



The Trouble with Heroes by Kate Messner (Realistic Fiction)

After getting caught vandalizing a gravestone, seventh grader Finn Connelly is given an unusual way to make amends: climb all forty-six Adirondack High Peaks with the deceased woman's dog. Over the course of one unforgettable summer, Finn faces difficult trails, unexpected friendships, and painful questions about his late father while discovering resilience, purpose, and who he wants to become.

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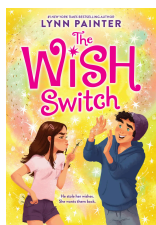
Another by Paul Tremblay (Scary)

After a humiliating incident leaves him isolated from his classmates, Casey Wilson is surprised when his parents invite a strange boy named Morel for a sleepover. But as Morel's unsettling behavior grows more disturbing and Casey's parents begin acting strangely, Casey realizes something terrifying may be hiding behind his new "friend."



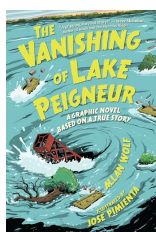
The Unexplainable Disappearance of Mars Patel by Sheela Chari (Mystery, Sci-Fi)

Stranger Things Read Alike! When his friend Aurora suddenly disappears, Mars Patel and his group of loyal misfit friends begin investigating a mystery that may be connected to a powerful tech billionaire and his secretive elite school. As they uncover hidden clues, strange technology, and dangerous conspiracies, Mars must rely on his courage and friendships to discover the truth behind the missing children.



The Wish Switch by Lynn Painter (Humor)

Emma Rockford believes middle school will only get better if she uses a secret wishing well left behind by her late grandmother to carefully shape her future. But when a new kid accidentally interferes with her wishes, Emma discovers the magic is going very wrong and affecting both of their lives in unexpected and dangerous ways. Now the two must work together to undo the chaos before Emma loses her friends and everything she's worked for.



The Vanishing of Lake Peigneur: A Graphic Novel Based on a True Story by Allan Wolfe (Graphic Novel, Non-Fiction)

This graphic nonfiction book tells the astonishing true story of Lake Peigneur in Louisiana, a once-bustling lake that suddenly vanished in a catastrophic 1980 accident. Through vivid illustrations and a storytelling style that blends science and suspense, it explores how human drilling beneath the lake triggered a collapse that drained the water into a vast underground salt mine.