

Danbury Public Schools
Middle School Suggested Summer Reading Titles

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Choosing a Book: The student should choose a book that they are interested in reading.

Key to Student Success:

- Ensure the student's reading level, comprehension ability, and difficulty level of the text are aligned.
- Assess the appropriate level of the book for your child:
 - Use the GOLDILOCKS RULE or the "five finger rule."
 - Open to any page and begin reading.
 - As the child comes to words he can't pronounce or doesn't understand, put up a finger.
 - If the reader puts up five fingers, put the book back. It's too hard.

General Suggestions From Our Students

Holes by Louis Sachar
 Wonder by R.J.Palacio
 Bridge to Terabithia by Katharine Paterson
 Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt
 Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick
 The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton
 Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli
 The One and Only Ivan by Katharine Applegate
 The One and Only Bob by Katharine Applegate
 What's His Face by Gordan Korman
 Restart by Gordan Korman
 War Stories by Gordan Korman
 Linked by Gordon Korman
 The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne
 The Ugly One by Leanne Statland Ellis

Ungifted by Gordon Korman
 I Survived: Book Series (ten books) by Lauren Tarshis (non-fiction)
 Number the Stars by Lois Lowry
 Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
 The Book Thief by Marcus Zuzak
 The Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler
 The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins
 Catching Fire by Suzanne Collins
 Mockingjay by Suzanne Collins
 Because of Winn Dixie by Kate DiCamillo
 Soul Surfer by Bethany Hamilton
 The BFG by Roald Dahl
 The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster

Adventure & Survival

The Incredible Journey by Sheila Burnford
 The Boy, the Boat and the Beast by Samantha M. Clark
 Julie of the Wolves by Jean Craighead George
 Journey of the Pale Bear by Susan Fletcher
 The Inquisitor's Tale by Adam Gidwitz

Refugee by Alan Gratz
 Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell
 The Mysterious Benedict Society series by Trenton Lee Stewart
 The Crystal Ribbon by Celeste Lim
 Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

Mystery

Chasing Vermeer Blue Balliett
 The Secret series by Pseudonymous Bosch
 The Sisters Grimm Series by Michael Buckley

Mr. Lemoncello's Library series by Chris Grabenstein
 Spirit Hunters series by Ellen Oh

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	Three Times Lucky (Mo & Dale Mysteries) by Sheila Turnage
Fiction	
I Kill the Mockingbird by Paul Acampora Chike and the River by Chinua Achebe The Thing About Jellyfish by Ali Benjamin Hurricane Child by Kheryn Callender Out of My Mind by Sharon Draper The Breadwinner by Deborah Ellis Hello Universe by Erin Entrada Kelly Leonardo's Shadow: Or, My Astonishing Life as Leonardo da Vinci's Servant by Christopher Gay The Last Last-Day-of-Summer by Lamar Giles You Don't Know Everything by Jilly P Alex Gino The Great Treehouse War by Lisa Graff The Night Diary by Veera Hiranandani Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt Looking for Red by Angela Johnson Unidentified Suburban Object by Mike Jung Song for a Whale by Lynne Kelly Amina's Voice by Hena Khan	Me and Marvin Gardens by Amy Sarig King The View from Saturday by E.L. Konigsburg A Mango-Shaped Space by Wendy Maas Merci Suárez Changes Gears by Meg Medina Take the Mic: Fictional Stories of Bethany C. Morrow Everyday Resistance Look Both Ways by Jason Reynolds As Brave as You by Jason Reynolds All Alone in the Universe by Lynne Rae Perkins The Owls Have Come to Take Us Away by Ronald L. Smith Rain is Not My Indian Name by Cynthia Leitich Smith Hearts Unbroken by Cynthia Leitich Smith When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead Right as Rain by Lindsey Stodard Forget Me Not by Ellie Terry One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia Genesis Begins Again by Alicia D. Williams Front Desk by Kelly Yang
Historical Fiction	
Lucky Broken Girl by Ruth Behar The War that Saved My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley Two Roads by Joseph Bruchac Sweet Home Alaska by Carole Estby Dagg Sees Behind Trees by Michael Dorris The Birchbark House by Louise Erdrich	Journey of Pale Bear by Susan Fletcher The Great Trouble by Deborah Hopkanson A Place to Belong by Cynthia Kadohata A Long Way from Chicago by Richard Peck Lily's Crossing by Patricia Reilly Giff Betty Before X by Ilyasah Shabazz and Renée Watson
Biography & Memoir	
Someone Like Me: How One Undocumented Girl Fought for Her American Dream by Julissa Arce Infinite Hope: A Black Artists Journey by Ashley Bryan From WWII to Peace Brown Girl Dreaming Jby acqueline Woodson	Reaching for the Moon: The Autobiography of NASA Mathematician by Katherine Johnson Katherine Johnson It's Trevor Noah: Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood by Trevor Noah
Nonfiction	
We are not Yet Equal by Carol Anderson, Tonya Bolden	History of the United States: by Mendoza & Debbie Reese

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Fighter in Velvet Gloves by Annie Boochever with Roy Peratrovich An Indigenous Peoples' by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz adapted by Jean	For Young People Girls Who Run the World: 31 CEOs Who Mean Business by Diana Kapp Sachiko: A Nagasaki Bomb Survivor's Story by Caren Stelson
Illustrated & Graphic Novels	
El Deafo by Cece Bell Roller Girl by Victoria Jamieson	The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick Stargazing by Jen Wang
Fantasy	
Ragweed series by Avi Artemis Fowl series by Eoin Colfer The Dark is Rising series by Susan Cooper Redwall series by Brian Jacques A Wrinkle in Time series by Madeleine L'Engle Where the Mountain Meets the Moon by Grace Lin The Giver series by Lois Lowry Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh series by Robert C. O'Brien	The Hunger Games Trilogy by Suzanne Collins Fire Keeper by J.C. Cervantes The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman Dragon Pearl by Yoon Ha Lee Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky by Kwame Mbalia Race to the Sun by Rebecca Roanhorse My Father's Dragon series by Ruth Stiles Gannett
Poetry & Novels-in-Verse	
The Crossover by Kwame Alexander The Red Pencil by Andrea Davis Pinkney Garvey's Choice by Nikki Grimes Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse	Inside Out & Back Again by Thanhha Lai 19 Varieties of Gazelle by Naomi Shihab Nye May B. by Caroline Starr Rose