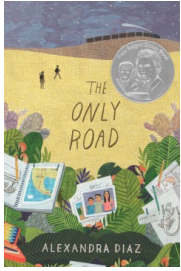
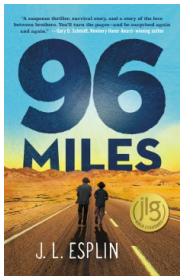
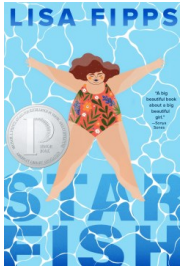
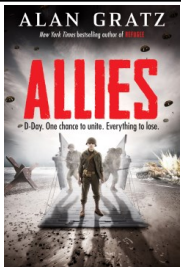



Springfield Township Middle School


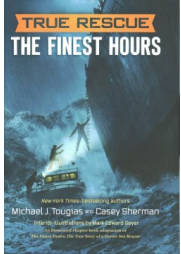

7th Grade Summer Reading Assignment 2026

Incoming 7th Grade Students...

- will be required to read at least two books during summer vacation and should take notes on their reading and be ready to complete an assignment for each of the books in September;
- **Instructions:** Read any two books that you haven't read previously. For ideas, see the list of recommended titles below. **You are not required to read a book from this list;** these are just some ideas to get you started if you are looking for a recommendation.

Author	Title	Cover	Summary
Alexandra Diaz	<i>The Only Road</i>		Jaime is sitting on his bed drawing when he hears a scream. Instantly, he knows: Miguel, his cousin and best friend, is dead. Everyone in Jaime's small town in Guatemala knows someone who has been killed by the Alphas, a powerful gang that's known for violence and drug trafficking. With Miguel gone, Jaime fears that he is next. There's only one choice: accompanied by his cousin Ángela, Jaime must flee his home to live with his older brother in New Mexico.
J. L. Esplin	<i>96 Miles</i>		21 days without power. 2 brothers on a desperate trek. 72 hours before time runs out... The Lockwood brothers are supposed to be able to survive anything. Their dad, a hardcore believer in self-reliance, has stockpiled enough food and water at their isolated Nevada home to last for months. But when they are robbed of all their supplies during a massive blackout while their dad is out of town, John and Stew must walk 96 miles in the stark desert sun to get help. Along the way, they're forced to question their dad's insistence on self-reliance and ask just what it is that we owe to our neighbors, to our kin, and to ourselves.
Lisa Fipps	<i>Starfish</i>		Ellie is doing her best, but it never seems to be enough: not for her mom, who insists Ellie's weight is something to be fixed; not for her peers, who taunt her with unimaginably cruel words; and not even for herself. Now, as the threat of bariatric surgery grows, Ellie must find it within herself to stand up to her bullies— including herself.
Alan Gratz	<i>Allies</i>		It is June 6, 1944, D-Day, and Dee Carpenter, an underage private in the United States Army, is headed for Omaha Beach and is seeking revenge for his uncle, who was arrested by Nazis when Dee was a little boy. Meanwhile, Samira Zidano, an eleven-year old French-Algerian girl is looking for the French resistance, desperate to deliver the message that the invasion is about to begin, and get their help in freeing her mother. On this, arguably the most important day of the twentieth century, both children want to fight, and survive.

<p>Amina Luqman-Dawson</p>	<p>Freewater</p>		<p>After fleeing the plantation where they were enslaved, siblings Ada and Homer discover the secret community of Freewater, and work with freeborn Sanzi to protect their new home from the encroaching dangers of the outside world.</p>
<p>Barry Lyga</p>	<p>The Secret Sea</p>		<p>Zak Killian is hearing a voice. Could it be a guardian angel? A ghost? No, that's crazy. One day Zak is standing on the subway platform when the tunnel starts to fill with water. He sees it before anyone else. The voice warns him to run. His friends Moira and Khalid believe this is more than a premonition, and soon all three find themselves in an alternate universe that is both familiar and seriously strange. As Zak unravels the mystery behind the voice, he faces decisions that may mean the end of their world at home—if they can even get home.</p>
<p>D. J. MacHale</p>	<p>SYLO</p>		<p>Tucker, a football player and average student, seems to skate easily through life until SYLO, a mysterious branch of the military, quarantines his hometown off the coast of Maine. After suspicion builds surrounding the original premise for the quarantine, Tucker and his friends risk their lives to escape.</p>
<p>Shannon Messenger</p>	<p>Keeper of the Lost Cities (Book 1)</p>		<p>Sophie has never quite fit into her life. She's skipped multiple grades and doesn't really connect with the older kids at school, but she's not comfortable with her family, either. And Sophie has a secret—she's a Telepath, someone who can read minds. But the day Sophie meets Fitz, a mysterious (and adorable) boy, she learns she's not alone. Fitz opens Sophie's eyes to a shocking truth, and almost instantly she is forced to leave behind her family for a new life in a place that is vastly different from what she has ever known. But Sophie still has secrets, and they're buried deep in her memory.</p>
<p>Sarah Moon</p>	<p>Middletown</p>		<p>Thirteen-year-old Eli likes baggy clothes, baseball caps, and one girl in particular. Her seventeen-year-old sister Anna is more traditionally feminine; she loves boys and staying out late. They are sisters, and they are also the only family each can count on. When their mom lands herself in enforced rehab, Anna and Eli are left to fend for themselves. With no legal guardian to keep them out of foster care, they take matters into their own hands. But their plans begin to unravel as quickly as they were made, and they must learn how to accept help, and let other people in.</p>

<p>Jewell Parker Rhodes</p>	<p>Paradise on Fire</p>		<p>Addy is haunted by the tragic fire that killed her parents, leaving her to be raised by her grandmother. Years later, Addy's grandmother has enrolled her in a summer wilderness program. Deep in the forest the kids learn new skills: camping, hiking, rock climbing, and how to start and safely put out campfires. Most importantly, they learn to depend upon each other for companionship and survival. But then comes a devastating forest fire... Addy is face-to-face with her destiny and haunting past.</p>
<p>Michael J. Tougas</p>	<p>True Rescue: The Finest Hours</p>		<p>On the night of February 18th, 1952, during one of the worst winter storms that New England has ever seen, two oil tankers off the shore of Cape Cod are torn in half by the force of the seas. For the men on board, survival seemed impossible. What follows is a harrowing Coast Guard rescue in a tiny lifeboat, where four young heroes beat the odds and bring more than thirty stranded sailors to safety.</p>
<p>Jasmine Warga</p>	<p>Other Words for Home</p>		<p>Jude never thought she'd be leaving her beloved older brother and father behind, all the way across the ocean in Syria. But when things in her hometown start becoming volatile, Jude and her mother are sent to live in Cincinnati with relatives. At first, everything in America seems too fast and too loud. But this life also brings unexpected surprises— maybe America, too, is a place where Jude can be seen as she really is.</p>

Book summaries and cover images adapted from Titlewave and Follett School Solutions