

**Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District**

**106 Washington Avenue**

**Plainview, New York 11803**

June, 2024

Dear parents, guardians, and incoming grade six students,

Summer reading provides an excellent opportunity for students to continue to enhance literacy skills developed throughout the school year. It is also an opportunity to engage students in reading for fun and at their own level of interest and ability. Our theme for Summer 2024 is ***Adventure Begins at Your Library***. Students will be asked to complete a Summer Reading goals sheet in their English or Reading classes during June. Rather than students completing a graded assessment during the summer or September, students will have the opportunity to reflect during September on their accomplishments through an ungraded survey on their summer reading experience.

We are hoping that building enthusiasm during June will provide a greater incentive for students to read compared with an assignment. Additionally, in an effort to truly foster a love of reading, the following lists contain carefully selected recommendations rather than required texts. We invite parents and guardians to participate in the selection process in order to guide children through making appropriate selections in terms of the subject matter discussed. While a text might be appropriate in terms of its complexity, some might address themes that some families see as too mature for a certain age group.

On behalf of the Plainview-Old Bethpage schools, we wish you a healthy and enjoyable summer. Make literacy, in all of its aspects, a part of the time you spend together this summer.

Ms. Eileen Annino

Ms. Kerry Farrell

Dr. Joseph Coladonato, Ed.D

Mr. Jeffrey Yagaloff

*K-6 Literacy Chair*

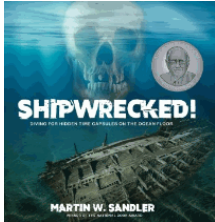
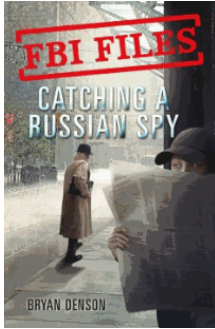
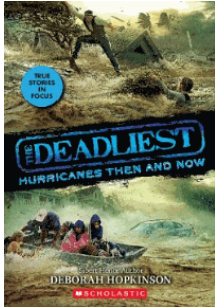
*Principal*


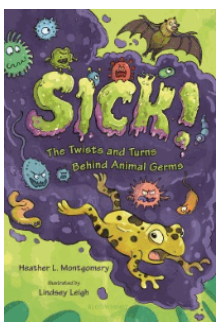
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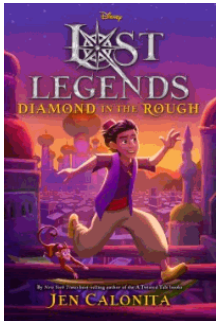

*ELA Chair 7-12*






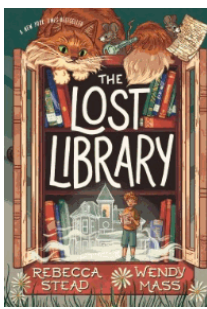
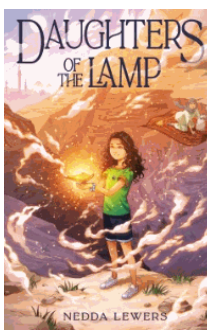
**Plainview-Old Bethpage School District**  
**Mattlin & Plainview-Old Bethpage Middle Schools**  
**Incoming Grade 6 Summer Reading List – Summer 2024**

Nonfiction	Title / Author	Summary
	<b>Shipwrecked! Diving for Hidden Time Capsules on the Ocean Floor</b> by Martin W. Sandler	<p>Shipwrecked! is an adventure-filled nonfiction book for young readers about the most captivating shipwrecks from history. Combining new research, stunning archival material, and vivid storytelling, Shipwrecked! dives deep into the world of marine archaeology and shows young readers what each discovery reveals about the world before our time.</p>
	<b>Catching a Russian Spy : Agent Les Weiser Jr. and the Case of Aldrich Ames</b> by Bryan Denson	<p>Aldrich H. 'Rick' Ames was a 31-year veteran of the CIA. He was also a Russian spy. By the time Ames was arrested in 1994, he had betrayed the identities of dozens and caused the deaths of ten agents. The notorious KGB (and later the Russian intelligence service, SVR) paid him millions of dollars. Agent Leslie G. 'Les' Wiser, Jr. ran the FBI's Nightmover investigation tasked with uncovering a mole in the CIA. The team worked night and day to collect evidence--sneaking into Ames' home, hiding a homing beacon in his Jaguar, and installing a video camera above his desk. But the spy kept one step ahead, even after agents followed him to Bogota, Colombia. In a crazy twist, the FBI would score its biggest clue from inside Ames' garbage can. At the time of his arrest on February 21, 1994, he had compromised more highly-classified CIA assets than any other agent in history.</p>
	<b>The Deadliest Hurricanes Then and Now (Series)</b> by Deborah Hopkinson	<p>As a hurricane gathered in the Caribbean, blue skies covered Galveston, Texas. Scientists knew a storm was coming. But none of them were able to prepare Galveston for the force of the hurricane that hit on September 8, 1900. The water from the storm surge pulled houses off their foundations, and the winds toppled telephone poles and trees like toothpicks. And amid the chaos, Galveston's residents did all they could to rescue one another. Acclaimed Sibert Honor author Deborah Hopkinson brings voices from history to life in this fast-paced, wide-ranging narrative of the deadliest hurricane in American history.</p>
	<b>History Smashers: The American Revolution (Series)</b> by Kate Messner	<p>A book that explores the hidden truth about the American Revolution featuring sidebars, illustrations, photos, and graphic panels</p>

	<p><b>Race Against Death : the Greatest POW Rescue of World War II</b> by Deborah Hopkinson</p>	<p>An account of the most daring American POW rescue mission of World War II. Following the bombing of Pearl Harbor, America entered World War II, and a new theater of battle opened up in the Pacific. But US troops, along with thousands of Filipino soldiers who fought alongside them, were overtaken in the Philippines by a fiercely determined Japanese navy, and many Americans and Filipino fighters were killed or captured. These American and Filipino prisoners of war were forced to endure the most horrific conditions on the deadly trek known as the Bataan Death March. Unable to forget their comrades' fate and concerned that these POWs would be brutally murdered as the tides of war shifted in the Pacific, the US Army Rangers undertook one of the most daring and dangerous rescue missions of all time.</p>
	<p><b>Sick! : The Twists and Turns Behind Animal Germs</b> by Heather Montgomery</p>	<p>When a super sickness lands on the land, when a parasite becomes more than a pest, when an infection ignites an epidemic, what's a body to do? Your body is an animal body, so why not ask the animals? Follow the scientists, around the world and into their labs, who are studying animals and the germs that attack them. From fungus-ridden frogs with fevers to bacteria-resistant buzzards and everything in-between, animals have A LOT to teach us about infections. But-reader beware!!-the story of germs is filled with twists and turns. In this fascinating, highly visual nonfiction book packed with colorful, comic-style art, you'll discover not only the cool ways that animal bodies (and our bodies) fight back against pesky pathogens, but also the amazing and surprising ways we can learn to work together with germs.</p>

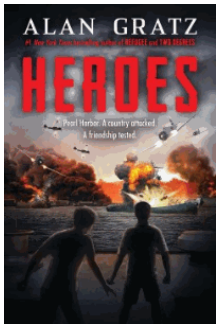
Adventure	Title / Author	Summary
	<p><b>Lost Legends: Diamond in the Rough</b> by Jen Calonita</p>	<p>Before he defeated Jafar, Aladdin was just a poor boy in the streets of Agrabah. Twelve-year-old Aladdin has spent his entire life roaming the desert as a part of a tribe of nomads. He has nothing to his name except the stars in the sky, the clothes on his back, and a peculiar necklace left to him by his late mother. When Aladdin is separated from his tribe in Agrabah, he feels drawn to the city's bustling streets. This is a place of possibilities, one that Aladdin might even be able to call his own. Facing a whole new world with magic lurking around every corner, Aladdin soon joins a group of 'collectors' who teach him what it means to be a street rat. Aladdin will need to put those skills and his good heart to the test when whispers of a mysterious 'diamond' catch up with him and threaten to destroy his new home.</p>
	<p><b>Ranger's Apprentice: The Ruins of Gorlan (Series)</b> by John Flanagan</p>	<p>Like the other 15-year-old wards of Castle Redmont, Will is nervous about Choosing Day, when each of them will be assigned to a different master for training. Though his dearest wish is to enter the Battleschool, his small stature prevents it. Instead, Will is apprenticed to the grim-faced, mysterious Ranger. Soon Will learns that becoming a ranger is more difficult, dangerous, and worthwhile than he had imagined. He earns the respect of his elders and the friendship of a former foe, but all this is prelude to the great adventure that follows, when his skills wielding a knife and keeping a heightened awareness of his surroundings become vital to the survival of his mentor and the safety of the kingdom.</p>

	<p><b>The False Prince (Series)</b> by Jennifer A. Nielsen</p>	<p>Sage is a street-savvy orphan, and along with two other boys he is recruited by Conner, a nobleman who wants to remake them in the image of their country's lost prince, a victim of pirates and presumed dead. The task is urgent, as the rest of the royal family has been murdered and civil war seems imminent. As the boys, chosen for their passing resemblance to Prince Jaron, compete to assume a new identity and the throne, Sage discovers some unpleasant truths about their host, beyond his treasonous plans to pass one of them off as royalty.</p>
	<p><b>Time Villains (Series)</b> by Victor Piñeiro</p>	<p>When a homework assignment and a magic table summon real and fictional people from history, including the bloodthirsty pirate Blackbeard, sixth-grader Javi, his brawny younger sister Brady, and his brainy best friend Wiki join forces to save the world.</p>

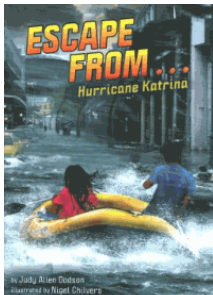
Fantasy	Title / Author	Summary
	<p><b>The Evers: Forever Twelve (Series)</b> by Stacey McAnulty</p>	<p>When twelve-year old Ivy attends West Archer Academy, she is determined to graduate in two years and eventually follow her hero Ruth Bader Ginsberg to the Supreme Court, but after her roommate introduces her to a group of students who are hundreds of years old, she is forced to reexamine her priorities.</p>
	<p><b>The Lost Library</b> by Rebecca Stead and Wendy Mass</p>	<p>When a mysterious Little Free Library guarded by a large orange cat appears overnight, eleven-year-old Evan plucks two weathered books from its shelves, never suspecting that his life is about to change.</p>
	<p><b>Daughters of the Lamp (Series)</b> by Nedda Lewers</p>	<p>Twelve-year-old Sahara prefers logic and science over magic, but when she travels to Cairo for a family wedding, her resistance to magic fades when she discovers that she is next in a line of women tasked with guarding Ali Baba's treasure.</p>

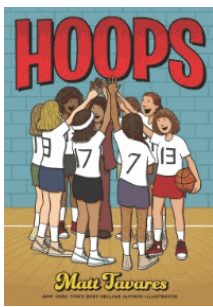
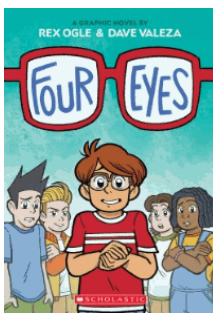




	<b>Witchlings (Series)</b> by Claribel A. Ortega	Every year Witchlings who participate in the Black Moon Ceremony are placed into covens and come into their powers as full-fledged witches. Seven isn't placed in one of the five covens. She's a Spare. Seven invokes her only option. The three Spares will be assigned an impossible task: If they work together and succeed at it, their coven will be sealed and they'll gain their full powers. If they fail--Well, the last coven to make the attempt ended up being turned into toads.
	<b>The Eyes and The Impossible</b> by Dave Eggers	Free dog Johannes' job is to observe everything that happens in his urban park and report back to the park's three bison elders, but changes are afoot, including more humans, a new building, a boatload of goats, and a shocking revelation that changes his view of the world.
	<b>The Bookwanderers (Series)</b> by Anna James	Eleven-year-old Tilly Pages, who has found comfort in her grandparents' bookshop since her mother's disappearance, now learns that she can bookwander into any stories, and decides to seek her mother.
	<b>Nightbooks (Series)</b> by J. A. White	A spine-tingling dark fantasy about the power of facing down fears and choosing your own fate. Alex loves horror stories, but the night he sets out to destroy his beloved "nightbooks"-notebooks full of his original tales-he finds himself trapped by a witch in an enchanted apartment. Natacha, the capricious witch, requires Alex to tell her one of his horror stories each night, or else. As Alex runs out of stories, he enlists the help of the apartment's other trapped occupants, a cautious girl named Yasmin and the witch's begrudging cat, Lenore, to find a way to escape.


Historical Fiction	Title / Author	Summary
	<b>Heroes</b> by Alan Gratz	December 6, 1941: Best friends Frank and Stanley have it good. With their dads stationed at the Pearl Harbor naval base in Hawaii, the boys get to soak up the sunshine while writing and drawing their own comic books. World War II might be raging overseas, but so far America has stayed out of the fight. There's nothing to fear, right?

	<p><b>Escape from East Berlin</b> by Andy Marino</p>	<p>Marta is a young girl who saw thirty miles of barbed wire appear across her city overnight, separating Berlin into West and East--with Marta's home on the Communist Bloc-controlled Eastern side. Then, just a month ago, Marta's brother became a victim of schiessbefehl, the standing order to fire upon anyone who dared pass into the West. With her family and nation both fractured, Marta will soon be faced with a promising--but dangerous--opportunity. Is the desire for freedom enough to risk more death?</p>
	<p><b>Iceberg</b> by Jennifer A. Nielsen</p>	<p>Twelve-year-old Hazel Rothbury stows away aboard the Titanic and, with the help of a porter named Charlie and a first-class passenger named Sylvia, she sets out to explore the great ship, uncovering a haunting mystery--until the ship hits an iceberg and she must fight to save herself and her friends.</p>
	<p><b>The Night Diary</b> by Veera Hiranandani</p>	<p>It's 1947, and India, newly independent of British rule, has been separated into two countries: Pakistan and India. The divide has created much tension between Hindus and Muslims, and hundreds of thousands are killed crossing borders. Half-Muslim, half-Hindu twelve-year-old Nisha doesn't know where she belongs, or what her country is anymore. When Papa decides it's too dangerous to stay in what is now Pakistan, Nisha and her family become refugees and embark first by train but later on foot to reach her new home. The journey is long, difficult, and dangerous, and after losing her mother as a baby, Nisha can't imagine losing her homeland, too. But even if her country has been ripped apart, Nisha still believes in the possibility of putting herself back together.</p>
	<p><b>The War That Saved My Life</b> by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley</p>	<p>Ten-year-old Ada has never left her one-room apartment. Her mother is too humiliated by Ada's twisted foot to let her outside. So when her little brother Jamie is shipped out of London to escape the war, Ada doesn't waste a minute--she sneaks out to join him. So begins a new adventure for Ada, and for Susan Smith, the woman who is forced to take the two kids in. As Ada teaches herself to ride a pony, learns to read, and watches for German spies, she begins to trust Susan--and Susan begins to love Ada and Jamie. But in the end, will their bond be enough to hold them together through wartime? Or will Ada and her brother fall back into the cruel hands of their mother?</p>
	<p><b>I Survived the Wellington avalanche, 1910 (Series)</b> by Lauren Tarshis</p>	<p>The snow came down faster than train crews could clear the tracks, piling up in drifts 20 feet high. At the Wellington train depot in the Cascade Mountains, two trains sat stranded, blocked in by snow slides to the east and west. Some passengers braved the storm to hike off the mountain, but many had no choice but to wait out the storm. But the storm didn't stop. One day passed, then two, three...six days. The snow turned to rain. Then, just after midnight on March 1, a lightning storm struck the mountain, sending a ten-foot-high wave of snow barreling down the mountain.</p>

	<p><b>Escape from Hurricane Katrina (Series)</b> by Judy Allen Dodson</p>	<p>For twins Jo Jo and Sophie Dupre, Hurricane Katrina isn't the most important thing on their minds-not compared to their mother's cancer treatments, Sophie's swim meet, and Jo Jo's upcoming coding competition. But when the storm intensifies and there's only one seat in their aunt's car, Mom has to be the one to evacuate. The twins and their father are stuck at home in the Lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans.</p>
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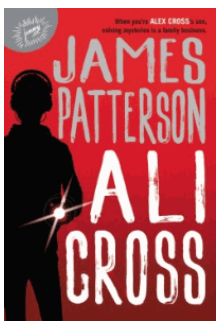
Graphic Novels	Title / Author	Summary
	<p><b>Hoops</b> by Matt Tavares</p>	<p>Inspired by a true story, this graphic novel about the ongoing battle of women striving for equality in sports follows the Wilkins Regional High School girls' basketball team in 1975 Indiana, as they push through to improbable victory after improbable victory despite their disadvantages.</p>
	<p><b>Four Eyes</b> by Rex Ogle</p>	<p>When Rex finds out he needs glasses, he's beyond miserable. Dealing with the bullies at school, his family being broke, and an embarrassing lack of friends, he has way too much on his plate already.</p>
	<p><b>Blue Stars: Mission 1, The Vice Principal Problem</b> by Kekla Magoon, Cynthia Leitich Smith</p>	<p>When cousins Riley, who has a way with people, and Maya, a tech wizard, move in with their activist grandma, they get off to a rocky start until they join forces as superheroes to stop their school culture from being threatened by money, power and lies.</p>
	<p><b>Displacement</b> by Kiku Hughes</p>	<p>Kiku is on vacation in San Francisco when suddenly she finds herself displaced to the 1940s Japanese-American internment camp that her late grandmother, Ernestina, was forcibly relocated to during World War II. These displacements keep occurring until Kiku finds herself stuck back in time. Living alongside her young grandmother and other Japanese-American citizens in internment camps, Kiku gets the education she never received in history class. She witnesses the lives of Japanese-Americans who were denied their civil liberties and suffered greatly, but managed to cultivate community and commit acts of resistance in order to survive.</p>


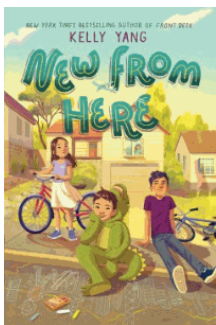




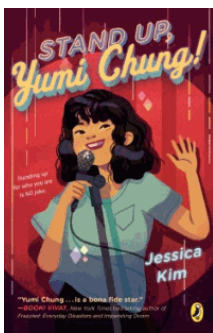
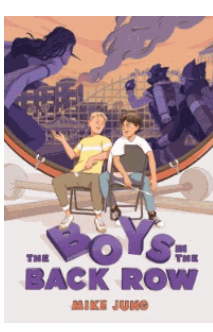

	<p><b>Red Scare</b> by Liam Francis Walsh</p>	<p>In the aftermath of the Korean War, Peggy's small hometown is rife with anti-Communist hysteria. But Peggy has bigger problems: She's struggling to recover from polio. Taunted by her classmates, Peggy just wants to be left alone, but then she stumbles across a mysterious object that gives her the power to fly. Unscrupulous operatives from the American and Soviet governments seek the object to overturn the tense political stalemate, and Peggy finds herself smack in the middle of the Cold War arms race.</p>
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Mystery and Suspense	Title / Author	Summary
	<p><b>Drew Leclair Crushes the Case (Series)</b> by Katryn Bury</p>	<p>When a thief breaks into the P.E. lockers, leaving behind cryptic ransom notes, Drew Leclair, who is determined to stay out of trouble, investigates while dealing with her friends' obsession with the upcoming Wonderland dance.</p>
	<p><b>Don't Want to be Your Monster</b> by Deke Moulton</p>	<p>Adam and Victor are typical brothers. They also happen to be vampires. In the home where they are growing up, along with their nonbinary, university student sibling Sung, their mothers have saved the lives of hundreds of children over the years by turning them into vampires. The safety and security their mothers have built for them is threatened when Adam and Victor happen upon a murder. Adam befriends young mortals Luis and Shosana, and Victor develops a complicated relationship with Luis's sisters who are all determined to find and stop the murderer—who may just be a vampire hunter.</p>
	<p><b>Field of Screams</b> by Wendy Parris</p>	<p>Ghost-hunting enthusiast Rebecca Graff isn't happy about being dragged to an Iowa farm to spend the summer with family she barely knows, but when she finds a note stashed in a comic book that belonged to her late father, she must race to uncover a family legacy before it is lost forever--and a tragedy repeats itself.</p>
	<p><b>Inheritance Games (Series)</b> by Jennifer Lynn Barnes</p>	<p>Avery Grambs has a plan for a better future: survive high school, win a scholarship, and get out. But her fortunes change in an instant when billionaire Tobias Hawthorne dies and leaves Avery virtually his entire fortune. The catch? Avery has no idea why--or even who Tobias Hawthorne is. To receive her inheritance, Avery must move into sprawling, secret passage-filled Hawthorne House, where every room bears the old man's touch--and his love of puzzles, riddles, and codes. Unfortunately for Avery, Hawthorne House is also occupied by the family that Tobias Hawthorne just dispossessed. Caught in a world of wealth and privilege with danger around every turn, Avery will have to play the game herself just to survive.</p>






	<b>Girl in the Lake</b> by India Hill Brown	<p>Celeste knows she should be excited to spend two weeks at her grandparents' lake house with her brother, Owen, and their cousins Capri and Daisy, but she's not. Bugs, bad cell reception, and the dark waters of the lake, no thanks. On top of that, she just failed her swim test and hates being in the water, it's terrifying. But her grandparents are strong believers in their family knowing how to swim, especially having grown up during a time of segregation at public pools. And soon strange things start happening: the sound of footsteps overhead late at night, a flickering light in the attic window, and Celeste's cousins start accusing her of pranking them when she's been nowhere near them!</p>
	<b>Ali Cross</b> by James Patterson	<p>Ali knows about being a respected detective—his dad is the famous Alex Cross. So when Ali's friend Gabe goes missing, he fears the worst. A string of burglaries look like a child-size accomplice may be involved, so Ali wonders if Gabe is being forced to participate. When Ali makes contact with Gabe, he's warned to stop searching for his own good.</p>

Realistic Fiction	Title / Author	Summary
	<b>Keep it together, Keiko Carter</b> by Debbi Michiko Florence	<p>Keiko, Audrey, and Jenna have always been best friends, and Keiko desperately wants it to stay that way, but now they are starting seventh grade, and everything seems to be changing; Audrey is obsessed with the idea of them all securing boyfriends, but when she and Jenna focus on the same boy their friendship starts to break apart--and then Keiko finds herself attracted to Audrey's brother, Conner (who has generally been cast as the enemy), and suddenly she finds herself having to choose between the two.</p>
	<b>New From Here</b> by Kelly Yang	<p>Knox works to keep his family together as they move from Hong Kong back to northern California during the initial outbreak of the coronavirus.</p>
	<b>Dear Student</b> by Elly Swartz	<p>A girl with social anxiety becomes the secret voice of the advice column in her middle school newspaper.</p>

	<p><b>Checked</b> by Cynthia Kadohata</p>	<p>To help his dog through cancer treatment, Conor gives up hockey and finds himself considering who he is without the sport that has defined him, and connecting more with his family and best friend.</p>
	<p><b>Stand Up, Yumi Chung!</b> by Jessica Kim</p>	<p>When eleven-year-old Yumi Chung stumbles into a kids' comedy camp she is mistaken for another student, so she decides to play the part.</p>
	<p><b>The Boys in the Back Row</b> by Mike Jung</p>	<p>Best friends Matt and Eric are hatching a plan for one big final adventure together before Eric moves away: during the marching band competition at a Giant Amusement Park, they will sneak away to a nearby comics convention and meet their idol--a famous comic creator. Without cell phones. Or transportation. Or permission. Of course, their final adventure together is more than just that--really, it's a way for the boys to celebrate their friendship, and their honest love and support for one another.</p>
	<p><b>Select</b> by Christie Matheson</p>	<p>Twelve-year-old Alex loves playing soccer, and she's good at it, too. When her skills land her a free ride to play for Select, an elite soccer club, it feels like a huge opportunity. Joining Select could be the key to a college scholarship and a bright future--one that Alex's family can't promise her. But as the team gets better and better, her new coach pushes the players harder and harder, until soccer starts to feel more like punishment than fun. And then there comes a point where enough is enough, and Alex and her teammates must take a stand to find a better way to make their soccer dreams come true.</p>

Science Fiction	Title / Author	Summary
	<p><b>Project F</b> by Jeanne DuPrau</p>	<p>WELCOME TO THE FUTURE. There are no cars, planes, television, or smartphones. Climate change wreaked havoc on Earth hundreds of years ago, and now people live a simpler life. Then thirteen-year-old Keith uncovers a secret. It's a mysterious mission known only as Project F. It's advanced, it's scientific, and it's going to change the world. It's exactly the kind of adventure Keith has always longed to be a part of. And what is adventure without a little danger, right? But how much danger is Keith willing to risk? For himself? For his family? For his community? For the entire world...?</p>

	<p><b>The Area 51 files (Series)</b> by Julie Buxbaum</p>	<p>When Sky Patel-Baum is sent to live with her mysterious uncle, she never imagines she'll end up in Area 51, a top-secret military base with a bajillion rules. Sky feels like she's landed in a whole new world, even though she hasn't left the planet. Because guess what? Area 51 is full of aliens. Lots and lots of aliens. But something even stranger is happening in Area 51: aliens are going missing. Where could they be? How come everyone thinks Sky and her uncle are involved in their disappearance? And why are there eyeballs in the macaroni and cheese at Area 51 Middle School? Sky must team up with her pizza-obsessed pet hedgehog, Spike, her otherworldly next-door neighbor, Elvis, and his fluffy pup, Pickles, so solve the case!</p>
	<p><b>The Ruby Code</b> by Jessica Khoury</p>	<p>Bullied at school and home, Ash finds respite from his unhappy life in virtual reality games. One night, he spends his meager savings to help a stranger, who thanks him with a copy of an old fantasy game called The Glass Realm. While exploring the game, Ash meets a seemingly humble shopkeeper named Ruby. But from the start, Ruby seems different than the other townsfolk--especially when she and Ash stumble across an in-game quest designed not for the player, but for Ruby to solve. When Ruby begins developing powerful abilities that can rewrite the very code of the game, they realize she is far more than a pre-programmed side character. Caught in a deadly game that blurs the lines between real and virtual, Ash and Ruby must flee for their lives. If they lose this game--they might just doom the world.</p>
	<p><b>It's the End of the World and I'm in My Bathing Suit</b> by Justin A. Reynolds</p>	<p>Twelve-year-old Eddie Gordon Holloway has concocted his most genius plan ever to avoid chores . . . especially the dreaded L-A-U-N-D-R-Y. If he can wear every item of clothing in his wardrobe, summer will be halfway over before he has to do laundry! On the day of the highly anticipated Beach Bash, Eddie ends up grounded until he can get his clothes clean. While left home alone to do his laundry, the power goes out mid-cycle. With his first load of laundry soaking wet and the rest still filthy, Eddie sets out to explore the seemingly empty neighborhood in just his swim trunks and flip-flops. As he meets up with other neighborhood kids to find out what happened, they realize that their families aren't coming back anytime soon. And as night falls, the crew realizes they aren't just the only people left in the neighborhood -- they might be the only people left . . . anywhere.</p>

## Podcasts & Media

*Podcasts are a beloved source of news, entertainment, and culture, not to mention groundbreaking journalism and storytelling. Listening to podcasts can offer students on-the-go insight into current events or compelling stories that supplement and extend classroom learning.*

The following list links kid-friendly, recommended podcasts:

- [\*\*But Why: A Podcast for Curious Kids\*\*](#)
  - Kids are always asking seemingly simple questions that have surprisingly complex answers, such as "Why is the sky blue?" and "Who invented words?" This cute biweekly radio show/podcast takes on answering them. Each episode features several kid-submitted

questions, usually on a single theme, and with the help of experts, it gives clear, interesting answers.

- **Book Club For Kids**

- This excellent biweekly podcast features middle schoolers talking about a popular middle-grade or YA book as well as sharing their favorite book recommendations. Public radio figure Kitty Felde runs the discussion, and each episode includes a passage of that week's book read by a celebrity guest.

- **The Two Princes**

- This charming fantasy adventure will have listeners of all ages glued to the speakers until the very end. Two young princes seek to save their kingdoms and in the process face villainy, dragons, romance, and a magical forest full of danger. Though kissing happens, it is treated with sweetness and humor. A fairy tale for our times, this audio drama is a great introduction to the world of fiction podcasts.

- **What If World**

- With wacky episode titles such as "What if Legos were alive?" and "What if sharks had legs?," this series takes ridiculous "what if" questions submitted by young listeners and turns them into a new story every two weeks. Host Eric O'Keefe uses silly voices and crazy characters to capture the imaginations of young listeners with a Mad Libs-like randomness.

- **Flyest Fables**

- In the tradition of *The NeverEnding Story*, this original fable centers on a magical book that takes its readers to a world where they find the strength to overcome any obstacle. The writing itself is beautiful, and the stories are immersive. Themes can be serious (bullying, homelessness) but are handled with sensitivity and remain appropriate for kids. These powerful, modern stories are sure to entertain and provoke meaningful family conversations.

- **Circle Round**

- Created and produced by parents of young children, WBUR's Circle Round adapts carefully-selected folktales from around the world into sound- and music-rich radio plays for kids ages 4 to 10. Each 10- to 20-minute episode explores important issues like kindness, persistence and generosity. And each episode ends with an activity that inspires a deeper conversation between children and grown-ups.

- **<https://ny.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/summer-learning-collection/>**

- **PBS Learning: Summer Learning Collection**
- Keep the spirit of curiosity alive this summer and explore all the ways learning exists in everyday activities. Find resources that encourage students in grades 6-12 to spend the summer asking questions, spinning stories, and exploring all the ways that learning can be fun.