

## 2018 Summer Reading List

### For Incoming 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Readers

*This list includes a wide variety of books to appeal to the interests and reading levels of middle school students. These books are available at Lakeview Community Library or can be ordered on MonarchCatalog.org. Parents are encouraged to review book selections with their children in order to help them make appropriate choices. Book descriptions are from the various book publishers.*

**(F) = Fiction**

**(NF) = Nonfiction**

Abbot, Tony. **FIREGIRL.**

From the moment Jessica arrives, life is never quite the same for Tom and his seventh-grade classmates. They learn that Jessica has been in a fire and was badly burned, and will be attending St. Catherine's will receiving medical treatments. Despite her appearance and the fear she evokes in him and most of the class, Tom slowly develops a tentative friendship with Jessica that changes his life. (F)

Alexander, Kwame. **BOOKED.**

In this follow-up to the Newbery-winning novel THE CROSSOVER, soccer, family, love, and friendship, take center stage as twelve-year-old Nick learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams. Helping him along are his best friend and sometimes teammate Coby, and The Mac, a rapping librarian who gives Nick inspiring books to read.

This electric and heartfelt novel-in-verse by poet Kwame Alexander bends and breaks as it captures all the thrills and setbacks, action and emotion of a World Cup match! (F)

Alifirenka, Caitlin, and Martin Ganda. **I WILL ALWAYS WRITE BACK: HOW ONE LETTER CHANGED TWO LIVES.**

In this true story of a pen-pal correspondence between an American girl and a Zimbabwean boy, a lifelong friendship forms. Told in alternating chapters, their six-year exchange is both humbling and inspiring. (NF)

Angleberger, Tom. **THE STRANGE CASE OF ORIGAMI YODA.**

Dwight dons a puppet on his finger—an origami Yoda. His classmates soon realize that the strange advice Origami Yoda provides will help them solve their middle school problems. This is the first in the **Origami Yoda** series. (F)

Balliett, Blue. **HOLD FAST.**

Where is Early's father? He's not the kind of father who would disappear. But he's gone . . . and he's left a whole lot of trouble behind.

As danger closes in, Early, her mom, and her brother have to flee their apartment. With nowhere else to go, they are forced to move into a city shelter. Once there, Early starts asking questions and looking for answers. Because her father hasn't disappeared without a trace. There are patterns and rhythms to what's happened, and Early might be the only one who can use them to track him down and make her way out of a very tough place.

With her signature, singular love of language and sense of mystery, Blue Balliett weaves a story that takes readers from the cold, snowy Chicago streets to the darkest corner of the public library, on an unforgettable hunt for deep truths and a reunited family. (F)

Barnhill, Kelly. **THE GIRL WHO DRANK THE MOON.**

Luna, having been turned into a witch as a young girl, discovers the magic within her while facing an evil force. (F)

Bell, Cece. **EL DEAFO.**

If you think going to school and making friends can be tough, try doing it with a hearing aid strapped to your chest! Cece loses her hearing from an illness at a young age. This graphic memoir recounts CeCe's journey with her Phonic Ear, a very powerful but very awkward hearing aid. CeCe struggles to fit in and still be herself. (F)

Benjamin, Ali. **THE THING ABOUT JELLYFISH.**

After her best friend dies in a drowning accident, Suzy is convinced that the true cause of the tragedy must have been a rare jellyfish sting. Retreating into a silent world of imagination, she crafts a plan to prove her theory. Suzy's heartfelt journey helps her reach out to new friends and begin to find her voice. (F)

Birdsall, Jeanne. **THE PENDERWICKS.**

This summer the Penderwick sisters have a wonderful surprise: a holiday on the grounds of a beautiful estate called Arundel. Soon they are busy discovering the summertime magic of Arundel's sprawling gardens, treasure-filled attic, tame rabbits, and the cook who makes the best gingerbread in Massachusetts. But the best discovery of all is Jeffrey Tifton, son of Arundel's owner, who quickly proves to be the perfect companion for their adventures.

The icy-hearted Mrs. Tifton is not as pleased with the Penderwicks as Jeffrey is, though, and warns the new friends to stay out of trouble. Which, of course, they will—won't they? One thing's for sure: it will be a summer the Penderwicks will never forget. (F)

Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker. **THE WAR THAT SAVED MY LIFE.**

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? (F)

Burns, Loree Griffin. **THE HIVE DETECTIVES: CHRONICLE OF A HONEY BEE CATASTROPHE.**

In 2006, nearly 40 percent of the honey bee population in the United States simply vanished. Bee scientists and beekeepers across the country have been working to understand "colony collapse disorder." Photographs and scientific journals help tell the story. (NF)

Burns, Loree Griffin. **TRACKING TRASH: FLOTSAM, JETSAM, AND THE SCIENCE OF OCEAN MOTION.**

This book describes the work of a man who tracks trash as it travels great distances by way of ocean currents. (NF)

Choldenko, Gennifer. **AL CAPONE DOES MY SHIRTS.**

In 1935, Moose Flanagan and his family move to Alcatraz Island, where Moose's father has found work in the prison housing such notorious criminals as Al Capone. Moose must balance the responsibilities of caring for his autistic sister and cope with the free-spirited warden's daughter. This is the first of a three-book series. (F)

Clayton, Emma. **THE ROAR.**

Mika and Ellie live in a future behind a wall, safe from the plague of animals beyond. Or so they've been told. But when one of them vanishes and the other takes part in a sinister virtual reality game, they discover their concrete world is built on lies. Lies spun by a government that, decades ago, conspired to "save" the world — but only for the chosen few. (F)

Clements, Andrew. **THINGS NOT SEEN.**

Bobby wakes up invisible. His parents and his new blind friend, Alicia, try to reverse his condition. Also, **Things Hoped For** and **Things That Are.** (F)

Condie, Ally. **SUMMER LOST.**

It's the first real summer since the devastating accident that killed Cedar's father and younger brother, Ben. But now Cedar and what's left of her family are returning to the town of Iron Creek for the summer. They're just settling into their new house when a boy named Leo, dressed in costume, rides by on his bike. Intrigued, Cedar follows him to the renowned Summerlost theatre festival. Soon, she not only has a new friend in Leo and a job working concessions at the festival, she finds herself surrounded by mystery. The mystery of the tragic, too-short life of the Hollywood actress who haunts the halls of Summerlost. And the mystery of the strange gifts that keep appearing for Cedar. (F)

Cummingham, Darryl. **HOW TO FAKE A MOON LANDING.**

Is hydro-fracking safe? Is climate change real? Did the moon landing actually happen? How about evolution: fact or fiction? Award-winning author-illustrator Darryl Cunningham looks at these and other hot-button science topics and presents a fact-based, visual assessment of current thinking and research on eight different issues everybody's arguing about. His lively storytelling approach incorporates comics, photographs, and diagrams to create substantive but easily accessible reportage. Cunningham's distinctive illustrative style shows how information is manipulated by all sides; his easy-to-follow narratives allow readers to draw their own fact-based conclusions. A graphic milestone of investigative journalism! (NF)

DeCristofano, Carolyn Cinami. **A BLACK HOLE IS NOT A HOLE.**

What is a black hole? Where do black holes come from? How do we know they exist? Will Earth fall into one? This book is an excellent introduction to an extremely complex scientific concept as it takes readers on a ride through the galaxies—ours and others. Fall into this book and learn about the phenomenon known as a black hole. (NF)

DiCamillo, Kate. **RAYMIE NIGHTINGALE.**

Raymie prepares for a local beauty pageant in the hopes of getting the attention of her father and becomes friends with her quirky competitors. (F)

Draper, Sharon. **OUT OF MY MIND.**

Melody is not like most people. She cannot walk or talk, but she has a photographic memory; she can remember every detail of everything she has ever experienced. She is smarter than most of the adults who try to diagnose her and smarter than her classmates in her integrated classroom—the very same classmates who dismiss her as mentally challenged, because she cannot tell them otherwise. But Melody refuses to be defined by cerebral palsy. And she's determined to let everyone know it...somehow. (F)

Draper, Sharon. **STELLA BY STARLIGHT.**

Stella lives in the segregated South—in Bumblebee, North Carolina, to be exact about it. Some stores she can go into. Some stores she can't. Some folks are right pleasant. Others are a lot less so. To Stella, it sort of evens out, and heck, the Klan hasn't bothered them for years. But one late night, later than she should ever be up, much less wandering around outside, Stella and her little brother see something they're never supposed to see, something that is the first flicker of change to come, unwelcome change by any stretch of the imagination. As Stella's community—her world—is upended, she decides to fight fire with fire. And she learns that ashes don't necessarily signify an end. (F)

Eagar, Lindsay. **HOOR OF THE BEES.**

Carol is stuck in the New Mexican desert one summer with her family and her grandfather who suffers from dementia. Her world is rocked by stories he tells her during that time. (F)

Ellis, Deborah. **THE BREADWINNER.**

Parvana lives in Kabul, Afghanistan. When conditions grow desperate for her family, she poses as a boy so she can earn money to help them. (F)

Erskine, Kathryn. **MOCKINGBIRD.**

Imagine having to go to the dictionary to understand emotions and always struggling to make friends. Caitlin's confusion and discomfort, results of her Asperger's Syndrome, are made even worse when her brother is killed and her father is overwhelmed with grief. (F)

Evslin, Bernard. **HEROES, GODS, AND MONSTERS OF THE GREEK MYTHS.**

The heroes, gods, and monsters of Greek mythology come alive in this exciting collection of retellings of the ancient myths that includes tales of Zeus, Hera, Apollo, Artemis, and many more. Written in simple, direct language, *Heroes, Gods and Monsters of the Greek Myths* is an accessible and entertaining guide to the Greek myths and their players, following fearless heroes as they battle epic beasts under the eyes of the mighty immortals who rule them. From mortal warriors like Perseus and his impossible task of slaying the monstrous Medusa, to Zeus, the king of the Gods whose thunderbolts can shake the earth, to the minotaur, a gruesome beast, half-man and half-bull, who destroys young victims that are sacrificed to his terrifying power, this world is one of magic and adventure. (F)

Feinstein, John. **THE WALK ON.**

Newcomer Alex really wants the quarterback position on his new high school's football team; however, that position is currently filled by the coach's son. (F)

Frederick, Heather Vogel. **ABSOLUTELY TRULY.**

After serving in Afghanistan and returning home with an injury, Truly's father has a hard time finding a job. He moves his reluctant family to New Hampshire to take over a struggling bookshop. Although she feels alone and left out, Truly finds a mysterious letter in a first edition copy of *Charlotte's Web* and makes new friends as she tries to solve the clues to discover the letter's writer. (F)

Gerhardt, Jake. **ME & MIRANDA MULLALY.**

Three boys all trying to gain the attention of the same girl become rivals in this hilarious tale of misunderstandings. (F)

Gibbs, Stuart. **BELLY UP.**

When he discovers that FunJungle's mascot has been murdered, twelve-year-old Teddy is on the case. With help from the owner's thirteen-year-old daughter, Teddy risks his life to find the person guilty of destroying the famous Henry the Hippo. (F)

Gidwitz, Adam. **THE INQUISTOR'S TALE, OR, THE THREE MAGICAL CHILDREN AND THEIR HOLY DOG.**

Three travelers unite in a journey through medieval France to escape persecution and save their land. (F)

Goldberg Sloan, Holly. **COUNTING BY 7S.**

Willow Chance is a 12-year-old genius, obsessed with nature and diagnosing medical conditions, who finds it comforting to count by 7s. It has never been easy for her to connect with anyone other than her adoptive parents, but that hasn't kept her from leading a quietly happy life...until now. (F)

Gratz, Alan. **REFUGEE.**

JOSEF is a Jewish boy living in 1930s Nazi Germany. With the threat of concentration camps looming, he and his family board a ship bound for the other side of the world . . .

ISABEL is a Cuban girl in 1994. With riots and unrest plaguing her country, she and her family set out on a raft, hoping to find safety in America . . .

MAHMOUD is a Syrian boy in 2015. With his homeland torn apart by violence and destruction, he and his family begin a long trek toward Europe . . .

All three kids go on harrowing journeys in search of refuge. All will face unimaginable dangers -- from drownings to bombings to betrayals. But there is always the hope of *tomorrow*. And although Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud are separated by continents and decades, shocking connections will tie their stories together in the end.

This action-packed novel tackles topics both timely and timeless: courage, survival, and the quest for home. (F)

Grove, S. E. **THE GLASS SENTENCE.**

In the Great Disruption, time fragmented, stranding countries and continents in different time periods, some of them thousands of years apart. Eight years ago, Sophia's parents disappeared on a mission, leaving her uncle, Shadrack, to raise her. When Shadrack is kidnapped, Sophia and her friend, Theo, leave their home to search for him. As they travel over oceans and new lands, they encounter pirates and hidden cities, and they must rely on Shadrack's maps and each other to uncover the mystery and save Sophia's family. (F)

Hale, Nathan. **NATHAN HALE'S HAZARDOUS TALES.**

Nathan Hale, the author's historical namesake, was America's first spy, a Revolutionary War hero who famously said "I regret that I have but one life to give for my country" before being hanged by the British. In the Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales series, author Nathan Hale channels his namesake to present history's roughest, toughest, and craziest stories in the graphic novel format. (F)

Holm, Jennifer L. **THE FOURTEENTH GOLDFISH.**

Ellie Cruz misses her old best friend, her dearly departed goldfish, and even her old class. Everything changes when her mother brings home a strange boy—her estranged grandfather. Melvin, a scientist, has discovered how to reverse aging and is now 13 again! While it is difficult having her teenage grandfather as a classmate, Ellie finally has the opportunity to get to know her grandfather, and her interest in science grows. She begins to question whether science can go too far. (F)

Hunt, Lynda Mullaly. **FISH IN A TREE.**

"Everybody is smart in different ways. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its life believing it is stupid."

Ally has been smart enough to fool a lot of smart people. Every time she lands in a new school, she is able to hide her inability to read by creating clever yet disruptive distractions. She is afraid to ask for help; after all, how can you cure dumb? However, her newest teacher Mr. Daniels sees the bright, creative kid underneath the trouble maker.

With his help, Ally learns not to be so hard on herself and that dyslexia is nothing to be ashamed of. As her confidence grows, Ally feels free to be herself and the world starts opening up with possibilities. She discovers that there's a lot more to her—and to everyone—than a label, and that great minds don't always think alike. (F)

Jamieson, Victoria. **ROLLER GIRL.**

The summer before the start of junior high, Astrid notices her BFF is drifting away and Roller Derby camp is proving tougher than she had thought! Is she tough enough to lose one as she works hard on the other? (F)

Jarrow, Gail. **FATAL FEVER: TRACKING DOWN TYPHOID MARY.**

In March 1907, the lives of three remarkable people collided at a New York City brownstone where Mary Mallon worked as a cook. They were brought together by typhoid fever, a dreaded scourge that killed tens of thousands of Americans each year. *Fatal Fever: Tracking Down Typhoid Mary* is the first middle-grade trade book that tells the true story of the woman who unwittingly spread deadly bacteria, the epidemiologist who discovered her trail of infection, and the health department that decided her fate. This gripping story follows this tragic disease as it shatters lives from the early twentieth century to today. It will keep readers on the edges of the seats wondering what happened to Mary and the innocent typhoid victims. With glossary, timeline, list of well-known typhoid sufferers and victims, further resource section, author's note, and source notes. (F)

Johnson, Jayleigh. **MARK OF THE DRAGONFLY.**

Piper has never seen the Mark of the Dragonfly until she finds the girl amid the wreckage of a caravan in the Meteor Fields. The girl doesn't remember a thing about her life, but the intricate tattoo on her arm is proof that she's from the Dragonfly Territories and that she's protected by the king. Which means a reward for Piper if she can get the girl home. The one sure way to the Territories is the 401, a great old beauty of a train. But a ticket costs more coin than Piper could make in a year. And stowing away is a difficult prospect—everyone knows that getting past the peculiar green-eyed boy who stands guard is nearly impossible. Life for Piper just turned dangerous. A little bit magical. And very exciting, *if* she can manage to survive the journey. (F)

Kelly, Erin Entrada. **BLACKBIRD FLY.**

Apple has always felt a little different from her classmates. She and her mother moved to Louisiana from the Philippines when she was little, and her mother still cooks Filipino foods and chastises Apple for becoming "too American." When Apple's friends turn on her and everything about her life starts to seem weird and embarrassing, Apple turns to music. If she can just save enough to buy a guitar and learn to play, maybe she can change herself. It might be the music that saves her . . . or it might be her two new friends, who show her how special she really is. Erin Entrada Kelly deftly brings Apple's conflicted emotions to the page in her debut novel about family, friendship, popularity, and going your own way. (F)

Konigsburg, E.L. **A VIEW FROM SATURDAY.**

It was a surprise to a lot of people when Mrs. Olinski's team won the sixth-grade Academic Bowl contest at Epiphany Middle School. It was an even bigger surprise when they beat the seventh grade and the eighth grade, too. And when they went on to even greater victories, everyone began to ask: How did it happen? (F)

Korman, Gordon. **MASTERMINDS.**

After living in a perfect town his whole life, Eli discovers there are secrets that will change everything. *First in a series.* (F)

Korman, Gordon. **THE UNGIFTED.**

The word gifted has never been applied to a kid like Donovan Curtis. It's usually more like Don't try this at home. So when the troublemaker pulls a major prank at his middle school, he thinks he's finally gone too far. But thanks to a mix-up by one of the administrators, instead of getting in trouble, Donovan is sent to the Academy of Scholastic Distinction (ASD), a special program for gifted and talented students. (F)

Law, Ingrid. **SAVVY.**

When Beaumont family members turn 13, they receive their "savvy," a magical gift unique to each one of them. Mibs' thirteenth birthday arrives when her father is out of town and becomes ill. Mibs, her savvy, and a cast of characters hit the road to save him. Also, the companion novel **Scumble.** (F)

L'Engle, Madeleine. **A WRINKLE IN TIME.**

Everything is wrong in Meg Murray's life. In school, she's been dropped down to the lowest section of her grade. She's teased about her five-year-old brother, Charles Wallace, who everyone mistakenly thinks is dumb. Not to mention that Meg wears braces and glasses and has mouse-brown hair.

Winner of the 1963 Newbery Medal, L'Engle's novel, the first in the Time Quartet, still has the power to mesmerize even the most jaded reader. A profound sense of mystery courses through every page. The novel's sophisticated concept, along with its warm and sensitive narrative tone, set the perfect stage for Meg to discover that love is the most powerful force in the universe. (F)

Leonard, M.G. **BEETLE BOY.**

A giant talking beetle and cast of crazy characters help Darkus search for his missing father, a famous entomologist. *First in a series.* (F)

Levine, Kristin. **THE LIONS OF LITTLE ROCK.**

As twelve-year-old Marlee starts middle school in 1958 Little Rock, it feels like her whole world is falling apart. Until she meets Liz, the new girl at school. Liz is everything Marlee wishes she could be: she's brave, brash and always knows the right thing to say. But when Liz leaves school without even a good-bye, the rumor is that Liz was caught passing for white. Marlee decides that doesn't matter. She just wants her friend back. And to stay friends, Marlee and Liz are even willing to take on segregation and the dangers their friendship could bring to both their families. (F)

Lupica, Mike. **FANTASY LEAGUE.**

Charlie loves playing football, but his real gift is playing fantasy football. As a student of the game, he has a knack for choosing players and watching his team win. When his best friend's grandfather, owner of the new LA Bulldogs NFL team, hears Charlie's podcast and gets a peek at Charlie's skills on the sidelines of a real NFL game, he hires Charlie to consult. But this is the National Football League, and Charlie's decisions become real instead of fantasy. (F)

Lupica, Mike. **GAME CHANGERS: BOOK 1.**

Ben McBain is every football team's dream player. He's a jack-of-all-trades guy that can handle almost any position. When the game is on the line, Ben's number is the one being called for the final play. But Ben wants to be the starting quarterback and the one thing standing in his way is the coach's son. Shawn O'Brien looks the part. He has been groomed by his father, a former professional quarterback. But despite his size and arm strength, Shawn is struggling. Ben is torn between being a good teammate and going after his own dream. As Ben finds out, Shawn isn't the easiest person to help. And when Ben gets an unexpected opportunity, the entire game will change for the both of them. (F)

Maraniss, Andrew. **STRONG INSIDE (YOUNG READERS EDITION): THE TRUE STORY OF HOW PERRY WALLACE BROKE COLLEGE BASKETBALL'S COLOR LINE.**

Perry Wallace was born at an historic crossroads in U.S. history. He entered kindergarten the year that the Brown v. Board of Education decision led to integrated schools, allowing blacks and whites to learn side by side. A week after Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech, Wallace enrolled in high school and his sensational jumping, dunking, and rebounding abilities quickly earned him the attention of college basketball recruiters from top schools across the nation. In his senior year his Pearl High School basketball team won Tennessee's first racially-integrated state tournament.

The world seemed to be opening up at just the right time, and when Vanderbilt University recruited Wallace to play basketball, he courageously accepted the assignment to desegregate the Southeastern Conference. The hateful experiences he would endure on campus and in the hostile gymnasiums of the Deep South turned out to be the stuff of nightmares. Yet Wallace persisted, endured, and met this unthinkable challenge head on. This insightful biography digs deep beneath the surface to reveal a complicated, profound, and inspiring story of an athlete turned civil rights trailblazer. (NF)

Meloy, Maile. **THE APOTHECARY.**

Janie Scott's family has just moved from Los Angeles to London, where she meets Benjamin Burrows, the son of a mysterious apothecary. When Ben's father is kidnapped, Janie and Ben must use the apothecary's magical book, *The Pharmacopoeia*, to find him and save the world. (F)

Mikaelson, Ben. **TOUCHING SPIRIT BEAR.**

After severely injuring Peter Driscall in an empty parking lot, mischief-maker Cole Matthews is in major trouble. But instead of jail time, Cole is given another option: attend Circle Justice, an alternative program that sends juvenile offenders to a remote Alaskan Island to focus on changing their ways. Desperate to avoid prison, Cole fakes humility and agrees to go.

While there, Cole is mauled by a mysterious white bear and left for dead. Thoughts of his abusive parents, helpless Peter, and his own anger cause him to examine his actions and seek redemption—from the spirit bear that attacked him, from his victims, and from himself. (F)

Morrison, Megan. **GROUNDING: THE ADVENTURES OF RAPUNZEL.**

After leaving her tower for the first time, Rapunzel joins Jack Beanstalker on a perilous journey through the lands of Tyne. (F)

Murphy, Jim. **AN AMERICAN PLAGUE.**

1793, Philadelphia. The nation's capital and the largest city in North America is devastated by an apparently incurable disease, cause unknown . . .

In a powerful, dramatic narrative, critically acclaimed author Jim Murphy describes the illness known as yellow fever and the toll it took on the city's residents, relating the epidemic to the major social and political events of the day and to 18th-century medical beliefs and practices. Drawing on first-hand accounts, Murphy spotlights the heroic role of Philadelphia's free blacks in combating the disease, and the Constitutional crisis that President Washington faced when he was forced to leave the city—and all his papers—while escaping the deadly contagion. The search for the fever's causes and cure, not found for more than a century afterward, provides a suspenseful counterpoint to this riveting true story of a city under siege. (NF)

Nielsen, Jennifer A. **THE FALSE PRINCE.**

In a kingdom ravaged by civil war, a nobleman of the court seeks an impersonator to play the role of the king's long-lost son in order to unify the people. He enlists a group of four orphans, including Sage, who must compete for the part. Can Sage win the part and pull off the role as a prince? (F)

Nielsen, Jennifer A. **MARK OF THE THIEF.**

Nic, a slave in the mines of ancient Rome, escapes after discovering a magical amulet. *First of a series.* (F)

Pagano, David. **THE LEGO ANIMATION BOOK: MAKE YOUR OWN LEGO MOVIES.**

Have you ever wondered what your LEGO creations would look like on the big screen? *The LEGO Animation Book* will show you how to bring your models to life with stop-motion animation—no experience required! Follow step-by-step instructions to make your first animation, and then explore the entire filmmaking process, from storyboards to post-production. (NF)

Palacio, R. J. **WONDER.**

Auggie is a normal boy. He likes Star Wars, video games, and playing with his dog, but Auggie was born with a facial deformity that until now has prevented him from going to public school. Auggie wants nothing more than to be treated like an ordinary kid, but it's hard for his classmates to get past his extraordinary face. *Wonder* is Auggie's story, but it also includes chapters from his sister, classmates, and friends. Through these multiple perspectives, we see that Auggie's journey not only changes his life but the lives of everyone around him. (F)

Paulsen, Gary. **MY LIFE IN DOG YEARS.**

Gary Paulsen has owned dozens of unforgettable and amazing dogs. In each chapter he tells of one special dog, among them Cookie, the sled dog who saved his life; Snowball, the puppy he owned as a boy in the Philippines; Ike, his mysterious hunting companion; Dirk, the grim protector; and his true friend Josh, a brilliant border collie. (NF)

Pennypacker, Sara. **PAX.**

Pax and Peter have been inseparable ever since Peter rescued him as a kit. But one day, the unimaginable happens: Peter's dad enlists in the military and makes him return the fox to the wild.

At his grandfather's house, three hundred miles away from home, Peter knows he isn't where he should be—with Pax. He strikes out on his own despite the encroaching war, spurred by love, loyalty, and grief, to be reunited with his fox.

Meanwhile Pax, steadfastly waiting for his boy, embarks on adventures and discoveries of his own. . . .(F)

Preus, Margi. **HEART OF A SAMURAI.**

In 1841 a Japanese fishing vessel sinks. Its crew is forced to swim to a small, unknown island, where they are rescued by a passing American ship. Japan's borders remain closed to all Western nations, so the crew sets off to America, learning English on the way.

Manjiro, a 14-year-old boy, is curious and eager to learn everything he can about this new culture. Eventually the captain adopts Manjiro and takes him to his home in New England. The boy lives there for some time and then heads to San Francisco to pan for gold. After many years, he makes it back to Japan, only to be imprisoned as an outsider. With his hard-won knowledge of the West, Manjiro is in a unique position to persuade the emperor to ease open the boundaries around Japan; he may even achieve his unlikely dream of becoming a samurai.

*Heart of a Samurai* is a 2011 Newbery Honor Book. (F)

Raleigh Baskin, Nora. **BASKETBALL (OR SOMETHING LIKE IT).**

Basketball clinics, a revolving door of coaches, incensed parents, and the importance of the right sneakers—is that what the game is about? Told from the perspective of four unlikely friends, Nora Raleigh Baskin's poignant novel

focuses on the action, drama, and fun of playing ball and explores what it takes to be a winner of the game—both on the court and off. (F)

Reit, Seymour. **BEHIND REBEL LINES: THE INCREDIBLE STORY OF EMMA EDMONDS, CIVIL WAR SPY.**

In 1861, when war erupted between the States, President Lincoln made an impassioned plea for volunteers. Determined not to remain on the sidelines, Emma Edmonds cropped her hair, donned men's clothing, and enlisted in the Union Army. Posing in turn as a slave, peddler, washerwoman, and fop, Emma became a cunning master of disguise, risking discovery and death at every turn behind Confederate lines. (NF)

Riordan, Rick. **PERCY JACKSON'S GREEK GODS.**

So begins *Percy Jackson's Greek Gods*, in which the son of Poseidon adds his own magic--and sarcastic asides--to the classics. He explains how the world was created, then gives readers his personal take on a who's who of ancients, from Apollo to Zeus. Percy does not hold back. "*If you like horror shows, blood baths, lying, stealing, backstabbing, and cannibalism, then read on, because it definitely was a Golden Age for all that.*" This novel-sized paperback, complete with an insert of full-color illustrations by Caldecott Honoree John Rocco, is portable and friendly, and the ideal way to introduce young readers to the classic stories. (F)

Ripken, Cal. **WILD PITCH, HOT HEAD, SUPER SLUGGER, SQUEEZE PLAY.**

These books draw off of Ripken's experience playing baseball, as well as the issues he sees facing kids today. It's an area Ripken is expertly qualified to write about: The Hall of Famer works with kids through his Ripken Baseball program to help them appreciate the value of hard work and sportsmanship while having fun playing the game. (F)

Ryan, Pam Muñoz. **ESPERANZA RISING.**

After her father is murdered, Esperanza Ortega is forced to flee her beloved El Rancho de las Rosas in Mexico to a migrant camp in California. (F)

Selznick, Brian. **THE INVENTION OF HUGO CABRET: A NOVEL IN WORDS AND PICTURES.**

When 12-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toy seller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized. This novel in words and pictures is the winner of the 2008 Caldecott Medal. (F)

Sheinkin, Steve. **KING GEORGE: WHAT WAS HIS PROBLEM?**

What do the most famous traitor in history, hundreds of naked soldiers, and a salmon lunch have in common? They're all part of the amazing story of the American Revolution. Entire books have been written about the causes of the American Revolution. This isn't one of them. What it is, instead, is utterly interesting, anecdotes (John Hancock fixates on salmon), from the inside out (at the Battle of Eutaw Springs, hundreds of soldiers plunged into battle "naked as they were born") close-up narrative filled with little-known details, lots of quotes that capture the spirit and voices of the principals ("If need be, I will raise one thousand men, subsist them at my own expense, and march myself at their head for the relief of Boston" -- George Washington), and action. It's the story of the birth of our nation, complete with soldiers, spies, salmon sandwiches, and real facts you can't help but want to tell to everyone you know. (NF)

Sheinkin, Steve. **LINCOLN'S GRAVE ROBBERS.**

A group of counterfeiters scheme to steal Abraham Lincoln's body from his tomb, ransom Lincoln's remains for money, and free a master counterfeiter from jail. Secret Service agents learn of the plot, recruit an undercover agent to infiltrate the gang, and try to catch the criminals before they can rob Lincoln's grave. (NF)

Shevah, Emma. **DREAM ON, AMBER.**

Amber's father left when she was little, so now she fills in the frustrating gap in her life with imagined conversations to help her deal with art projects, bullies, and little sisters. (F)

Smith, Roland. **CRYPTID HUNTERS.**

After their parents are lost in an accident, thirteen-year old twins Grace and Marty are whisked away to live with their Uncle Wolfe--an uncle that they didn't even know they had! The intimidating Uncle Wolfe is an anthropologist who has dedicated his life to finding cryptids, mysterious creatures believed to be long extinct. (F)

Stead, Rebecca. **WHEN YOU REACH ME.**

Sixth grader Miranda lives in 1978 New York City with her mother and is never without her favorite book, *A Wrinkle in Time*. When she starts to receive a series of notes that claim to want to save her life, Miranda begins to believe they are coming from someone who knows the future. This is the 2010 Newbery Medal winner. (F)

Ursu, Anne. **THE REAL BOY.**

On an island on the edge of an immense sea there is a city, a forest, and a boy named Oscar. Oscar is a shop boy for the most powerful magician in the village, and spends his days in a small room in the dark cellar of his master's shop grinding herbs and dreaming of the wizards who once lived on the island generations ago. Oscar's world is small, but he likes it that way. The real world is vast, strange, and unpredictable. And Oscar does not quite fit in it. But now that world is changing. Children in the city are falling ill, and something sinister lurks in the forest. Oscar has long been content to stay in his small room in the cellar, comforted in the knowledge that the magic that flows from the forest will keep his island safe. Now even magic may not be enough to save it. (F)

Van Draanen, Wendelin. **THE RUNNING DREAM.**

Jessica thinks her life is over when she loses a leg in a car accident. She's not comforted by the news that she'll be able to walk with the help of a prosthetic leg. Who cares about walking when you live to run? As she struggles to cope, Jessica feels that she's both in the spotlight and invisible. People who don't know what to say act like she's not there. Jessica's embarrassed to realize that she's done the same to a girl with CP named Rosa. A girl who is going to tutor her through all the math she's missed. A girl who sees right into the heart of her. With the support of family, friends, a coach, and her track teammates, Jessica may actually be able to run again. But that's not enough for her now. She doesn't just want to cross finish lines herself—she wants to take Rosa with her. (F)

Watson, Jude. **LOOT.**

On a foggy night in Amsterdam, a man falls from a rooftop to the wet pavement below. It's Alfie McQuinn, the notorious cat burglar, and he's dying. As sirens wail in the distance, Alfie manages to get out two last words to his young son, March: "Find jewels." But March learns that his father is not talking about a stash of loot. He's talking about Jules, the twin sister March never knew he had. No sooner than the two find each other, they're picked up by the police and sent to the world's worst orphanage. It's not prison, but it feels like it. March and Jules have no intention of staying put. They know their father's business inside and out, and they're tired of being pushed around. Just one good heist, and they'll live the life of riches and freedom most kids only dream about. (F)

Wolk, Lauren. **WOLF HOLLOW.**

A 2017 Newbery Honor Book.

Growing up in the shadows cast by two world wars, Annabelle has lived a mostly quiet, steady life in her small Pennsylvania town. Until the day new student Betty Glengarry walks into her class. Betty quickly reveals herself to be cruel and manipulative, and while her bullying seems isolated at first, things quickly escalate, and reclusive World War I veteran Toby becomes a target of her attacks. While others have always seen Toby's strangeness, Annabelle knows only kindness. She will soon need to find the courage to stand as a lone voice of justice as tensions mount. Brilliantly crafted, *Wolf Hollow* is a haunting tale of America at a crossroads and a time when one girl's resilience, strength, and compassion help to illuminate the darkest corners of our history. (F)

Yan Glaser, Karina. **THE VANDERBEEKERS OF 141<sup>ST</sup> STREET.**

The Vanderbeekers have always lived in the brownstone on 141st Street. It's practically another member of the family. So when their reclusive, curmudgeonly landlord decides not to renew their lease, the five siblings have eleven days to do whatever it takes to stay in their beloved home and convince the dreaded Beiderman just how wonderful they are. And all is fair in love and war when it comes to keeping their home. (F)

Yousafzai, Malala, with Patricia McCormick. **I AM MALALA: HOW ONE GIRL STOOD UP FOR EDUCATION AND CHANGED THE WORLD.**

Malala Yousafzai is an outspoken advocate for education for all children. In October 2012, she nearly lost her life when she was shot at point-blank range on the way home from school because of her education advocacy. Malala tells her remarkable story of her crusade for education rights, recovery, and survival. (NF)

