

Memorial Incoming 6th Grade 2016 Summer Reading List

***You are required to read 2 books over the summer. One from this list and one that is free choice.**

El Deafo by Cece Bell *Graphic Novel*

Lexile: 420

At her old school, everyone in Cece's class was deaf. At her new school, she is sure the kids are staring at the Phonic Ear, the powerful aid that will help her hear her teacher. Too bad it also seems certain to repel potential friends. Then Cece makes a startling discovery. With the Phonic Ear she can hear her teacher not just in the classroom, but anywhere her teacher is in school. This is power. Maybe even superpower! Cece is on her way to becoming El Deafo, Listener for All. Can Cece channel her powers into finding the thing she wants most, a true friend?

Middle School the Worst Years of My Life by James Patterson *Fiction, Humor*

Lexile: 700

Rafe Khatchadorian has enough problems at home without throwing his first year of middle school into the mix. Luckily, he's got an ace plan for the best year ever, if only he can pull it off: With his best friend Leonardo the Silent awarding him points, Rafe tries to break every rule in his school's oppressive Code of Conduct. Chewing gum in class-5,000 points! Running in the hallway-10,000 points! Pulling the fire alarm-50,000 points! But when Rafe's game starts to catch up with him, he'll have to decide if winning is all that matters, or if he's finally ready to face the rules, bullies, and truths he's been avoiding.

I Lived on Butterfly Hill by Marjorie Agosin *Historical Fiction*

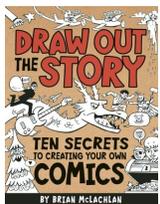
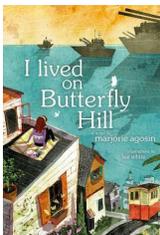
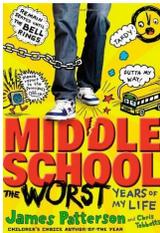
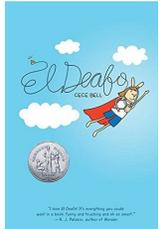
Lexile: 770

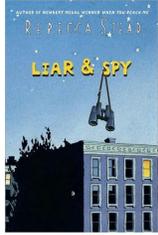
Celeste Marconi lives peacefully in the town of Valparaiso, Chile—until one day when warships are spotted in the harbor and schoolmates start disappearing from class without a word. Celeste doesn't quite know what is happening, but one thing is clear: no one is safe, not anymore. Celeste's parents must go into hiding before they, too, "disappear." Before they do, they send Celeste to America to protect her. As Celeste adapts to her new life in Maine, she never stops dreaming of Chile. But even after democracy is restored to her home country, questions remain: Will her parents reemerge from hiding? Will she ever be truly safe again?

Draw Out the Story: 10 Secrets to Creating Your Own Comics by Brian McLachlan *Nonfiction*

Lexile: 800

From single-panel comics to full-blown graphic novels, there are dozens of ways to use comics to tell a story. Cartoonist and author Brian McLachlan shares the ten crucial things you need to know to get started!





Liar & Spy by Rebecca Stead *Fiction, Mystery*

Lexile: 670

When seventh grader Georges (the S is silent) moves into a Brooklyn apartment building, he meets Safer, a twelve-year-old coffee-drinking loner and self-appointed spy. Georges becomes Safer's first spy recruit. His assignment? Tracking the mysterious Mr. X, who lives in the apartment upstairs. But as Safer becomes more demanding, Georges starts to wonder: how far is too far to go for your only friend?

Zebra Forest by Adina Rishe Gewirtz *Historical Fiction*

Lexile: 750

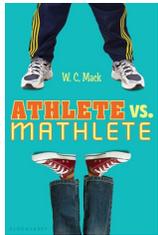
Eleven-year-old Annie and her brother Rew live at the edge of a forest nicknamed "the Zebra." Annie shops, pays bills, and lies to the social worker so that she and her brother can continue to live with their Gran, who broods for days in her room. Annie and Rew make up stories about their father, the pilot, the secret agent, or pirate; even though their Gran told them that he died. One day, something shocking happens: a rattling at the back door, an escapee from the prison holding them hostage in their own home, and four lives that will never be the same.



Athlete vs. Mathlete by W.C. Mack *Fiction, Humor*

Lexile: 610

Owen Evans lights up the scoreboards. His brother, Russell, rocks the school boards. These twin brothers couldn't be more different. They've long kept the peace by going their separate ways, but all that is about to change. The new basketball coach recruits Russell for the seventh grade team and a jealous Owen has to fight to stay in the game. When someone tries to steal Russell's spot as captain of the mathlete team, will the two be able to put aside their differences in order to save his position? Or will they be sidelined?



Now is the Time for Running by Michael Williams *Nonfiction, Sports*

Lexile: 650

Just down the road from their families, Deo and his friends play soccer in the dusty fields of Zimbabwe, cheered on by Deo's older brother, Innocent. It is a day like any other . . . until the soldiers arrive and Deo and Innocent are forced to run for their lives, fleeing the wreckage of their village for the distant promise of safe haven. Along the way, they face the prejudice and poverty that await refugees everywhere, and must rely on the kindness of people they meet to make it through. But when tragedy strikes, Deo's love of soccer is all he has left. Can he use that gift to find hope once more?



Small as an Elephant by Jennifer Richard Jacobson *Realistic Fiction*

Lexile: 790

Ever since Jack can remember, his mom has been unpredictable, sometimes loving and fun, other times caught in a whirlwind of energy and "spinning" wildly until it's over. But Jack never thought his mom would take off during the night and leave him at a campground in Acadia National Park, with no way to reach her and barely enough money for food. With nothing but a small toy elephant to keep him company, Jack begins the long journey south, a journey that will test his wits and his loyalties - and his trust that he may be part of a larger herd after all.

