

5/6 Grade -SUMMER READING - 2009

Sign of the Beaver

Spear. A Newberry Honor Book about a white boy in the Marine wilderness who is rescued from swarming bees by an Indian chief - and his subsequent friendship with the chief's son. 135 pp.

Johnny Tremain

Forbes. A young apprentice silversmith is caught up in the Boston Tea Party and the American Revolution. An exciting story, winner of the Newberry Award. 256 pp.

Toliver's Secret

Brady. Ten-year old Ellen Toliver must conquer her timidity to take a secret message through enemy lines during the Revolutionary War. Fast-paced novel gives a good feel for the era. Illustrated. 166 pp.

Justin Morgan Had a Horse

Henry. Newberry Honor. The true story of a young boy who trained the first all-American (but now world-famous) Morgan horse. 170 pp.

Calico Bush

Field. A Newberry Honor book. Left an orphan shortly after her family arrives in the New World, young Marguerite is "Bound-out" for six years to serve the Sargent family in exchange for food, shelter and clothing. Will she have the courage to face the adventures facing her during the hungry winter of 1743? 210 pp.

The Journeyman

Yates. Touching story about a boy, despised by his father because of his artistic bent, who leaves home to find his place in the world. 126 pp.

Caddie Woodlawn

Brink. Newberry Medalist. Caddie has great adventures with her two brothers in the Wild West frontiers of Wisconsin in the late 1800's. Indians, raging rivers, massacre scares, loving family life are all here. Caddie is one of my favorite heroines. 275 pp.

Miracles on Maple Hill

Sorensen. A heartwarming Newberry Medal winner. Dad has returned from World War II a changed man: withdrawn, touchy, unable to work. The family moves back to the family farm where dad gets the healing he needs. Includes a great description of maple sugaring. 180 pp.

Behind Rebel Lines

Reit. Junior Literary Guild selection. The amazing true story of Emma Edmonds. Civil War spy who masqueraded as everything from a slave to a Southern gentlemen. Fascinating! 100 pp.

Island of the Blue Dolphins

O'Dell. Newberry Medal. A moving and unforgettable story inspired by the true story of an Indian girl who spent 18 years alone on a rocky island far off the coast of California in the early 1800's. 184 pp.

The Master Puppeteer

Paterson. Multiple award winner. Jiro, son of a starving puppetmaker in 18th Century Japan, runs away from home to apprentice himself to the master of the Hanaza puppet theater...and finds himself in the midst of a Robin Hood intrigue. Fascinating introduction to Japanese culture. 192.pp

House of Sixty Fathers

DeJong. Newberry Honor Book. Illustrated by Maurice Sendak. A Chinese boy is separated from his family and is "adopted" by sixty American airmen. Great story! 189 pp.

Treasure Island

Stevenson. High seas adventure has a group of treasure seekers following a treasure map of a distant island. Full of piracy and treachery, this book is as enjoyable to read today as when it was first published in 1883. 194 pp.

Robinson Crusoe

Defoe. The classic story of a shipwrecked mariner that has stood the test of time. First published in 1719, Robinson's story of survival has entertained many. 319 pp.

Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH

O'Brien. Newberry Medal. Mrs. Frisby, a widowed mouse, must move her family or face death. Unfortunately, her son Timothy is ill and can't be moved. She seeks help from the brilliant rats of NIHM. Their solution is worth the read. 233 pp.

Pocahontas and the Strangers

Bulla. True story of a young Indian girl who saved the life of John Smith, an early American frontiersman. 176 pp.

The Matchlock Gun

Edmonds. Newberry Medal. A ten-year old boy in New York's Helderberg mountains saved his family from rading Indians during the French and Indian war. A delightful, heart-thumping story. Beautifully illustrated. 50 pp.

Phoebe the Spy

Griffin. Dramatic true story of a little African American girl who foiled a plot to kill George Washington. 48 pp.

Sarah, Plain and Tall

MacLachlan. Newberry Award-winning story of a frontier American widower who advertised for a wife...and gets Sarah. Poignant. Beautiful. 58 pp.

The Courage of Sarah Noble

Dalgliesh. Newberry Honor. Eight-year old Sarah journeys into the wilderness with her father - and ends up alone! Based on a true story. 54 pp.

The Cabin Faced West

Fritz. Anne is lonely when her family moves to the Pennsylvania frontier...until a special evening when a stranger comes to dinner. Laura Ingalls Wilder Medalist. 124 pp.

Bearston Hemlock Mountain

Dalgliesh. Newberry Honor. Jonathan goes to get “the biggest pot you ever laid eyes on” - on the other side of Hemlock Mountain. How he protects himself from the bears is the highlight of this short tall tale! 60 pp.

A Lion to Guard Us

Bulla. Award-winning author tells a true story about three children left alone in London in 1609 who make their way to the Virginia colony. Engrossing! 128 pp.

By The Great Horn Spoon

Fleischman. To save his sister’s home, young lack and his butler rush off to California to join the ‘49ers in their hunt for gold. Fun! 193 pp.

Shades of Gray

Reeder. Thought-provoking story of a boy who was orphaned by the Civil War as he struggles to forgive “the enemy” - and discover what true courage is all about. 165 pp.

Turn Homeward, Hannalee

Beatty. Two thousand Georgia textile workers were shipped North against their will to work in Yankee mills. Twelve-year old Hannalee was one of them. This is the true story of how she fulfilled her promise to make her way home to the family she was forced to leave behind. 193 pp.

Old Yeller

Gipson. The touching Newberry Honor story about a boy and the dog he loves. Set during frontier days in the Texas hill country. 184 pp.

Helen Keller

Davidson. The inspiring story of Helen Keller, a blind and deaf girl who overcame her limitations through courage and the firm love of a caring teacher. 95 pp.

All of a Kind Family

Taylor. The light-hearted story of an all-girl family in a crowded section of New York City at the turn of the century. 184 pp.

Thimble Summer

Enright. Newberry Medal-winner about a mid-American farm family in the early 20th century. Charming. 136 pp.

Plain Girl

Sorenson. As the only Amish girl in her school, Esther stands out like “a blackbird against the sky.” Apart from her kin, she is both attracted to the new life she sees and afraid that it may draw her away. By a Newberry Medal-winning author. 151 pp.

Gone Away Lake

Enright. Two children discover the remains of a lake long since dried and forgotten, the ruins of once-elegant homes that stood along its shore...and two fascinating old people who remember the glory years. A charming Newberry Honor book full of adventure. 272 pp.

The Terrible Wave

Dahlsted. Top-notch historical fiction about the great Johnstown, Pennsylvania, flood of 1889. 128 pp.

Shoes for Everyone

Mitchell. The story of Jan Matzeliger, a “black” man from Dutch Guliana, who revolutionized the shoe industry and made shoes affordable for the millions by inventing the first automatic shoe-making machine in the late 1800s. Interesting and inspiring! 64 pp.

Henry Reed, Inc.

Robertson. Famous story about an entrepreneurial boy and his humorous escapades. Fun! 239 pp.

The Big Wave

Buck. Children’s Book Award. A Japanese boy must face life after escaping a tidal wave that destroys his family and village. A powerful story of perseverance through tragedy. 89 pp.

Incredible Journey

Burnford. Classic story of three house pets who overcome enormous odds to return to the masters they love. 148 pp.

Rascal

North. Newberry Honor Book. The charming story of a boy and his mischievous per raccoon and he event-filled year they experience together in the Wisconsin backwoods of the early 1900s. Sure to endear raccoons to you forever! 189 pp.

King of the Wind

Henry. Newberry Metal-winning story of an Arabian horse from North Africa and his adventures in France and England. 174 pp.

Louis Braille

Davidson. Louis Braille was 12 years old when he determined to invent an easy way for blind people like himself to read and write. It took him three years to work out his raised-dot alphabet; it took 20 years for him to get his method accepted by sighted people. A moving story of a man who persevered for the betterment of his fellows. 80 pp.

Born in the Year of Courage

Crofford. Fascinating historical fiction that closely follows the truth about a brave 15-year-old Japanese fisherman, Manjiro Nakahama, who is shipwrecked far off the coast of Japan, is brought to the United States, and, upon returning home, paves the way for Commodore Perry's successful "opening of Japan" to the United States in 1853. 160 pp.

Stone Fox

Gardiner. Ten-year old Willy needs to win the big dogsled race in order to pay the back taxes on his grandfather's farm - but that means he has to beat the huge Indian, Stone Fox, and his incredible dogsled team. A stunning, heartwarming story. 81 pp.

7/8 grade Summer Reading - 2009

Johnny Tremain

Forbes. A young apprentice silversmith is caught up in the Boston Tea Party and the American Revolution. An exciting story, winner of the Newberry Award. 256 pp.

Across Five Aprils

Hunt. The powerful story of a young man for whom the Civil War spans five Aprils. 201 pp.

The Master Puppeteer

Paterson. Multiple award winner. Jiro, son of a starving puppetmaker in 18th Century Japan, runs away from home to apprentice himself to the master of the Hanaza puppet theater...and finds himself in the midst of a Robin Hood intrigue. Fascinating introduction to Japanese culture. 192 pp.

Young Fu of the Upper Yangtze

Lewis. Newberry Award-winning story of a young boy who lived in China during perilous 1920's. Written by a Christian ambassador. 258 pp.

The Westing Game

Raskin. The only mystery story ever to win the Newberry Medal! Sixteen players are possible heirs to Sam Westing's fortune...and all of them are suspects in the case of his curious demise. The one who discovers the villain's identity wins \$200 million; the losers lose all. A pleasurable read. 185 pp.

Anna and the King

Landon. Anna Leonowens worked at the Siamese palace from 1862 to 1867. She had been hired by the king to teach his children English. The king had absolute power. Slavery was commonplace. But Anna brought her own ideals with her, and by the fact that King Mongkut had hired her was a sign that the country was moving in a new direction. Fascinating story of cultural discovery and values conflict! 192 pp.

Around the World in 80 Days

Verne. Classic story of adventure. We've put it in mostly for fun-but do you find yourself recognizing certain places, people and/or practices?
240 pp.

Louis Braille

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North to Freedom

Holm. A boy escapes from the concentration camp in which he was born. Somehow, he knows he must travel north...to what, besides freedom, he knows not...Moving. 239 pp.

The Bronze Bow

Spere. Newberry Award. Set in Galilee in the time of Jesus, this is the dramatic story of a young Jewish rebel who is won over by the gentle teachings of Jesus. A wonderful story. 254 pp.

Henry Reed, Inc.

Robertson. Famous story about an entrepreneurial boy and his humorous escapades. Fun! 239 pp.

Jane Eyre

Bronte. The classic story of a plain, yet spirited governess, her arrogant employer and how their relationship developed over class barriers. The archetype for all Gothic romances. 433 pp.

Oliver Twist

Dickens. The story of a good-hearted orphan who runs away to London only to be captured by thieves. A morality tale and detective story rolled into one. One of Dickens' most popular novels, the first of his works to depict the impoverished London underworld and to illustrate his belief that poverty leads to crime. 480 pp.

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Hatchet

Paulsen. Stranded in the Canadian wilderness with only the clothes on his back and a hatchet, Brian Robeson must put bitter thoughts about his parents' divorce behind and deal with the task at hand: staying alive. A spellbinding survival story!

Little Women

Alcott. The Four March girls learn to live with poverty and the hard times of growing up in New England during the Civil War. Their lively family life has charmed generations of readers. 459 pp.

Little Men

Alcott. The heroine of Little Women is back and, with her husband, runs a school out of their home for a group of boys. The family's escapades will delight. 346 pp.

The Hiding Place

Ten Boom. The worldwide bestseller about a staunchly Christian Dutch family whose faith overcomes the worst of the Nazi holocaust. Challenging and uplifting. 221 pp.