

Entering 7th Grade Summer Reading List 2018

REQUIRED:

Fever 1793 Laurie Halse Anderson

In the foreground of this story is 16-year-old Mattie Cook, whose mother and grandfather own a popular coffee house on High Street. Mattie's comfortable life is shattered by the epidemic, as her mother is felled and the girl and her grandfather must flee for their lives. Mattie's suffering changes her from a willful child to a strong young woman capable of managing the family business on her own.

Writing Assignment: Mattie Cook changes dramatically from the start of the book to the end. In a double spaced paper, trace the progression of Mattie's growth as she matures into a young adult. Be sure to include a thesis statement and use specific examples from the text for support. Parenthetical citations are not required. Your typed response should be approximately 300 – 500 words.

YOU WILL ALSO READ AT LEAST 2 ADDITIONAL BOOKS AS PART OF YOUR SUMMER READING. YOU SHOULD CHOOSE ONE OF THE TWO BOOKS FROM THE FOLLOWING LIST. FOR YOUR SECOND BOOK, YOU ARE FREE TO CHOOSE ANY OTHER BOOK, ALTHOUGH YOU MAY CHOOSE A SECOND BOOK FROM THIS LIST.

There are some links at the end of the list that may help as well.

FICTION

Okay For Now Gary D. Schmidt

Doug Swieteck struggles to be more than the "skinny thug" that some people think him to be. He finds an unlikely ally in Lil Spicer, who gives him the strength to endure an abusive father, the suspicions of a town, and the return of his oldest brother, forever scarred, from Vietnam. Schmidt expertly weaves multiple themes of loss and recovery in a story teeming with distinctive, unusual characters and invaluable lessons about love, creativity, and survival.

The Running Dream Wendelin Van Draanen

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 with crutches and a first cyborg-like prosthetic, Jessica feels oddly both in the spotlight and invisible.

Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children Ransom Riggs

A family tragedy sets sixteen-year-old Jacob journeying to a remote island off the coast of Wales, where he discovers the crumbling ruins of Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children. As Jacob explores its abandoned bedrooms and

hallways, it becomes clear that the children were more than just peculiar. They may have been dangerous. They may have been quarantined on a deserted island for good reason. And somehow—impossible though it seems—they may still be alive. Also consider reading **Hollow City: The Second Novel of Miss Peregrine's Peculiar Children** and/or **Library of Souls: The Third Novel of Miss Peregrine's Peculiar Children**.

The Hobbit J. R. R. Tolkien

Bilbo Baggins is a hobbit that enjoys a comfortable, unambitious life, rarely traveling any farther than his pantry or cellar. But his contentment is disturbed when the wizard Gandalf and a company of dwarves arrive on his doorstep one day to whisk him away on an adventure. They have a plot to raid the treasure hoard guarded by Smaug the Magnificent, a large and very dangerous dragon. Bilbo reluctantly joins their quest, unaware that on his journey to the Lonely Mountain he will encounter both a magic ring and a frightening creature known as Gollum.

Mindblind Jennifer Roy

Fourteen-year-old Nathaniel is a genius. Or so he's been told. He could read at age three, has a memory like a computer, has already graduated from high school and college, and is ready to enter graduate school. However, Nathaniel has Asperger's Syndrome and has problems interacting with others socially, even with his good friends Jessa and Cooper. At most times, Nathaniel would rather stay in his own world and not have to worry about anyone or anything except himself.

Nevertheless, Nathaniel has to learn how to make it in reality. Nathaniel once read a book stating that a true genius will make a contribution to the whole world, and he struggles to find a way to make a real difference.

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy Douglas Adams

Everyone has bad mornings. You wake up late, you stub your toe, you burn the toast...but for a man named Arthur Dent, this goes far beyond a bad day. When he learns that a friend of his is actually an alien with advanced knowledge of Earth's impending destruction, he is transported off the Earth seconds before it is exploded to make way for a new hyperspace motorway.

And as if that's not enough, throw in being wanted by the police, Earth II, an insane electronic encyclopedia, no tea whatsoever, a chronically depressed robot and the search for the meaning of life, and you've got the greatest adventure off Earth.

When We Wake Karen Healey

Tegan is just 16 when she dies - well, sort of. After being shot at a protest in Sydney in 2027, she awakens in the future in a government facility where she's been preserved and frozen for 100 years.

Being the first successfully revived human in Australia means that Tegan is an instant celebrity in a world that is much different from the one that she knows. As she struggles to build a life for herself with some sense of normalcy, she learns that not all citizens are excited about the scientific advancement that brought her back to life, and that the government that saved her might not have the best intentions.

Guitar Notes Mary Amato

On odd days, Tripp Broody uses a school practice room to let loose on a borrowed guitar. Eyes closed, strumming that beat-up instrument, Tripp escapes to a world where only the music matters.

On even days, Lyla Marks uses the same practice room. To Tripp, she's trying to become even more perfect—she's already a straight-A student and an award-winning cellist. But when Lyla begins leaving notes for him in between the strings of the guitar, his life intersects with hers in a way he never expected.

What starts as a series of snippy notes quickly blossoms into the sharing of interests and secrets and dreams, and the forging of a very unlikely friendship.

Code Name Verity Elizabeth Wein

Two young women from totally different backgrounds are thrown together during World War II: one a working-class girl from Manchester, the other a Scottish aristocrat, one a pilot, the other a wireless operator. Yet whenever their paths cross, they complement each other perfectly and before long become devoted friends.

But then a vital mission goes wrong, and one of the friends has to bail out of a faulty plane over France. She is captured by the Gestapo and becomes a prisoner of war. The story begins in Verity's own words, as she writes her account for her captors.

The Librarian of Auschwitz Antonio Iturbe

Fourteen-year-old Dita is one of the many imprisoned by the Nazis at Auschwitz. Taken, along with her mother and father, from the Terezín ghetto in Prague, Dita is adjusting to the constant terror that is life in the camp. When Jewish leader Freddy Hirsch asks Dita to take charge of the eight precious volumes the prisoners have managed to sneak past the guards, she agrees. And so Dita becomes the librarian of Auschwitz.

Out of one of the darkest chapters of human history comes this extraordinary story of courage and hope.

Midnight at the Electric Jody Lynn Anderson

Jody Lynn Anderson's epic tale—told through three unforgettable points of view—is a masterful exploration of how love, determination, and hope can change a person's fate. Though a portion of this book is set in the near future, it's more a work of historical fiction as it focuses a great deal on England just after WWI, and Kansas during the Dust Bowl.

2065: Adri has been handpicked to live on Mars, but weeks before launch, she discovers the journal of a girl who lived in her house more than a hundred years ago and is immediately drawn into the mystery surrounding her fate.

1934: Amid the fear and uncertainty of the Dust Bowl, Catherine's family's situation is growing dire. She must find the courage to sacrifice everything she loves in order to save the one person she loves most.

1919: In the recovery following World War I, Lenore tries to come to terms with her grief for her brother, a fallen British soldier, and plans to sail from England to America. But can she make it that far?

While their stories span thousands of miles and multiple generations, Lenore, Catherine, and Adri's fates are entwined in ways both heartbreaking and hopeful. In haunting, lyrical prose, human connections spark spellbindingly to life, and a bright light shines on the small but crucial moments that determine one's fate.

NONFICTION

American Plague Jim Murphy

Drawing on firsthand accounts, Murphy re-creates the fear and panic of the yellow fever epidemic that hit the nation's capital more than 200 years ago, the social conditions that caused the disease to spread, and the arguments about causes and cures. This is a fascinating and informative companion piece to the 7th grade required reading selection.

Food Justice Robert Gottlieb

From seed to supermarket, every facet of food production is a potential target for abuse and exploitation. Meticulously chronicling the genesis of the deteriorating state of food production, distribution, and consumption, Gottlieb and Joshi also highlight inspiring and innovative success stories at both grassroots and high-profile levels. Unfortunately injustices in the way food is produced and consumed won't go away over night. But if, as *Food Justice* advocates, we work together and focus on community-based initiatives, then we are on the right track.

Isaac the Alchemist Mary Losure

A surprising true story of Isaac Newton's boyhood suggests an intellectual development owing as much to magic as science. Before Isaac Newton became the father of physics, an accomplished mathematician, or a leader of the scientific revolution, he was a boy living in an apothecary's house, observing and experimenting, recording his observations of the world in a tiny notebook.

As a young genius living in a time before science as we know it existed, Isaac studied the few books he could get his hands on, built handmade machines, and experimented with alchemy—a process of chemical reactions that seemed, at the time, to be magical. Mary Losure's riveting narrative nonfiction account of Isaac's early life traces his development as a thinker and includes source notes, a bibliography, and an index.

I Am Malala Malala Yousafzai

This book offers a glimpse into the lives of an extraordinary Pakistani teenager and her family and the difficulties of living in a country that is in the clutches of extremists. Malala's actions demonstrate what can happen when one voice speaks up to inspire change in our world.

Far From the Tree: Young Adult Edition Calkhoven and Solomon

A stunning, poignant, and affecting young adult edition of Solomon's award-winning masterpiece, *Far From the Tree*, which explores the impact of extreme differences between parents and children.

The old adage says that the apple doesn't fall far from the tree, meaning that children usually resemble their parents. But what happens when the apples fall somewhere else—sometimes a couple of orchards away, sometimes on the other side of the world?

Please read one (1) book of your own choosing. If you are looking for ideas, the sites below include many possibilities.

<http://library.booksite.com/6334/nl/?list=ALAYA&group=current>

<http://www.ala.org/yalsa/booklistsawards/bookawards/printzaward/previouswinners/winners>