7th Grade Summer Reading List

CORE Reading (Mandatory):

Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick

Two boys – a slow learner stuck in the body of a teenage giant and a tiny Einstein in leg braces – forge a unique friendship when they pair up to create one formidable human force. A wonderful story of triumph over imperfection, shame, and loss.

CHOICE Reading (Please choose one book from the following list):

Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie by Jordan Sonnenblick (Realistic Fict.)

When his younger brother is diagnosed with leukemia, thirteen-year-old Steven tries to deal with his complicated emotions, his school life, and his desire to support his family.

Legend by Marie Lu (Adventure/Science Fiction)

In a dark future, when North America has split into two warring nations, fifteen-year-olds Day, a famous criminal, and prodigy June, the brilliant soldier hired to capture him, discover that they have a common enemy.

Leviathan by Scott Westerfeld (Adventure/Science Fiction)

In an alternate 1914 Europe, fifteen-year-old Austrian Prince Alek, on the run from the Clanker Powers who are attempting to take over the globe using mechanical machinery, forms an uneasy alliance with Deryn who, disguised as a boy to join the British Air Service, is learning to fly genetically-engineered beasts.

The London Eye Mystery by Siobhan Dowd (Mystery)

When Ted and Kat's cousin disappears from the London Eye ferris wheel, the two siblings must work together--Ted with his brain that is "wired differently" and impatient Kat--to try to solve the mystery of what happened to Salim.
The Maze Runner by James Dashner (Adventure)

Sixteen-year-old Thomas wakes up with no memory in the middle of a maze and realizes he must work with the community in which he finds himself if he is to escape.

Sixteenth Summer by Michelle Dalton (Realistic Fiction)

Anna is dreading a tourist filled summer in the town where she lives until she meets a sweet guy who is visiting for the summer. Anna finds herself in a romance she never thought possible, but she knows he won't stay forever. With a broken heart around the corner, Anna's not sure how much she's willing to risk for one perfect summer.

A Step From Heaven by An Na (Realistic Fiction)

A young girl describes her family's bittersweet experience in the United States after their emigration from Korea. When they arrive, they are weighed down by the difficulty of learning English, their insular family life, and the traditions of the country they left behind.

Down the Rabbit Hole by Peter Abrahams (Mystery/Suspense)

Ingrid lands the starring role in Alice in Wonderland while becoming caught up in the murder investigation of an eccentric neighbor. The first book in the series, An Echo Falls Mystery.

Fever 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson (Historical Fiction)

During the 1793 yellow fever epidemic in Philadelphia, sixteen-year-old Matilda Cook gains new strengths. In a mixed atmosphere of mistrust, fear, and caring, Matilda learns to cope with the loss of business, friends, and family. She also learns to deal with the illness herself.

Things Not Seen by Andrew Clements (Science Fiction/Fantasy)

Bobby wakes up invisible. His parents and his new blind friend, Alicia, try to reverse his condition.
Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson
As the Revolutionary War begins, thirteen-year-old Isabel wagers her own fight...for freedom. Promised freedom upon the death of their owner, she and her sister, Ruth, become the property of a malicious couple, who have no sympathy for the American Revolution and even less for the girls.

Peak by Roland Smith (Adventure)
The emotional, tension filled story of a fourteen year old boy’s attempt to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mt. Everest.

Monster by Walter Dean Myers (Realistic Fiction)
A sixteen year old boy named Steve Harmon finds himself on trial for murder after he is accused as acting as a lookout for the young men who actually commit a robbery at a Harlem drugstore and kill the store owner. The story is presented predominantly from his own viewpoint in the form of a screenplay and journal entries he writes, as he faces the trial and possibility of spending the rest of his life in prison.

The Thief Lord by Cornelia Funk (Fantasy/Suspense)
Two brothers, having run away from the aunt who plans to adopt the younger one, are sought by a detective hired by their aunt, but they have found shelter with -- and the protection of -- Venice's "Thief Lord."

So B. It by Sarah Weeks (Realistic Fiction)
After spending her life with her mentally retarded mother and agoraphobic neighbor, twelve-year-old Heidi sets out from Reno, Nevada, to New York to find out who she is.

The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens by Sean Covey (Non-Fiction)
Sean Covey speaks directly to teens, using language and real-life scenarios of interest to teens. By engaging this audience on their level and without being condescending, he addresses the issues that concern young people: relationships, peers, parents, school choices, life choices, and monumental matters about the future -- giving them hope, direction and specific skills to craft extraordinary lives.