

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS  
SUMMER READING PROGRAM  
2009**

**SUGGESTED READING LIST FOR  
STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 7**

- Avi**                      *Nothing But the Truth.* (Realistic) A ninth-grader’s suspension for singing “The Star-Spangled Banner” during homeroom becomes a national news story.
- Bloor, Edward**        *Tangerine.* (Realistic) Twelve-year-old Paul, who lives in the shadow of his football hero brother Erik, fights for the right to play soccer despite his near blindness and slowly begins to remember the incident that damaged his eyesight.
- Cabot, Meg**            *All-American Girl.* (Realistic) A sophomore girl stops a presidential assassination attempt, is appointed teen ambassador to the United Nations, and catches the eye of the very cute First Son.
- Coleman, Michael**    *Weirdo’s War.* (Adventure) While trapped in a cave with one of his fellow students, a longtime enemy, Daniel relives his troubled relationship with his schoolmates.
- Colfer, Eoin**            *Artemis Fowl.* (Fantasy/Science Fiction) A series of books. When a twelve-year-old evil genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll.
- Cooney, Caroline B.** *The Ransom of Mercy Carter.* (Historical Fiction) In 1704, in the English settlement of Deerfield, Massachusetts, eleven-year-old Mercy and her family and neighbors are captured by Mohawk Indians and their French allies, and forced to march through bitter cold to French Canada, where some adapt to new lives and some still hope to be ransomed.
- Creech, Sharon**        *Walk Two Moons.* (Realistic) After her mother leaves home suddenly, thirteen-year-old Sal and her grandparents take a car trip retracing her mother’s route. Along the way, Sal recounts the story of her friend Phoebe, whose mother also left.

- DuPrau, Jeanne** *The City of Ember.* (Fantasy/Science Fiction) In the year 241, twelve-year-old Lina trades jobs on assignment day to be a messenger to run to new places in her decaying but beloved city, perhaps even to glimpse unknown regions.
- Farmer, Nancy** *The Ear, the Eye, and the Arm.* (Adventure) In 2194 in Zimbabwe, General Matsika's three children are kidnapped and put to work in a plastic mine while three mutant detectives use their special powers to search for them.
- Farmer, Nancy** *The House of the Scorpion.* (Science Fiction) In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patrón, the 140-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States.
- Hesse, Karen** *Stowaway.* (Historical Fiction) A fictionalized journal relates the experiences of a young stowaway from 1768 to 1771 aboard the Endeavor which sailed around the world under Captain James Cook.
- Jacques, Brian** *Redwall.* (Fantasy) A series of books. When the peaceful life in and around ancient Redwall Abbey is shattered by the arrival of the evil rat Cluny and his villainous hordes, Matthias, a young mouse, determines to find the legendary sword of Martin the Warrior which, he is convinced, will help Redwall's inhabitants destroy the enemy.
- Lawrence, Iain** *The Smugglers.* (Historical Fiction) In eighteenth-century England, after his father buys a schooner called the Dragon, sixteen-year-old John sets out to sail it from Kent to London and becomes involved in a dangerous smuggling scheme.
- Paulsen, Gary** *Dogsong.* (Adventure) A fourteen-year-old Eskimo boy who feels assailed by the modernity of his life takes a 1400-mile journey by dog sled across ice, tundra, and mountains seeking his own "song" of himself.
- Pullman, Philip** *The Golden Compass.* (Fantasy) A series of books. Accompanied by her dámon, Lyra Belacqua sets out to prevent her best friend and other kidnapped children from becoming the subjects of gruesome experiments in the Far North.
- Van Draanen, Wendalin** *Flipped.* (Realistic) In alternating chapters, two teenagers describe how their feelings about themselves, each other, and their families have changed over the years.