



## Highland Middle School



### Summer 2018 Recommended Reading List

Grades 6 - 8

#### *ADVENTURE / SURVIVAL*

*Alex Rider series*, Anthony Horowitz  
*Chaos Code*, Justin Richards  
*The Limit*, Kristen Landon ✦  
*Peak*, Roland Smith  
*The Young Man and the Sea*, Rodman Philbrick

#### *BELIEVE IT OR NOT, LIFE EXISTED BEFORE YOU WERE BORN (Historical Fiction)*

*Al Capone Does My Shirts*, Jennifer Choldenko  
*Black Storm Comin'*, Diane Lee Wilson  
*The Book Thief*, Markus Zusak ✦  
*Elijah of Buxton*, Christopher Paul Curtis  
*Fire from the Rock*, Sharon Draper  
*Thought My Soul Would Rise & Fly*, Joyce Hansen  
*The Shakespeare Stealer*, Gary Blackwood ✦

#### *CALLING ALL ANIMAL LOVERS*

*Cracker: The Best Dog in Vietnam*, Cynthia Kadohata  
*Gabriel's Horses*, Alison Hart  
*My Life in Dog Years*, Gary Paulsen  
*Shiloh series*, Phyllis Reynolds Naylor  
*Wild Life*, Cynthia DeFelice ✦✦

#### *FOLKLORE / FAIRYTALES (ONCE UPON A TIME)*

*Beauty*, Robin McKinley  
*Briar Rose*, Jane Yolen  
*Heir Apparent*, Vivian Vande Velde  
*Just Ella*, Margaret P. Haddix  
*The Magic Circle*, Donna Jo Napoli  
*Sun and Moon, Ice and Snow*, Jessica Day George ✦

#### *FOR DAYDREAMERS (FANTASY / SCIENCE FICTION / MYTHOLOGY)*

*Double Identify*, Margaret Peterson Haddix  
*Dragon Slippers*, Jessica Day George  
*Dussie*, Nancy Springer  
*Found*, Margaret Peterson Haddix (*The Missing series*) ✦  
*Gathering Blue*, Lois Lowry  
*The Lightning Thief*, Rick Riordan  
*Long Shadows*, Erin Hunter (*Warrriors series*)  
*The Magic Thief*, Sarah Prineas  
*Michael Vey: the Prisoner of Cell 25*, Richard Paul Evans ✦  
*The Pig Scrolls*, by Paul Shipton

*Ranger's Apprentice* series, John Flanagan  
*The Redwall* series, Brian Jacques  
*Skellig*, David Almond  
*Storm Thief*, Chris Wooding  
*The Underland Chronicles* series, Suzanne Collins +  
*Variant*, Robison E. Wells ★+  
*A World without Heroes*, Brandon Mull ★

**FOR JOCKS OR WOULD-BE JOCKS (SPORTS)**

*Boy Who Saved Baseball*, John Ritter  
*Double Dutch*, Sharon Draper  
*Football Genius*, Tim Green  
*Quarterback Season*, Fred Bowen ★  
*The Stumptown Kid*, Carol Gorman

**FOR KIDS WHO LOVE MATH, SCIENCE & COMPUTERS**

*The Gadget*, Paul Zindel  
*The Power of Un*, Nancy Etchemendy  
*Jean Craighead George* - any novel

**FOR KIDS WHO LIKE READING AS MUCH AS THEY LIKE TAKING TESTS**

*Bud, Not Buddy*, Christopher Paul Curtis  
*Hatchet*, Gary Paulsen  
*Monster or Scorpions*, Walter Dean Myers +  
*Sixth Grade Glomers, Norks and Me*, Lisa Papademetriou

**GET REAL (BIOGRAPHIES / NON-FICTION)**

*Attila the Hun*, Sean Stewart Price (*A Wicked History* series)  
*Escape from Saigon: How a Vietnam War Orphan Became an American Boy*, Andrea Warren  
*Journey to the Bottomless Pit: The Story of Stephen Bishop and Mammoth Cave*, Elizabeth Mitchell  
*One More River to Cross: The Stories of Twelve Black Americans*, James Haskins

**GRAPHICALLY SPEAKING (GRAPHIC NOVELS)**

*Bone* series, Jeff Smith  
*Polly and the Pirates*, Ted Naifeh +  
*Rapunzel's Revenge*, Shannon Hale  
*Tokyo Mew Mew* series, Mia Ikumi  
*Usagi Yojimbo* series, Stan Sakai  
*Wonderstruck: a Novel in Pictures and Words*, Brian Selznick ★+

**HEARTS & FLOWERS (ROMANCE)**

*Angel of Mercy*, Lurlene McDaniel  
*Flipped*, Wendelin Van Draanen  
*Romiette & Julio*, Sharon Draper  
*Stargirl*, Jerry Spinelli +

**HAIR RAISERS / SPINE TINGLERS**

*The Boxes*, William Sleator  
*Closed for the Season*, Mary Downing Hahn ✦  
*Seer of Shadows*, Avi  
*Smile*, Raina Telgemeier  
*The Thief Lord*, Cornelia Funke

**HISTORY**

*Bodies from the Ash*, James M. Deem

**HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS (LOUISIANA / SOUTHERN INTEREST)**

*The Cottonmouth Club*, Lance Marcum  
*Fiddle Fever*, Sharon Arms Doucet  
*Ruined*, Paula Morris  
*The Secret of Gumbo Grove*, Eleanora Tate  
*When Zachary Beaver Came to Town*, Kimberly Willis Holt

**INSPIRATIONAL (SOUL FOOD) & HELP BOOKS**

*Life Strategies for Teens*, Jay McGraw ✦  
*A Rose for Melinda*, Lurlene McDaniel  
*The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens*, Sean Covey

**IT'S A MYSTERY TO ME**

*A Candidate for Murder or Nightmare*, Joan L. Nixon  
*Diamonds in the Shadow*, Caroline Cooney  
*The Ghost in the Tokaldo Inn*, Dorothy & Thomas Hoobler  
*Sammy Keyes* series, Wendelin Van Draanen

**LAGNIAPPE (LOUISIANA TALK FOR A LITTLE SOMETHING EXTRA)**

*Bloomability or Chasing Redbird*, Sharon Creech  
*Dear Mr. Henshaw or Strider*, Beverly Cleary  
*Miracle's Boys*, Jacqueline Woodson  
*The Schwa Was Here*, Nela Shusterman

**LAUGH OUT LOUD**

*Charlie Joe Jackson's Guide to Not Reading*, Tommy Greenwald ☆  
*Dying to Meet You*, Kate Klise  
*Heads or Tails*, Jack Gantos  
*Never Mind! A Twin Novel*, Rachel Vail and Avi  
*No More Dead Dogs*, Gordon Korman  
*Schooled*, Gordon Korman  
*The Teacher's Funeral: A Comedy*, Richard Peck

**NOT FOR SISSIES / BRAIN EXERCISE (CHALLENGING GREAT READS)**

*The Fellowship of the Ring*, J. R. R. Tolkien  
*The Golden Compass*, Philip Pullman ✦  
*Inkheart or Inkspell*, Cornelia Funke  
*The Three Musketeers*, Alexander Dumas ✦  
*The View from Saturday*, E. L. Konigsburg

**PICTURE BOOKS / NOT JUST FOR LITTLE KIDS**

*Incredible Cross-Sections*, Stephen Blesty and Richard Platt  
*Leonardo da Vinci*, Diane Stanley  
*So You Want to Be President?* Judith St. George  
*A Voice of Her Own: The Story of Phillis Wheatley, Slave Poet*, Kathryn Lasky

**POETRY**

*Carver: A Life in Poems*, Marilyn Nelson  
*Ego-Tripping and Other Poems for Young People*, Nikki Giovanni  
*Poetry for Swimming Upstream*, Kristine O'Connell George  
*Rimshots*, Charles R. Smith, Jr.  
*Technically It's Not My Fault: Concrete Poems*, John Grandits

**WANDERLUST / DISCOVER WORLDS OUTSIDE LOUISIANA**

*Baseball in April & Other Stories*, Gary Soto  
*Becoming Naomi Leon*, Pam Munoz Ryan  
*Children of the River*, Linda Crew  
*Chinese Cinderella*, Adeline Yen Mah

**WHO SAYS FICTION ISN'T REAL? (BOOKS ABOUT REAL LIFE ISSUES)**

*11 Birthdays*, Wendy Mass  
*Bird*, Angela Johnson  
*Boys are Dogs*, Leslie Margolis  
*Brand-New Emily*, Rue, Ginger  
*Click Here: to Find out How I Survived the Seventh Grade*, Denise Vega  
*Crash*, Jerry Spinelli  
*The Fourth Stall*, Chris Rylander ☆  
*Hidden*, Helen Frost ☆  
*How to Rock Braces and Glasses*, Meg Haston ☆  
*Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key*, Jack Gantos  
*Jolted: Newton Starker's Rules for Survival*, Slade, Anthony  
*Kimchi and Calamari*, Rose Kent  
*The Running Dream*, Wendellin Van Draanen +  
*Schooled*, Gordon Korman  
*The Skin I'm In*, Sharon Flake  
*Silhouetted by the Blue*, Traci L. Jones ☆  
*So Totally Emily Ebers*, Lisa Yee +  
*Sunrise over Fallujah*, Walter Dean Myers +  
*Waiting for Normal*, Leslie Connor  
*What I Saw and How I Lied*, Judy Blundell +