

Imaginations—Fiction continued.....

- **Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy—Schmidt:** In 1911, Turner Buckminster hates his new home of Phippsburg, Maine, but things improve when he meets Lizzie Bright Griffin, a girl from a poor, nearby island community founded by former slaves that the town fathers—and Turner's—want to change into a tourist spot.

Subtlety and Reality! — Poetry and Nonfiction

- **Fire in Their Eyes: Wildfires and the People Who Fight Them – Beil:** Depicts in text and photographs the training, equipment, and real-life experiences of people who risk their lives to battle wildfires, as well as people who use fire for ecological reasons.
- **Women Daredevils: Thrills, Chills, and Frills.** Profiles 14 women who flouted convention to work as entertainers in the years between 1880 and 1929, performing thrilling feats in the water, in the air, and in the circus.
- **Black and White Airmen: Their True History – Fleischman:** Presents the true story of two men—one African-American, the other white—who lived in the same Ohio neighborhood, went to the same school, joined the Army Air Corps and finally became close friends nearly 60 years later.
- **How to Write Your Life Story – Fletcher:** The author shares tips and ideas for writing an autobiography.
- **Children of the Great Depression – Freedman:** Presents a collection of illustrated archival photographs describing children of the Great Depression, and draws upon memoirs, diaries, letters, and other first-hand accounts that look at the lives of young Americans during the 1930s.
- **Swimming Upstream: Middle School Poems – George:** A collection of poems capture the feelings and experiences of a girl in middle school.
- **Another Book About Design – Gonea:** Text and colorful illustrations explain design concepts, including foreground, positive and negative space, shapes, lines, and more.
- **An Inconvenient Truth: The Crisis of Global Warming – Gore:** An adaptation of the book in which former Vice President Al Gore examines the climate crisis that is threatening the future of the planet.
- **Made You Look: How Advertising Works and Why You Should Know – Graydon:** Explores how the advertising industry attempts to win the purchasing power of kids and influence their buying choices and those of their parents.
- **Dinosaur Mummies: Beyond Bare-Bone Fossils – Halls:** Photographs, illustrations, and simple text describe Leonardo, the most complete dinosaur mummy ever found.
- **F E G: Ridiculous Stupid Poems for Intelligent Children – Hirsch:** Witty and ridiculous and weird poems.
- **Mighty Robots: Mechanical Marvels that Fascinate and Frighten – Jones:** Examines the history of real-life robots beginning with those in the eighteenth century and including space probes, machines used by surgeons, television and film robots, and many more.
- **Marie Curie – Krull:** Presents a biography of Polish-French physicist and chemist Marie Curie, who was a pioneer in the field of radioactivity and won a Noble prize in both physics and chemistry.

- **Secrets of a Civil War Submarine: Solving the Mysteries of the H.L. Hunley – Walker:** Tells the story of the “H.L. Hunley,” the Confederate submarine that in 1864 became the first to ever sink an enemy ship but lay missing on the ocean floor for more than a century, describing its creation, its discovery, skeletons and objects found onboard, and facial reconstructions of several crew members by forensic anthropologists.

ON THE WEB

<http://lii.org/>

- A reliable subject directory of useful sites reviewed and evaluated by librarians.

<http://www.ala.org/alsc/newbery.html>

- For a look at current and past Newberry-Medal-awarded authors, visit the site of the Association for Library Service to Children.

<http://www.alltheweb.com/?cat=news>

- A strong news site, including international events; keep abreast over the summer.

<http://www.teenreads.com/index.asp>

- Teenreads.com bring teens info and features about their favorite authors, books, series and characters. It is a part of The Book Report Network, a group of websites founded in 1996 that share thoughtful book reviews, compelling features, in-depth author profiles and interviews, excerpts of new releases, literary games and contests, and more with readers every week.

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Winchester Thurston School

SUMMER READING Requirements and Recommendations



For students entering
GRADE 6

2009 - 2010

www.winchesterthurston.org

Required Reading for Sixth Graders

These books must be read before school starts on August 27, 2009.

For Middle School Summer Reading Guiding Questions, visit the “Required Summer Reading” posting on the WT Web site: www.winchesterthurston.org/

****Advisory Program note, in addition to the titles listed for each class:**

Before leaving for Summer Break, students entering grade 6 will receive, ON LOAN, a book to read for Advisory. Books are to be returned to language arts teachers on August 27, 2009, or the school will charge for unreturned copies. An Advisory Program letter outlining the guidelines for reading the books will be sent home.

Language Arts

Choose One to read:

Bud, Not Buddy – Curtis

Flush – Hiaasen

Chasing Vermeer – Balliett

Social Studies

The Pride of Puerto Rico: The Life of Roberto Clemente – Walker

Other Suggested Reading for Sixth Graders

Imaginations—Fiction

- *The Golden Dream of Carlo Chuchio – Alexander:* Carlo follows a treasure map through the deserts and cities of the infamous Golden Road.
 - *Underneath — Appelt.* An old hound that has been chained up at his hateful owner’s run-down shack, and two kittens born underneath the bed, endure separation, danger, and many other tribulations in their quest to be reunited and free.
 - *Strange Happenings: Five Tales of Transformation – Avi:* Five original stories where strange changes occur, from a boy and a cat changing places and a young man learning the price of selfishness to an invisible princess finding herself.
 - *Peeled – Bauer:* Hildy Biddle, high school reporter for The Core, has her hands full following the story of a ghost haunting the old Ludlow place.
 - *Sacajawea: The Story of Bird Woman and the Lewis and Clark Expedition – Bruchac:* Sacajawea, a Shoshoni Indian interpreter, peacemaker, and guide, and William Clark alternate in describing their experiences on the Lewis and Clark Expedition to the Northwest.
 - *Virginia Bound – Butler:* 13-year-old orphaned beggar Rob Brackett is kidnapped from the streets of London and taken to the New World for a cruel tobacco farmer master, who also owns a Pamunkey Native American girl named Mattoume.
 - *Notes From a Liar and Her Dog – Choldenko:* 11-year-old Ant, stuck in a
- family that she does not like, copes by pretending that her “real” parents are coming to rescue her, by volunteering at the zoo, and by bending the truth and telling lies.
- *Catherine, Called Birdy – Cushman:* Birdy, the clever daughter of a medieval knight, tries to thwart her father's attempts to find her a suitable husband.
 - *The Thief Lord – Funke:* Orphaned brothers Prosper and Bo, having run away from their cruel aunt and uncle, decide to hide out in Venice where they fall in with the Thief Lord, a 13-year-old boy who leads a crime ring of street children.
 - *Just Ella – Haddix:* Cinderella finds that life after the ball is definitely not what she had hoped or imagined.
 - *Dragonfly Pool —Ibbotson:* Tally and her friends at Dalderton Boarding School form a dance troupe and travel to Bergania, where she befriends Karil, the crown prince, and helps him to flee the Nazis.
 - *The Dark Portal – Jarvis:* This first book in a new fantasy series about the Deptford mice is gory but exciting.
 - *Savvy — Law:* The adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her “savvy”—a magical power unique to each member of her family — just as her father is injured in a terrible accident.
 - *Travel Team – Lupica:* After he is cut from his travel basketball team—the very same team that his father once led to national prominence—12-year-old Danny Walker forms his own team of cast-offs that might have a shot at victory. Contains excellent basketball details.

- *Mango Shaped Space – Mass:* Afraid that she is crazy, Mia – who sees a special color with every letter, number, and sound – keeps this a secret until she becomes overwhelming by school and changing relationships
- *Kiki Strike:Inside the Shadow City – Miller:* Ananka discovers an underground room in the park across from her New York City apartment and meets a mysterious girl who claims that she, too, wants to explore the subterranean world.
- *Daughter of Venice – Napoli:* 14-year-old Donata, disguised as a boy, sneaks out of her noble family’s house to roam the streets of late sixteenth century Venice.
- *Jade Green – Naylor:* This scary story includes a haunted mansion, a brave heroine, a handsome hero and a ghostly severed hand.
- *Sang Spell – Naylor:* When his mother is killed in an automobile accident, high-schooler Josh decides to hitchhike across country, and finds himself trapped in a mysterious village somewhere in the Appalachian Mountains, among a group of people who call themselves Melungeons.
- *The Time Hackers – Paulsen:* When someone uses futuristic technology to play pranks on 12-year-old Dorso Clayman, he and his best friend set off on a supposedly impossible journey through space and time trying to stop the gamesters who are endangering the universe.
- *Fair Weather – Peck:* In 1893, Rosie and members of her family travel from their Illinois farm to Chicago to visit Aunt Euterpe and attend the World’s Columbian Exposition which, along with an encounter with Buffalo Bill and Lillian Russell, turns out to be a life-changing experience for everyone.
- *True Meaning of Smekday – Rex:* Tip is left to fend for herself after Earth is colonized by aliens and her mother is abducted, and must try to stop another alien invasion.