

Poetry and Nonfiction

- Women Daredevils: Thrills, Chills, and Frills – Cummins:** 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.
- If I Had a Hammer: Building Homes and Hope with Habitat for Humanity.—Rubel:** Habitat for Humanity has built homes with and for the people who are most in need of them. This account relates some favorite Habitat stories and experiences.
- 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.
- 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.
- Technically, It's Not My Fault – Grandits:** Robert's hilarious view of the world is expressed through a series of concrete poems, in which words, ideas, type, and art combine to make pictures and patterns.
- 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.

F E G: Ridiculous Stupid Poems for Intelligent Children – Hirsch: Witty and ridiculous and weird poems.

Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice – Hoose: Presents an account of fifteen-year-old Claudette Colvin, an African-American girl who refused to give up her seat to a white woman on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama, nine months before Rosa Parks, and covers her role in a crucial civil rights case.

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.

Truce: The Day the Soldiers Stopped Fighting – Murphy: Tells the story of the December 25, 1914 truce between German and British soldiers as they laid down their weapons and met in No Man's Land to celebrate Christmas.

Colors – Nordine and Drescher: Unusual poems about colors paired with beautiful double page illustrations.

Yeah! Yeah! Yeah!: the Beatles, Beatlemania, and the Music That Changed the World – Spitz: A history of the fabulous four.

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.

Recommended Websites

Ipl2

<http://www.ipl.org/>

A reliable subject directory of useful sites reviewed and evaluated by librarians. Recently became a site combining the Internet Public Library (IPL) and the Librarians' Internet Index (LII)

American Library Association Newberry Page

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

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

AlltheWeb from Yahoo

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

A strong news site that includes international events; Keep abreast over the summer.

Teensread

<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.



Winchester Thurston School

SUMMER READING Requirements and Recommendations



For students entering
GRADE 6

2010-2011

www.winchesterthurston.org

Required Reading for Sixth-Graders

These books must be read before school starts on August 26, 2010.

In addition to the titles listed for each class, students must also read one book for the Advisory Program. 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 26, 2010, or the school will charge for unreturned copies. Please refer to the letter from Nancy Patton that outlines the guidelines for reading the books.

Language Arts

Choose 1:

Bud, Not Buddy – Curtis

Flush – Hiyaasen

Chasing Vermeer – Balliett

Social Studies

The Breadwinner – Ellis

Other Suggested Reading for Sixth-Graders

Fiction

The Golden Dream of Carlo Chuchio –

Alexander: Carlo follows a treasure map through the deserts and cities of the infamous Golden Road.

Return to Sender – **Alvarez:** After his family hires migrant Mexican workers to help save their Vermont farm from foreclosure, eleven-year-old Tyler befriends the oldest daughter, but when he discovers they may not be in the country legally, he realizes that real friendship knows no borders.

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.

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.

Counter Clockwise – **Cockroft:** When Nathan's mother is hit by a bus in London, his father struggles with the tragedy and disappears through the bathroom wall to travel back in time and prevent her death; Nathan, with help from a Beefeater named Bartelby, tries to prevent his father from changing the future.

The Last Newspaper Boy in America – **Corbett:**

Wil's paper route is canceled when a large newspaper stops delivery to Wil's small town, but with the help of his clueless brother, a neighborhood friend, and the basic principles of physics, Wil finds a way to save his route and help his customers.

The Wanderer – **Creech:** Thirteen-year-old Sophie and her cousin Cody record their transatlantic crossing aboard the Wanderer, a forty-five foot sailboat, which, along with uncles and another cousin, is en route to visit their grandfather in England.

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.

Finally – **Mass:** Rory has a list of things she longs to do when she turns 12: stay home alone, shave her legs, babysit, wear makeup, drink coffee . . . So overprotected that she has never ridden in the front seat of a car, Rory can't wait for her birthday.

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.

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.

Esperanza Rising – **Ryan:** Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California.

Magyk – **Sage:** Jenna learns that she is a princess found as a baby by the man she believed was her father and now she and Septimus, who was taken at birth by the midwife, are being threatened by the evil wizard, DomDaniel who intends to finish off the entire royal line.

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.

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.

When You Reach Me – **Stead:** As her mother prepares to be a contestant on the 1980s television game show, "The \$20,000 Pyramid," a twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received that seems to defy the laws of time and space.