

Georgetown Middle High School  
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May/June 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians of Middle School Students:

Our middle school summer reading program aligns with the Massachusetts content framework standards for middle school English/Language Arts. Middle school students are expected to read more complex texts and practice analyzing those texts in many different genres.

Your child is asked to read a minimum of two books this summer: one required work (see below), and at least one other from the list on the next page.

**Grade 7: *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton**

**Grade 8: *Blue* by Joyce Moyer Hostetter**

The middle school summer reading list offers many genres for students to choose from: nonfiction, fantasy, fiction, mystery, historical fiction, science fiction, humor, and the classics. If your child has a particular topic, author, or series that he or she enjoys, your child, with your consent, may also read a fiction or nonfiction book that is not on the list provided.

In September, all middle school students will be asked to write a grade-appropriate literary analysis essay. Understanding characterization in an extended text and using citation are essential skills for comprehension and literary analysis; therefore, we chose these skills on which to focus our students' early writing. This essay for students in grades 7 and 8 will become the baseline of your child's year-long writing portfolio.

Many online resources are also available. Audiobooks are especially helpful for students as a means of support while reading more challenging text. We recommend that students read along while listening to the audio format to ensure students' reading fluency and comprehension.

Thank you in advance for your support; happy reading!

Allison Viera, English Department Chair, 7-12  
Mariel Gearty and Diane Weldon, Grade 7  
Mandy Maguire, Grade 8

**Georgetown Public Schools**

Middle School Summer Reading Program

Summer Reading Sign-off Sheet

Title	Author	Date	Parent/Guardian Signature
1.			
2.			
Additional Titles			

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Student Signature

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Parent Signature

**All summer reading sign-off sheets are due Tuesday, September 10, 2019.**

## GEORGETOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING LIST 2019

To the Student:

The following list of summer reading books includes recommendations from many genres. Be sure to keep the attached summer reading sign-off sheet to record the **titles, authors, and number of pages** for all the books that you read this summer. You will be asked to discuss and write about your summer reading in the first two weeks after you return to school. Set yourself the goal of reading at least **two** books this summer. Be sure to visit the Georgetown Public Library and take advantage of their great selections and quiet space to cool off, relax, and read on a hot or rainy day. Some titles are also available in a variety of audio formats for readers who would like to listen to the story while they read.

**In addition to the required reading: *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton (7<sup>th</sup> grade) and *Blue* by Joyce Moyer Hostetter (8<sup>th</sup> Grade), students in grades 7-8 should choose another book and/or series from the following:**

### Nonfiction

*Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice* by Phillip M. Hoose  
*Truce: The Day the Soldiers Stopped Fighting* by Jim Murphy  
*Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream* by Tanya Lee Stone  
*Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World* by Jennifer Armstrong  
*Orphan Train Rider: One Boy's True Story* by Andrea Warren  
*We Are the Ship: The Story of the Negro League Baseball* by Kadir Nelson  
*Blizzard! The Storm that Changed America* by Jim Murphy  
*The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain* by Peter Sis (told in graphic novel format)  
*Freedom Riders* by Ann Bausum  
*The Secret of the Yellow Death: A True Story of Medical Sleuthing* by Susanne Jurmain  
*The Great and Only Barnum: The Tremendous, Stupendous Life of Showman P.T. Barnum* by Candace Flemming  
*Saving the Ghost of the Mountain: An Expedition Among Snow Leopards in Mongolia* by Sy Montgomery

### Fantasy

*A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle  
*The Tale of Despereaux* by Kate DiCamillo  
*The House with a Clock in Its Walls* by John Bellairs  
*Artemis Fowl* series by Eoin Colfer  
*Inkheart* by Cornelia Funke  
*The Septimus Heap* series by Angie Sage  
*Chronicles of Prydain* by Lloyd Alexander

### Fiction

*Freak the Mighty* by W.R. Philbrick  
*The Girl Who Owned a City* by O. T. Nelson  
*Becoming Naomi Leon* by Pam Munoz Ryan  
*Ruby Holler* by Sharon Creech  
*Lunch Money* by Andrew Clements  
*Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret* by Judy Blume  
*Smiles to Go* by Jerry Spinelli  
*Travel Team* by Mike Lupica  
*Olive's Ocean* by Kevin Henkes  
*Kit's Wilderness* by David Almond

*The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman  
*The Princess Academy* by Shannon Hale  
*So B. It* by Sarah Weeks  
*The Crossing* by Gary Paulsen  
*The Wednesday Wars* by Gary D. Schmidt  
*Feathers* by Jacqueline Woodson  
*The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin  
*The Face on the Milk Carton* by Caroline Cooney  
*Drums, Girls & Dangerous Pie* by Jordan Sonnenblick  
*Touching Spirit Bear* by Ben Mikaelson  
*Lush* by Natasha Friend  
*The Misfits* by James Howe

### **Mystery**

*The Haunting* by Joan Lowery Nixon  
*The Alex Rider Series* by Anthony Horowitz  
*They Never Came Home* by Lois Duncan  
*Last Shot: A Final Four Mystery* by John Feinstein  
*The Invention of Hugo Cabret* by Brian Selznick  
*Sammy Keys* series by Wendelin Van Draanen  
*The Name of This Book is Secret* by Pseudonymous Bosch

### **Historical Fiction**

*Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson  
*Bread and Roses, Too* by Katherine Patterson  
*Soldier's Heart* by Gary Paulsen  
*Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices from a Medieval Village* by Laura Amy Schlitz  
*Elijah of Buxton* by Christopher Paul Curtis  
*Witch Child* by Celia Rees  
*The House of Dies Drier* by Virginia Hamilton  
*Fallen Angels* by Walter Dean Myers  
*Letters from Rifka* by Karen Hesse  
*Milkweed* by Jerry Spinelli  
*Let the Circle Be Unbroken* by Mildred Taylor

### **Science Fiction**

*The Supernaturalist* by Eoin Colfer  
*The City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau  
*Shadow Children* series by Margaret Peterson Haddix

### **Humor**

*Al Capone Does My Shirts* by Gennifer Choldenko  
*The Schernoff Discoveries* by Gary Paulsen  
*How Angel Peterson Got His Name* by Gary Paulsen  
*Joey Pigza Loses Control* by Jack Gantos  
*The Runaway Princess* by Kate Coombs  
*Azumanga Daioh* by Kiyohiko Azuma (A Graphic Novel)

### **Classic Titles**

*The Incredible Journey* by Sheila Burnford  
*The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett and Inga Moore  
*Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott  
*Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson  
*Around the World in Eighty Days* by Jules Verne

*Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* by Jules Verne  
*Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle  
*The Call of the Wild* by Jack London  
*The Hobbit* by J.R. Tolkien  
*War of the Worlds* by H.G. Wells