

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading  
Historical Fiction  
Choose One

**Here Lies the Librarian / Richard Peck**

Fourteen-year-old Eleanor "Peewee" McGrath, a tomboy and automobile enthusiast, discovers new possibilities for her future after the 1914 arrival in her small Indiana town of four young librarians

**Our only May Amelia / by Jennifer L. Holm.**

As the only girl in a Finnish American family of seven brothers, May Amelia Jackson resents being expected to act like a lady while growing up in Washington state in 1899.

**Under the Blood-red Sun / Graham Salisbury.**

Tomikazu Nakaji's biggest concerns are baseball, homework, and a local bully, until life with his Japanese family in Hawaii changes drastically after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December 1941.

**Star of Kazan / Eva Ibbotson**

After twelve-year-old Annika, a foundling living in late nineteenth-century Vienna, inherits a trunk of costume jewelry, a woman claiming to be her aristocratic mother arrives and takes her to live in a strangely decrepit mansion in Germany.

**Daughter of Venice / Napoli, Donna**

Frustrated with the restrictions her gender imposes on her life, fourteen-year-old Donata, disguised as a boy, sneaks out of her family's house to roam the streets of late sixteenth-century Venice and then must confront the repercussions of her actions.

**Jericho Walls / Collier, Kristi**

In 1957, when her preacher father accepts a post in Jericho, Alabama, Jo wants to fit in but her growing friendship with a black boy forces her to confront the racism of the South and to reconsider her own values

**The Red Rose Box / Brenda Woods**

In 1953, Leah Hopper dreams of leaving the poverty and segregation of her home in Sulphur, Louisiana, and when Aunt Olivia sends train tickets to Los Angeles as part of her tenth birthday present, Leah gets a first taste of freedom.

**Here Today / Ann Martin**

In 1963, when her flamboyant mother abandons the family to pursue her dream of becoming an actress, eleven-year-old Ellie Dingman takes charge of her younger siblings, while also trying to deal with her outcast status in school and frightening acts of prejudice toward the "misfits" that live on her street.

**Fantasy/Science Fiction**  
**Choose One**

**Skellig / by David Almond**

Unhappy about his baby sister's illness and the chaos of moving into a dilapidated old house, Michael retreats to the garage and finds a mysterious stranger who is something like a bird and something like an angel.

**Wringer / Jerry Spinelli.**

As Palmer comes of age, he must either accept the violence of being a wringer at his town's annual Pigeon Day or find the courage to oppose it.

**The Dark is Rising / Susan Cooper.**

On the Midwinter Day that is his eleventh birthday, Will Stanton discovers a special gift -- that he is the last of the Old Ones, immortals dedicated to keeping the world from domination by the forces of evil, the Dark. And for the twelve days of Christmas, while the Dark is rising, life for Will is full of wonder, terror, and delight.

**The Merlin Effect / T.A. Barron.**

When she joins her father and several others investigating a strange whirlpool and possible sunken treasure ship off the coast of Baja California, thirteen-year-old Kate is drawn into a centuries-old conflict between Merlin and the evil Vagar.

**The Thief / by Megan Whalen Turner**

Gen flaunts his ingenuity as a thief and relishes the adventure which takes him to a remote temple of the gods where he will attempt to steal a precious stone.

**Among the Hidden / Haddix, Margaret**

A government decree allows each family only two children. For Luke, a third child, this has meant a lifetime of hiding. But could a stray glimpse of a child hiding in the house across the way lead to freedom

**The Goblin Wood / Hilari Bell**

A young Hedgewitch, an idealistic knight, and an army of clever goblins fight against the ruling hierarchy that is trying to rid the land of all magical creatures.

**Inkheart / Funke, Cornelia**

Twelve-year-old Meggie learns that her father, who repairs and binds books for a living, can "read" fictional characters to life when one of those characters abducts them and tries to force him into service.

**The Two Princesses of Bamarre / Levine, Gail Carson**

Shy and fearful Princess Addie must face the monsters of Bamarre--ogres, specters, gryphons, and dragons--as her sister's fate hangs in the balance.

Free Literature Choice Suggestions  
Choose One (does not have to be from this list)

**The Outcasts of 19 Schuyler Place / E.L. Konigsburg**

Upon leaving an oppressive summer camp, twelve-year-old Margaret Rose Kane spearheads a campaign to preserve three unique towers her great-uncles have been building in their backyard for more than forty years.

**Jackie's Wild Seattle / Hobbs, Will**

Fourteen-year-old Shannon and her little brother, Cody, spend the summer with their uncle, helping at a wildlife rescue center named Jackie's Wild Seattle.

**M.C. Higgins, the great / Virginia Hamilton.**

As a slag heap, the result of strip mining, creeps closer to his house in the Ohio hills, fifteen-year-old M.C. is torn between trying to get his family away and fighting for the home they love.

**Rules of the road / Joan Bauer**

Sixteen-year-old Jenna gets a job driving the elderly owner of a chain of successful shoe stores from Chicago to Texas to confront the son who is trying to force her to retire, and along the way Jenna hones her talents as a saleswoman and finds the strength to face her alcoholic father.

**The Boy Who Saved Baseball / Ritter, John**

Tom Gallagher finds himself in a tight spot. The fate of Dillontown rests on the outcome of one baseball game, winner take all. Maybe Tom has one hope: Cruz de la Cruz, the mysterious boy who just rode into town on horseback claiming to know the secret of hitting.

**Travel Team / Lupica, Mike**

After he is cut from his travel basketball team--the very same team that his father once led to national prominence--twelve-year-old Danny Walker forms his own team of cast-offs that might have a shot at victory.

**Sea Legs / Shearer, Alex**

Twin brothers Eric and Clive are ready for adventure on the high seas, so instead of staying with their grandparents yet again, they stow away on the cruise ship on which their father serves as Senior Steward. From the moment the ship leaves the dock, readers will be laughing out loud at this rip-roaring comedy on the high seas

**Yolonda's genius / Carol Fenner.**

After moving from Chicago to Grand River, Michigan, fifth grader Yolonda, big and strong for her age, determines to prove that her younger brother is not a slow learner but a true musical genius.

**The Revealers / Wilhelm, Doug**

Tired of being bullied and picked on, three seventh-grade outcasts join forces and, using scientific methods and the power of the Internet, begin to create a new atmosphere at Parkland Middle School.

**Replay / Creech, Sharon**

His family calls Leo "fog boy." He's always dreaming, always replaying things in his brain, and fantasizing about who he is in order to discover who he will become. In the play that is his life, Leo is eager to discover what part will be his in this latest work from Newbery

**Stanford Wong Flunks Big-Time / Yee, Lisa**

Stanford Wong is having a bad summer. He flunks English and will have to trade basketball camp for summer school. Even worse, his mother has hired the world's biggest nerdball and most annoying genius Millicent Min to tutor him.

**And don't forget to read your teacher sponsored pick : If you forget your choice over the summer, e-mail Mrs. Ayala @ [layala@stmga.org](mailto:layala@stmga.org)**