



June 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians of Students Entering Grades 5-8,

Summer Reading is a great opportunity for students to enjoy literature and strengthen the literacy skills necessary for academic achievement. Please find enclosed a list of Summer Reading books that are appropriate for your child's grade level. Visit the Haverhill Public Schools website for the lists of all approved books and reading logs:

<http://www.haverhill-ps.org/curriculum-department/reading-lists/>

Students are required to read at least **three** books, but are encouraged to read as many as possible. Books are available at the Haverhill Public Library and at local bookstores, such as Barnes & Noble. Many of these titles are also available as eBooks and/or audiobooks.

In September students will be given an assignment related to their summer reading. Teachers create assignments that address plot, character, setting, theme, conflict, etc. Students may be asked to write a brief essay, interview each other about their books, present a book report to the class, or create a project (i.e., book jacket, book cube, collage, poster). To help with these assignments, students are encouraged to take notes as they read.

Please encourage your child to read as many books as possible, but bear in mind that many families rely on the Haverhill Public Library. In consideration of others, please check out only one or two books at a time, and return them as soon as possible. This will allow all children to benefit from the local public library – a wonderful resource.

Thank you for supporting our Summer Reading Program.

*Happy Reading!*

## HAVERHILL: ENTERING GRADES 5-8 SUMMER READING LIST 2015

Please keep a Summer Reading Log to record the titles and authors of all the books that you read this summer. You will be asked to write about and discuss your summer reading upon returning to school, so it's a good idea to take notes on the books you read. Please read at least **THREE** books this summer. Select titles are also available in audio format if you would like to listen while you read. You will notice that the selections are set up by genre (categories) – not by grade level. Students in grades 5-8 may read any selection on the list **EXCEPT** for those designated with an asterisk (\*), which are recommended for incoming Grade 8 students, **ONLY**.

### **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  
*Three Cups of Tea Young Reader's Edition* by Greg Mortensen  
*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)  
*Laika* by Nick Abadzi (graphic novel)  
*An American Plague* by Jim Murphy  
*The Great and Only Barnum* by Candace Fleming

### **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  
*The Supernaturalist* by Eoin Colfer  
*The City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau  
*Shadow Children* series by Margaret Peterson Haddix  
*The Kane Chronicles* by Rick Riordan  
*The Maze Runner* Trilogy by James Dashner  
*When You Reach Me* by Rebecca Stead  
*Harry Potter Series* by J.K. Rowling

### **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 Face on the Milk Carton* by Caroline Cooney  
\* *Drums, Girls & Dangerous Pie* by Jordan Sonnenblick  
*The Crossing* by Gary Paulsen  
*The Wednesday Wars* by Gary D. Schmidt  
*Feathers* by Jacqueline Woodson  
\* *Touching Spirit Bear* by Ben Mikaelson  
\* *Lush* by Natasha Friend  
\* *The Misfits* by James Howe  
*Mockingbird* by Kathryn Erskine  
*The Great Wide Sea* by Madaline Herlong

## 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  
*Death Cloud* by Andy Lane  
*The Gallagher Girls* series by Ally Carter

## HISTORICAL FICTION

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

## 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

**ADDITIONAL HIGH-INTEREST TITLES**

*T-Minus: The Race to the Moon* by Jim Ottaviani, Zander Cannon, Kevin Cannon –  
“Graphic fictionalized retelling of the moon landing” (Amazon.com)

*The Boy Who Saved Baseball* by John Ritter

*Charlie Bone* series by Jenny Nimmo

*Chasing Vermerr* by Blue Balliet

*Dive* series by Gordon Korman

*Dragon Rider* by Cornelia Funke

*Everest* series by Gordon Korman

*Island* series by Gordon Korman

*Joey Pigza* series by Jack Gantos

*Kidnapped* series by Gordon Korman

*Loser* by Jerry Spinelli

*Redwall* series by Brian Jacque

*Salem Witch Trials* by Jane Yolen

*Shadow Children* series by Margaret Peterson Haddix

*Titanic* series by Gordon Korman

**Haverhill Public Schools**

**ENTERING GRADES 5-8 SUMMER READING LOG 2015**

Title	Author	Date	Parent/Guardian Signature
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2.			
3.			

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Signature of Student

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Signature of Parent/Guardian