

## BCMS-Grades 6-8 Suggested Reading List

As part of the New York State Education Department's efforts to raise standards for English Language Arts, students are requested to read 25 books each year. We are recommending that students read **at least four books** during the summer months. The following list of books includes both current young adult selections and classics, although your child is free to read other books that you recommend.

### FICTION

*Assassin*, Anna Myers  
*Baseball Great*, Tim Green  
*Birdland*, Tracy Mack  
*Black Duck*, Janet Taylor Lisle  
*Buddha Boy*, Kathe Koja  
*Cheating Lessons*, Nan Willard Cappa  
*Chief Sunrise, John McGraw, and Me*,  
Timothy Tocher  
*Child X*, Lee Weatherly  
*Cracker*, Cynthia Kadohata  
*Dust*, Arthur Slade  
*Elijah of Buxton*, Christopher Paul Curtis  
*Ender's Game*, Orson Scott Card  
*Escape from Memory*, Margaret P. Haddix  
*Eye of the Crow*, Shane Peacock  
*Fat Kid Rules the World*, K. L. Going  
*Feathers*, Jacqueline Woodson  
*Found*, Margaret Peterson Haddix  
*Geronimo*, Joseph Bruchac

*Here Lies the Librarian*, Richard Peck  
*In Search of the Moon King's Daughter*,  
Linda Holeman  
*Juice*, Eric Walters  
*Life As We Knew It*, Susan Beth Pfeffer  
*Locomotion*, Jacqueline Woodson  
*More Perfect Than the Moon*,  
Patricia MacLachlan  
*Our Secret*, Siri Aang, Christina Kessler  
*Peak*, Roland Smith  
*Peeps*, Scott Westerfeld  
*Private Peaceful*, Michael Morpurgo  
*Red Moon at Sharpsburg*, Rosemary Wells  
*Rules*, Cynthia Lord  
*Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*,  
Eleanor Coerr  
*Scat*, Carl Hiaasen  
*Schooled*, Gordon Korman  
*Shakespeare's Secret*, Elise Brady  
*Skybreaker*, Kenneth Oppel  
*Sunrise Over Fallujah*, Walter Dean Myers  
*Sweetgrass Basket*, Marlene Carvel  
*Swords for Hire: Two of the Most Unlikely  
Heroes You'll Ever Meet*, Will Allen  
*Tamar: A Novel of Espionage, Passion, and  
Betrayal*, Mal Peet  
*That Summer*, Sarah Dessen  
*The 39 Clues* [series], Rick Riordan et al.  
*The Bar Code Tattoo*, Suzanne Weyn  
*The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*, John Boyne  
*The Boy Who Couldn't Die*, William Sleator  
*The Calder Game*, Blue Balliett  
*The Cheat*, Amy Goldman Koss  
*The Diary of Pelly D*, L. J. Adlington  
*The Elephant Run*, Roland Smith

*The Graveyard Book*, Neil Gaiman  
*The Hunger Games*, Suzanne Collins  
*The Invention of Hugo Cabret*, Brian Selznick  
*The London Eye Mystery*, Siobhan Dowd  
*The Million Dollar Putt*, Dan Gutman  
*The Ransom of Mercy Carter*, Caroline B. Cooney  
*The Sacrifice*, Kathleen Benner Duble  
*The Trial*, Jen Bryant  
*Tiger, Tiger*, Lynne Reid Banks  
*Tunnels*, Roderick Gordon and Brian Williams  
*Vampirates* [series], Justin Somper  
*Wednesday Wars*, Gary D. Schmidt  
*Weedflower*, Cynthia Kadohata  
*What My Mother Doesn't Know*, Sonya Sones  
*When My Name Was Keoko*, Linda Sue Park  
*Where the Red Fern Grows*, Wilson Rawls  
*Wringer*, Jerry Spinelli

### NONFICTION

*Bodies from the Ash*, James Deem  
*Boy: Tales of Childhood*, Roald Dahl  
*Cheaper by the Dozen*, Frank B. Gilbreth and  
Ernestine Gilbreth Carey  
*Children of the Great Depression*,  
Russell Freedman  
*Close to Shore*, Michael Capuzzo  
*Counting Coup*, Joseph Medicine Crow  
*Electric Dreams*, Caroline Kettlewood  
*Hitler Youth*, Susan Bartoletti  
*How High Can We Climb?*, Jeannine Atkins  
*Inside the Alamo*, Jim Murphy  
*King of the Mild Frontier*, Chris Crutcher

*Let Me Play*, Karen Blumenthal  
*Obsessive Genius: The Inner Life of Marie Curie*, Barbara Goldsmith  
*Our Eleanor*, Candace Fleming  
*Out of Bounds: Seven Stories of Conflict and Hope*, Beverly Naidoo  
*Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story about Brain Science*, John Fleischman  
*Revenge of the Whale*, Nathaniel Philbrick  
*The Radioactive Boy Scout*, Ken Silverstein  
*The Harlem Hellfighters*, Walter Dean Myers  
*Wait Till Next Year*, Doris Kearns Goodwin

### **POETRY**

*A Poke in the I*, Paul Janeczko  
*Blue Lipstick: Concrete Poems*, John Grandits  
*Canto Familiar*, Gary Soto  
*Hard Hit*, Ann Turner  
*Hate That Cat*, Sharon Creech  
*Poetry for Young People* series  
*T-4: A Novel in Verse*, Ann Clare LeZotte  
*The Dream Keeper and other poems*, Langston Hughes  
*The Flag of Childhood: Poems from the Middle East*, Naomi Shihab Nye  
*The Trial*, Jen Bryant  
*The Way a Door Closes*, Hope Anita Smith  
*Under the Spell of the Moon*, Katherine Paterson

### **Don't Forget the Classics**

*Black Beauty*, Anna Sewell  
*Johnny Tremain*, Esther Forbes  
*Little Women*, Louisa May Alcott  
*Old Yeller*, Fred Gipson  
*Robinson Crusoe*, Daniel Defoe  
*Swiss Family Robinson*, Johann D. Wyss  
*The Diary of a Young Girl*, Ann Frank  
*The Good Earth*, Pearl S. Buck  
*The Silver Skates*, Mary Mapes Dodge  
*The Time Machine*, H. G. Wells  
*Treasure Island*, Robert Louis Stevenson  
*Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*, Jules Verne

### **Additional Titles for 2010**

*If the Witness Lied*, Caroline B. Cooney  
*Bog Child*, Siobhan Dowd  
*Somebody*, Nancy Springer  
*Someone Named Eva*, Joan M. Wolf  
*Little Audrey*, Ruth White  
*Soldier's Secret: The Story of Deborah Sampson*, Shelia Solomon Klass  
*The Rock and the River*, Kekla Magoon  
*Puppet*, Eva Wiseman  
*Guardian*, Julius Lester  
*The Magician's Elephant*, Kate DiCamillo  
*Airman*, Eoin Colfer  
*If I Stay*, Gayle Forman  
*Stolen*, Vivian Vande Velde  
*Dead is the New Black*, Marlene Perez (Sequel: *Dead is a State of Mind*)  
*Bird Moon Lake*, Kevin Henkes  
*After Tupac and D Foster*, Jacqueline Woodson

# 2010 BCMS

Bethlehem Central Middle School

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