

Union East Elementary School Entering Fifth Grade Summer Reading List 2008



Notable Children's Books

Brown, Monica. *My Name Is Gabito: The Life of Gabriel García Márquez/Me llamo Gabito: La vida de Gabriel García Márquez*. Illus. by Raúl Colón. Luna Rising. (9780873589086)

Evocative, tropical illustrations pull the eye into Gabriel García Márquez's imaginative world, introducing children to the early life of the celebrated Colombian author. **A 2008 Belpré Illustrator Honor Book.**

McKissack, Patricia C. *The All-I'll-Ever-Want Christmas Doll*. Illus. by Jerry Pinkney. Schwartz & Wade. (9780375837593).

All Nella wants for Christmas is a Baby Betty doll, a nearly impossible dream for a depression-era child, but when her dream comes true in spite of her sisters' predictions, she finds it is more fun to share.

Hest, Amy. *Remembering Mrs. Rossi*. Illus. by Heather Maione. Candlewick. (9780763621636)

Third grade is a tough time to lose a mother. As the seasons come and go, interactions with her sometimes clueless but loving father and her mother's sixth grade students help Annie deal with her grief.

Richter, Jutta. *The Cat: Or, How I Lost Eternity*. Illus. by Rotraut Susanne Berner. Tr. from the German by Anna Brailovsky. Milkweed Editions. (9781571316769)

Alexander, Lloyd. *The Golden Dream of Carlo Chuchio*. Holt. (9780805083330)

Set in an imaginary land reminiscent of the Arabian nights, Carlo Chuchio and his companions, seeking an elusive treasure, discover that "the journey is the treasure." In this timeless fable, willful young Christine attempts to understand the nature of true learning and friendship. **A 2008 Batchelder Honor Book.**

Bernier-Grand, Carmen T. *Frida: ¡Viva la vida! Long Live Life!* illus. Marshall Cavendish. (9780761453369)

Lyrical free-verse poems comprise the heart of this well-rounded biographical work of artist Frida Kahlo's life. *A 2008 Belpré Author Honor Book.*

Compestine, Ying Chang. *Revolution Is Not a Dinner Party.* Holt. (9780805082074)

In this coming-of-age story, Ling narrates the terrible changes suffered by her family and neighborhood during the Cultural Revolution in China. *A YALSA Best Book for Young Adults.*

Curtis, Christopher Paul. *Elijah of Buxton.* Scholastic Press, an imprint of Scholastic. (9780439023443).

Elijah, the first free-born child in Buxton, a Canadian community of escaped slaves in 1860, transforms from a "fra-gile" 11-year-old boy into a courageous hero. *A 2008 Newbery Honor Book and the 2008 Coretta Scott King Author Award Book.*

Engle, Margarita. *The Poet Slave of Cuba: A Biography of Juan Francisco Manzano.* Illus. by Sean Qualls. Holt. (9780805077063)

This collection of haunting poems, using multiple voices, illuminates the daily terror and hypocrisy of the slave system. After witnessing young Manzano's harsh punishments for reading and writing, readers will marvel at his enduring strength and persistence to attain freedom. *The 2008 Belpré Author Award Book.*

Holm, Jennifer. *Middle School Is Worse Than Meatloaf: A Year Told through Stuff.* Illus. by Elicia Castaldi. Simon & Schuster/Ginee Seo. (9780689852817).

Ginny Davis chronicles the ups and downs of her seventh-grade year in a colorful collage of newspaper clippings, report cards, school assignments, notes to self, and more. Neri, G. *Chess Rumble.* Illus. by Jesse Joshua Watson. Lee & Low. (978-1-58430-279-7)

Marcus, a troubled eleven-year-old battling his own anger, gains coping skills after learning to play chess with a neighborhood master. This novel in verse, written in street vernacular, is illustrated in striking black and grey acrylics.

Sís, Peter. *The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain.* illus. Farrar. (9780374347017)

In his deeply felt memoir set in mid-20th century Prague, Sís contrasts the constrictive walls of the communist state with his personal quest for artistic freedom. *The 2008 Sibert Medal Book, a 2008 Caldecott Honor Book, and a YALSA Best Book for Young Adults.*

Series

Dear America by various authors

Get Real by Linda Ellerbee

History Mysteries by various authors
The Land of Elyon by Patrick Carment
Matt Christopher by Matt Christopher and various authors
My Name is America by various authors
Mysteries in our National Parks by Gloria Skuzynski
Series of Unfortunate Events by Lemony Snicket
Spiderwick Chronicles by Tony DiTerlizzi and Holly Black
Star Wars by various authors
The New Adventures of Mary-Kate & Ashley by various authors
The Royal Diaries by various authors
The Secrets of Droon by Tony Abbott

Authors

Gutman, Dan
Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds
Paulsen, Gary
Peck, Robert Newton
Lowry, Lois

This list has been put together by Colleen M. Goodwin, Union East Library Media Specialist (6/08) for you and your family to assist in fostering the love of reading and to help children maintain and build on their existing reading skills throughout the summer. Happy Reading!