

BFMS Summer Reading Suggested Titles for Grades 7-8



Dear Parents and Guardians:

Summer is almost here! You can almost smell the sunscreen. That means it is time to prepare for your child's many hours of free time. Parents and guardians....it is time for a plan. Summer reading!!

One of the best ways to prepare a child to be successful in middle school is to encourage that some of those fun-filled summer days are spent reading great books! It is **strongly recommended** that middle school students read **at least 2 books** during the summer. Not only does reading provide summer entertainment, it increases their knowledge, vocabulary and ability to focus and concentrate. Besides, it's fun to expose their mind to a world of rich experiences and endless possibilities....

New York State Standards suggest a reading goal of twenty-five books per year. This will be achievable if a certain amount of time is spent reading independently. The summer allows this opportunity. Whether you have a long car ride planned or a lazy afternoon in the yard, always pack some books to ensure your child is reading.

Fortunately there are a wealth of middle school authors that kids love to read. Authors such as Avi, Cooney, Creech, Korman, Myers, Paulsen, and Spinelli provide a wide variety of reading selections. There are books to appeal to a sense of adventure and survival, mystery and romance, fantasy and humor, as well as a quest for knowledge and understanding. So open up their minds, and fill it with a few sensational summer reading books!

We have a wonderful opportunity to share our books from Ben Franklin's Library with you and your child for the summer. Enclosed is flyer outlining our summer "book borrowing" beginning on June 16th. This is a great **no cost way** to gather some books. Also, you can check out the public library or local book stores and libraries for summer reading clubs and contests. To help get you and your child started, on the reverse side is a list of suggested titles.

After reading the books, students simply fill in a "**BFMS Reading Coupon**." In September, turn in your "**BFMS Reading Coupons**" to your ELA teacher for an exciting **Summer Reading Prize Drawing**. You are encouraged to read as many books as possible. The more books you read, the more chances you have to **win cool prizes!**

Most importantly, your support of your child's reading serves as an essential part of their development as a reader and life-long learner. These critical habits will enhance your reading enjoyment and lead to years of success in school.

Happy reading and we'll see you in September!

BFMS English and Reading Teachers

**Summer Reading
Incoming 6th Grade**

BFMS Reading Coupon

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Title and Author _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

* On the back of this coupon, write a few sentences telling about a part of the book you liked or sketch a favorite scene and include a caption that explains the scene.

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BFMS Reading Coupon

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Title and Author _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

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Ben Franklin Middle School

Suggested Summer Reading List



Avi:

“Who Was That Masked Man,
Anyway?”
Blue Heron
Crispin: The Cross of Lead

Sharon Creech:

Wanderer
Replay
Ruby Holler
Chasing Redbird
Absolutely Normal Chaos
Granny Torrelli Makes Soup

Gordon Korman:

The Twinkie Squad
No Coins, Please
Losing Joe’s Place
Dive 1: The Discovery
Dive 2: The Deep
(whole series)

Walter Dean Myers:

Sunrise Over Fallujah
Somewhere in the Darkness
Glory Field
Slam
Hoops
What They Found: Love On 145th Street

Gary Paulsen:

Caught by the Sea
The Car
Brian’s Winter
The Haymeadow
The Island
Dunc and Amos Go To the Dogs
The Cookcamp
The Boy Who Owned the School

Jerry Spinelli:

Jason and Marceline
The Library Card
Loser
Love
Smiles To Go
Spacestation Seventh Grade
Milkweed

Joseph Bruchac:

Skeleton Man
Return of Skeleton Man
Whisper in the Dark
Nightwings

Other Great Titles:

Cracker: The Best Dog in Vietnam
By Cynthia Kodohata

Killing Sea
By Richard Lewis

Framed
By Frank Cottrell Boyce

Sisters Grimm Fairy Tale Detectives
By Michael Buckley

Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life
By Wendy Maas

Other Favorites:

Harry Potter series by J.K.Rowling
Judy Blume books
Twilight Series by Stephenie Mayer