

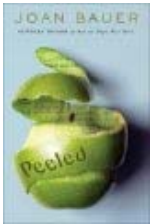
Suggested Summer Reading 2011

Portland Middle School



Heist Society by Ally Carter

A group of teenagers uses its combined talents to re-steal several priceless paintings and save fifteen-year-old Kat Bishop's father, himself an international art thief, from a vengeful collector. [Author/Book Trailer](#)



Peeled by Joan Bauer

In an upstate New York farming community, high school reporter Hildy Biddle is determined to be a reporter whom her father would have been proud of, but she finds herself pitted against psychics and unexplained phenomenon.



Tangerine by Edward Bloor

Twelve-year-old Paul's family revolves around his football-hero brother, and they fail to notice Paul as he fights for the right to play soccer after his bad eyesight disqualified him.



Fat Cat by Robin Brande

Overweight teen Catherine embarks on a high school science fair project in which she decides to emulate the ways of hominids, the earliest ancestors of human beings, by eating an all-natural diet and foregoing technology as much as possible.



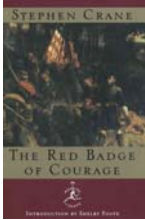
What Happened to Goodbye by Sarah Dessen

Following her parents' bitter divorce as she and her father move from town to town, seventeen-year-old Mclean reinvents herself at each school she attends until she is no longer sure she knows who she is or where she belongs. [Author video](#)



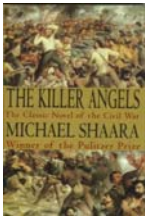
No Promises in the Wind by Irene Hunt

In 1932, America was in the depths of a deep depression. A job, food to fill you, a place to sleep, and shoes without holes - for millions of people, these simple needs were nothing more than dreams. At 15 years of age, Josh had to make his own way through a country of angry, frightened people. This is the story of a young man's struggle to find a life for himself in the turbulent 1930s.



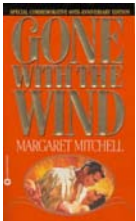
Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane

Henry Fleming had no idea how horrible war really was. Attacks come from all sides, bullets fly, bombs crash. Men everywhere are wounded, bleeding, and dying. Now, Henry's fighting for his life and he's scared. He must make a decision, perhaps the most difficult decision he will ever make in his life: save himself-run from the enemy and desert his friends-or fight, be brave, and risk his life.



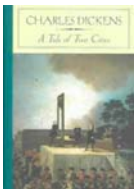
Killer Angels by Michael Shaara

Killer Angels is a fictional account of the three most important days of the Civil War, at the Battle of Gettysburg discussing tactics, plans, and preparations for battle from both the Northern and Southern points of view. There are plenty of maps, which convey a complete sense of what happened July 1-3, 1863. Reading about the past is rarely so much fun as on these pages.



Gone With the Wind by Margaret Mitchell

Spoiled Southern belle Scarlett O'Hara never stops loving the married Ashley Wilkes even as she faces the hardships of life during the Civil War and the changes brought about by Reconstruction. *Gone with the Wind* is the bestselling novel of all time, and her unforgettable characters have become American icons.



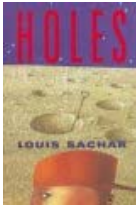
A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens

When the starving French masses rise in hate to overthrow a corrupt and decadent government, both the guilty and innocent become victims of their frenzied anger. Soon nothing stands in the way of the chilling figure they enlist for their cause—La Guillotine—the new invention for efficiently chopping off heads.



Mockingjay by Suzanne Collins

The final chapter of the propulsive Hunger Games saga has Katniss reluctantly leading a rebellion against the Capitol and discovering the true cost of war, sacrifice, and martyrdom. [Author Site](#)



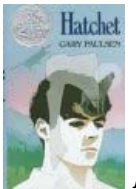
Holes by Louis Sachar

As further evidence of his family's bad fortune which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.



Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer

When a twelve-year-old evil genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll. [Official Site](#)



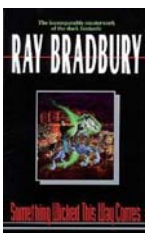
Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the wilderness, learning to survive with only the aid of a hatchet given him by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents' divorce. [Trailer](#)



The Demon King by Cinda Williams Chima

The first in a high fantasy series that tells of the intertwining fates of former street gang leader Han Alister and headstrong Princess Raisa as Han takes possession of an amulet that once belonged to an evil wizard and Raisa uncovers a conspiracy in the Grey Wolf Court. Series



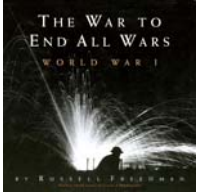
Something Wicked This Way Comes by Ray Bradbury

Two boys, best friends in a small midwestern town, finally come to understand that of all the terrors threatening them from Cooger and Dark's Pandemonium Shadow Show the greatest menace exists within themselves.



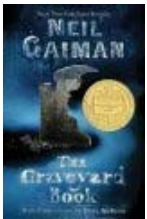
***Sir Charlie Chaplin: The Funniest Man in the World* by Sid Fleischman**

Charlie Chaplin, who was raised by a mentally ill mother and an alcoholic, mostly absent, father, spent his childhood in the depths of poverty but grew to international fame as perhaps “the funniest man in the world” in vaudeville, silent movies, and finally “talkies” at the end of his career.



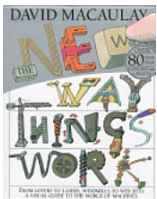
***The War to End All Wars: World War I* by Russell Freedman**

This is a narrative history of World War I that features archival photographs and describes how advanced military weaponry impacted the course of the war.



***The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman**

Toddler Bod, short for Nobody, crawls into a graveyard after his family is brutally murdered. He is then raised lovingly and carefully to the age of eighteen by the graveyard’s ghosts and otherworldly creatures. Newbery Award 2009



***The New Way Things Work* by David Macaulay**

Text and numerous detailed illustrations introduce and explain the scientific principles and workings of hundreds of machines. Includes new material about digital technology.

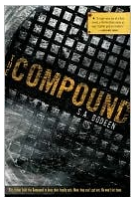


***Blue Lipstick: Concrete Poems* by John Grandits**

A fifteen-year-old girl named Jessie expresses her sarcastic and hilarious take on high school life using concrete poetry

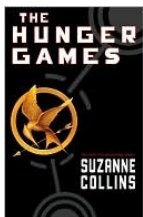
[Author Site](#)

NUTMEG NOMINEES 2012



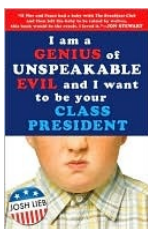
The Compound by S.A. Bodeen

Nine-year-old Eli, his sisters, and parents move into the Compound, an expansive underground bunker built by Eli's billionaire father as a refuge from nuclear attack. Waiting for the outside environment to be safe to reenter, fifteen-year-old Eli is starting to have doubts about his father's motives, explanations, and sanity. Can Eli trust his father? [Trailer](#)



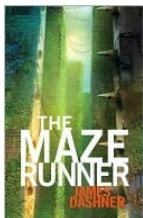
The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins

In the ruins of North America lies the nation of Panem, a capitol surrounded by twelve districts. Each year, the districts send one boy and one girl to participate in Hunger Games, a brutal fight to the death televised for Panem's entertainment. Sixteen-year-old Katniss steps in to take the place of her sister in the Hunger Games, hoping to survive the competition. [Series](#)



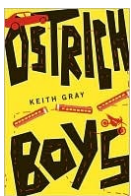
I Am a Genius of Unspeakable Evil and I Want to Be Your Class President by Josh Lieb

Running for seventh-grade class president looks easy to Oliver Watson. With his good looks, intelligence, and wealth, he can control his classmates, teachers, and parents. But can he control the outcome of an election?



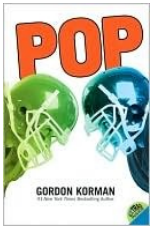
The Maze Runner by James Dashner

Sixteen-year-old Thomas wakes up in an elevator with no memory except for his first name. He's arrived in "the glade," an area surrounded by stone walls that open to a maze every morning. With him in the glade are about 60 boys, all searching for an escape route. And then a girl appears with a message, and things begin to change. [Trailer](#) [Author Blog](#)



Ostrich Boys by Keith Gray

After their best friend Ross dies, English teenagers Blake, Kenny, and Sim plan a proper memorial by taking his ashes to Ross, Scotland, an adventure-filled journey that tests their loyalty to each other and forces them to question what friendship means.



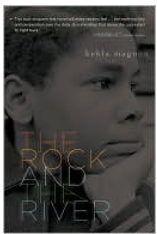
Pop by Gordon Korman

Quarterback Marcus Jordan has a big problem: his new school isn't interested in adding Marcus to their winning football team. Practicing in the park, Marcus meets a childlike 50-year-old by the name of Charlie with startling football abilities. Charlie's pranks and spotty memory have Marcus wondering what Charlie's story is.



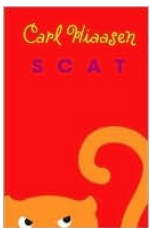
Princess of the Midnight Ball by Jessica Day George

Galen, a soldier recently returned from the war, now works in the royal palace, where he meets 12 beautiful princesses. As innocent as the king's twelve daughters seem, they harbor a secret. Will Galen be the one to uncover what activity leaves their slippers in tatters, as if worn for years? Or will he, like the others, fail... and die for his trouble?



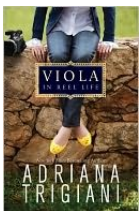
The Rock and the River by Kekla Magoon

The year is 1968 and the Civil Rights Movement is in full swing in Chicago, Illinois. Teenager Sam Childs is caught between his father, who follows the non-violent path of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and his older brother who has joined the Black Panther Party and its sometimes violent methods. Will Sam choose the rock or the river?



Scat by Carl Hiaasen

After mean Mrs. Starch goes missing during a class field trip to the Black Vine Swamp, two of her students, Nick and Marta, believe her disappearance is mysterious and that there is something strange about the note that she left behind. Can Nick and Marta solve the mystery of the missing teacher?



Viola in Reel Life by Adriana Trigiani

Aspiring filmmaker 14-year-old Viola is the child of devoted documentary filmmakers, but her parents' overseas assignment brings her to Prefect Academy, a boarding school for girls. Viola is sure that she'll hate Prefect, but she befriends her roommates, learning that she can flourish in a new environment.

Series:

Mortal Instruments Series and *Infernal Devices Series* by [Cassandra Clare](#)

Gone Series by [Michael Grant](#)

Forest of Hands and Teeth by [Carrie Ryan](#)

The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel Series by [Michael Scott](#)

Look below for a list of interesting websites with reviews to help you find a book you might like.

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