

Middle School Summer Reading List

Lexile 900's

Forest of secrets - Hunter, Erin.

The warrior cat Fireheart's determination to find the truth about another warrior's death leads him deep into danger, and reveals secrets that test the strength of clan loyalties. AR: 5.8 Lexile: 900

A hole in the world - Hite, Sid.

Fifteen-year-old Paul Shackelford experiences an eye-opening and transformative summer living and working on the central Virginia farm of his distant relatives all of whom seem to be haunted by the death of a much-loved and admired farmhand the year before. AR: 6.0 Lexile: 900

ESP - Herbst, Judith.

Presents a study of extrasensory perception including information on sixteenth-century astrologist, Nostradamus, twentieth-century psychic Jeanne Dixon, magic, and tricks of the mind. AR: 6.2 Lexile: 910

Ghost girl : a Blue Ridge Mountain story - Ray, Delia.

Eleven-year-old April is delighted when President and Mrs. Hoover build a school near her Madison County, Virginia, home but her family's poverty, grief over the accidental death of her brother, and other problems may mean that April can never learn to read from the wonderful teacher, Miss Vest. AR: 5.4 Lexile: 920

Pure dead magic - Gliori, Debi.

The Strega-Borgia children, their mysterious new nanny, and a giant tarantula use magic and actual trips through the Internet to bring peace to their Scottish castle after the children's father is kidnapped. AR: 5.9 Lexile: 920

The ruins of Gorlan - Flanagan, John (John Anthony)

When fifteen-year-old Will is rejected by battleschool, he becomes the reluctant apprentice to the mysterious Ranger Halt, and winds up protecting the kingdom from danger. AR: 7.0 Lexile: 920

Blind Boone : piano prodigy - Harrah, Madge.

Presents the life and career of the blind pianist who toured the country after the Civil War, bringing ragtime and other African American music to the concert stage. AR: 6.7 Lexile: 930

Travel team - Lupica, Mike.

After he is cut from his travel basketball team--the very same team that his father once led to national prominence--twelve-year-old Danny Walker forms his own team of cast-offs that might have a shot at victory. AR: 5.4 Lexile: 930

Escape! : the story of the great Houdini - Fleischman, Sid,

A biography of the magician, ghost chaser, aviator, and king of escape artists whose amazing feats are remembered long after his death in 1926. AR: 6.6 Lexile: 940

Heat - Lupica, Mike.

Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old and he has no parents to offer them proof. AR: 5.3 Lexile: 940

The amber spyglass - Pullman, Philip,

Lyra and Will find themselves at the center of a battle between the forces of the Authority and those gathered by Lyra's father, Lord Asriel. AR: 6.7 Lexile: 950

Bella at midnight - Stanley, Diane.

Bella's peasant life is changed when her real father, a knight who abandoned her when she was a baby, comes and reclaims her, moving her to his home where she lives with a resentful stepmother and two horrible stepsisters and learns about a plot to kill her friend, Prince Julian. AR: 6.0 Lexile: 950

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Summerland - Chabon, Michael.

The ferishers, little creatures who ensure perfect weather for Summerland, recruit Ethan Feld, one of history's worst baseball players, to help them in their struggle to save Summerland from giants, goblins, and other legendary creatures. AR: 6.3 Lexile: 950

Beyond the grave - Herbst, Judith.

Examines reports of human combustion, ghosts, near-death and past life experiences, and proposes theories about what might really have occurred. AR: 6.4 Lexile: 960

The book without words : a fable of medieval magic - Avi,

Thorston, an alchemist who has spent his life trying to decipher the secret to immortality contained in the Book Without Words, is on the brink of realizing his dream when he drops dead, leaving Odo, a talking raven, and Sybil, a servant who was about to be sacrificed to Thorston's plan, to reap the rewards of his work. AR: 4.4 Lexile: 960

Gideon the cutpurse : being the first part of the Gideon trilogy - Buckley-Archer, Linda. Ignored by his father and sent to Derbyshire for the weekend, twelve-year-old Peter and his new friend, Kate, are accidentally transported back in time to 1763 England where they are befriended by a reformed cutpurse. AR: 6.3 Lexile: 960

The misfits - Howe, James,

Four students who do not fit in at their small-town middle school decide to create a third party for the student council elections to represent all students who have ever been called names. AR: 5.2 Lexile: 960

Call me Maria : a novel - Cofer, Judith Ortiz.

A story in poetry and prose, in which fifteen-year-old Maria leaves her mother and their Puerto Rican home to live in the barrio of New York with her father, feeling torn between the two cultures in which she has been raised. AR: 5.6 Lexile: 970

Reaching Dustin - Grove, Vicki.

Sixth-grader Carly's assignment to interview a reclusive, brooding classmate leads her to discover some of the events that have caused his antisocial and abusive family's negative impact on their Missouri farming community. AR: 5.6 Lexile: 970

The calendar - Kummer, Patricia K.

Describes the invention of the calendar, looks at early methods of organizing time, introduces the people who helped create the modern calendar, and discusses its importance and impact on modern culture. AR: 7.0 Lexile: 980

Fish - Matthews, L. S.

As fighting closes in on the village where Tiger's parents have been working, the three of them and a mysterious guide set out on a difficult journey to safety. AR: 5.4 Lexile: 980

Measle and the Mallockee - Ogilvy, Ian,

Young Measle Stubbs survives a stay in a haunted castle, confronting pictures that come to life, a murderous suit of armor, and a jellybean-loving wrathmonk. AR: 6.7 Lexile: 980

The unseen - Snyder, Zilpha Keatley.

Feeling angry and out-of-place in her large family, twelve-year-old Xandra finds a magical key to a world of ghostly, sometimes frightening, phantoms that help her see herself and her siblings more clearly. AR: 6.1 Lexile: 990