

REQUIRED SUMMER READING LIST FOR STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 7
(Pick **two** and read before the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year.)

Avi / The Man Who Was Poe: A mystery set in 1840's Providence. A sister has vanished. A brother must wander a strange city with a strange companion to find her.

Creech / Walk Two Moons: Thirteen-year-old Sal must travel from Ohio to Idaho with her eccentric grandparents in search of her mother.

Filipovic / Zlata's Diary: A Child's Life in Sarajevo: From 1991 to 1993, Zlata Filipovic kept a detailed diary of her life in a war zone. From piano lessons to parties, from MTV to heavy bombing.

Fradin / The Signers: The 56 Stories Behind the Declaration of Independence: The first book to profile all 56 rebels who risked their lives for the cause of freedom.

Hobbs / Wild Man Island: In southeast Alaska, a storm strands a fourteen-year-old boy on wild Admiralty Island. There he must learn to survive and discover what his archeologist father died trying to find.

Jackson / I Have Lived a Thousand Years: Growing Up in the Holocaust: The memoir of a teenage girl who survived the horrors of Auschwitz.

Lasky / Beyond the Burning Time: Mary and Caleb live in 1691 Salem. When their mother is accused of being a witch, they must try to save her from execution.

L'Engle / A Wrinkle in Time: A mythical, mystical journey through space in search of a time-traveling scientist. What is a tesseract?

McKinley / The Hero and the Crown: Magical swords, dragons, and a warrior princess named Aerin who makes her own destiny.

Montgomery / Anne of Green Gables: The much-loved story (or is it stories?) of an imaginative red-headed orphan named Anne Shirley.

Opdyke / In My Hands: Memories of a Holocaust Rescuer: The autobiographical work of a Catholic girl who smuggled food to Jews in a Polish ghetto.

Philbrick / Revenge of the Whale: The True Story of the Whaleship Essex: In November 1820, an angry sperm whale deliberately rammed the side of a Nantucket whaler, twice, sinking it. This is the unbelievable true story that inspired *Moby Dick*.

Pullman / The Golden Compass: 12-year-old Lyra must leave her room in Oxford to travel to the top of the world and save her kidnapped friend, Roger. This is a rich and complex fantasy novel.

Sewell / Black Beauty: The life of a horse in 19th century England.

Siegel / The Cross by Day, the Mezuzah by Night: A Catholic girl living during the Spanish Inquisition discovers that she is in fact a Marrano, a secret Jew.

Singer / In My Father's Court: A Memoir: The Jewish community of Warsaw seen through the eyes of a young child.

St. George / To See with the Heart: The Life of Sitting Bull: True stories about the sagely war chief of the Sioux Nation.

Tolkien / The Hobbit: A reader's best introduction to Middle Earth. How the One Ring finds its way onto the finger of a resourceful little hobbit named Bilbo Baggins.

Ullman / Banner in the Sky: Rudi tries to summit one of the most dangerous peaks in the Alps, The Citadel. He must face the mountain that killed his father.

White / The Sword in the Stone: A vivid retelling of the legend of young King Arthur and his wizard, Merlin. Better than the Disney movie.

Yep / Angelfish: A young dancer named Robin accidentally breaks a pet-store window. While working to pay for the window, she discovers that her grouchy boss, Mr. Tsow, was once a ballet star in China.

Yolen / The Devil's Arithmetic: During a Passover Seder, Hannah finds that she has traveled back in time to a 1940's Polish village. She learns firsthand the painful history of the Holocaust.