

# Summer Reading List

Richards Middle School  
Rising 8th graders

Types of Novel	Title (Author)
Historical Fiction	Soldier Boys (Dean Hughes)
Historical Fiction	Out of the Dust
Horror	Cirque du Freak Series (Darren Shan)
Mystery Adventure Crime	Son of the Mob (Gordon Korman)
Mystery Adventure Crime	The Rag and Bone Shop (Robert Kormier)
Mystery Adventure Crime**	Treasure Island
Mystery Adventure Crime	Call of the Wild (Jack London)
Non-Fiction - Multicultural	Zlata's Diary (Zlata Filipovic)
Non-Fiction - Multicultural	Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolutions
Realistic Fiction	Gossip Girl Series (VonZiegesar)
Realistic Fiction	The Face on the Milk Carton (Caroline Cooney)
Realistic Fiction	The Voice on the Radio (Caroline Cooney)
Realistic Fiction**	Jane Eyre
Realistic Fiction	The Pigman (Paul Zindel)
Realistic Fiction	Dacey's Song (Cynthia Voight)
Realistic Fiction	Walk Two Moons (Sharon Creech)
Realistic Fiction	Loser (Jerry Spinelli)
Realistic Fiction - Multicultural	Crossing the Wire (Will Hobbs)
Realistic Fiction - Multicultural	Romiette & Julio (Sharon Draper)
Realistic Fiction - Multicultural	The Skin I'm In
Realistic Fiction - Multicultural	First Part Last (Angela Johnson)
Realistic Fiction - Multicultural	Buried Onions (Gary De Soto)
Realistic Fiction- Multicultural	Call Me Maria (Judith Ortiz Cofer)
Sci Fi/Fantasy	The Last Book in the Universe (W.R. Philbrick)
Sci Fi/Fantasy	The Time Hackers (Gary Paulsen)
Sci Fi/Fantasy	Midnight Magician (Avi)
Sci Fi/Fantasy **	The Subtle Knife (Phillip Pullman)
Sci Fi/Fantasy	The Hobbit (J. R. Tolkien)
Sports	Travel Team (Mike Lupica)
Sports	The Contender (Robert Lipsyte)
Sports	Tangerine (Edward Bloor)
Sports - Multicultural	Slam (Walter Dean Myers)
Sports-Multicultural	Whale Talk (Christopher Crutcher)

\*\* These books are available to all students but may hold more interest for advanced or honor students.

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All books can be checked out from the Gwinnett Public Library System. Please visit them at a location near you or on-line at [www.gwinnettpl.org](http://www.gwinnettpl.org). Library cards are free. Students are to choose one book from the list to read over the summer break. Each student should also complete one of the book projects from the list provided. The book project will be turned in by September 7, 2009 to your language arts teacher. A grade will be given for the book project.

Parents are expected to preview the book before giving permission for the student to read the book. Please take into consideration the student's interests, reading ability, and maturity level when making the decision as to which book to read.

## Here's the list of options to choose from:

1. Imagine that you are a character in the book, and write a diary entry about your experiences, thoughts, and feelings. (250-300 words)
  2. Write a letter to a character in the book, giving her or him advice. (50-300 words)
  3. Imagine that you are the author of the book, and describe what happened to one of the characters years before or years after the time of the book. (250-300 words)
  4. Write a short composition on one of the themes for the book. For example, if one of the themes is love, you might write a composition about love, using examples from the book. (250-300 words)
  5. Write a poem, song, or story about character, conflict, theme, symbol, or another element of the book and quotes from the book related to your drawing. (250-300 words)
  6. Interview one of the characters about the story asking questions in your voice and giving answers in the character's voice. (250-300 words)
  7. Review the book. Give your opinions about it; cite examples and quotes from the book to support why you think it is an interesting book or not. Would you recommend it to a friend? Why or why not? (250-300 words)
  8. Write about the main problem or conflict in the book. Who is involved and what is it about? (250-300 words)
  9. Finish the sentence: "I love (hate) the way the author (or a character) . . ." (Remember, 250-300 words!)
- Design a final examination for your book. The exam must contain 5-10 T/F, 10 multiple choice, 5 short answer, and one essay. Supply a completed answer sheet.