



7th GRADE

Summer Reading List for upcoming 7th graders (2016-2017)

All upcoming 7th graders will be required to read one non-fiction book and one fiction novel. Students choose one title from each category.

Non-Fiction:

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson

Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world. Woodson's eloquent poetry also reflects the joy of finding her voice through writing stories, despite the fact that she struggled with reading as a child. Her love of stories inspired her and stayed with her, creating the first sparks of the gifted writer she was to become.

How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous by Georgia Bragg and Kevin O'Malley

This book explores the chronic or fatal maladies that afflicted 19 historical figures. Nonsqueamish readers will be entranced by the riveting descriptions of King Tut's mummification; the thoroughly septic "doctoring" that contributed to the deaths of Mozart, Napoleon, James A. Garfield, and others; and the outrageous fates of Einstein's brain, Galileo's fingers, and other coroners' souvenirs. The author tucks quick notes on relevant topics, such as leeching, scurvy, presidential assassins, and mummy eyes between the chapters and closes with generous lists of nontechnical print resources on each of the subjects. O'Malley's cartoon portraits and spot art add just the right notes of humor to keep the contents from becoming too gross.

Fiction:

The Alchemyst: The Secrets of the Immortal Nicholas Flamel by Michael Scott

The truth: Nicholas Flamel was born in Paris on September 28, 1330.

The legend: Nicholas Flamel discovered the secret of eternal life.

The records show that he died in 1418...But his tomb is empty.

Nicholas Flamel lives. But only because he has been making the elixir of life for centuries.

The secret of eternal life is hidden within the book he protects—the Book of Abraham the Mage.

It's the most powerful book that has ever existed. In the wrong hands, it will destroy the world.

That's exactly what Dr. John Dee plans to do when he steals it. Humankind won't know what's

happening until it's too late. And if the prophecy is right, Sophie and Josh Newman are the only

ones with the power to save the world as we know it. Sometimes legends are true. And Sophie

and Josh Newman are about to find themselves in the middle of the greatest legend of all time.

Every Soul A Star Paperback by Wendy Mass

And as streams of light fan out behind the darkened sun like the wings of a butterfly, I realize that I never saw real beauty until now.

At Moon Shadow, an isolated campground, thousands have gathered to catch a glimpse of a rare and extraordinary total eclipse of the sun. Three lives are about to be changed forever. Told from three distinct voices and perspectives, Wendy Mass weaves an intricate and compelling story about strangers coming together, unlikely friendships, and finding one's place in the universe.

Students should be prepared to test on both books Friday, August 12, 2016.