

MVMS Summer Reading

2017

5th & 6th
Grades



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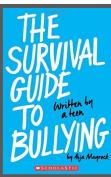
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Realistic Fiction
Ungifted
Gordon Korman



When Donovan Curtis pulls a major prank at his middle school, he thinks he's finally gone too far. But thanks to a mix-up by one of the administrators, instead of getting in trouble, Donovan is sent to the Academy of Scholastic Distinction, a special program for gifted and talented students. Although it wasn't exactly what Donovan had intended, the ASD couldn't be a more perfectly unexpected hideout for someone like him. But as the students and teachers of ASD grow to realize that Donovan may not be good at math or science (or just about anything), he shows that his gifts may be exactly what the ASD students never knew they needed.

Informational Nonfiction
The Survival Guide to Bullying
Aija Mayrock



The Survival Guide to Bullying covers everything from cyber bullying to how to deal with fear and how to create the life you dream of having. From inspiring "roems" (rap poems), survival tips, personal stories, and quick quizzes, this book will light the way to a brighter future. This updated edition also features new, never-before-seen content including a chapter about how to talk to parents, an epilogue, and an exclusive Q&A with the author.

Realistic Fiction
Raymie Nightingale
Kate DiCamillo



Raymie Clarke has come to realize that everything, absolutely everything, depends on her. And she has a plan. If Raymie can win the Little Miss Central Florida Tire competition, then her father, who left town two days ago, will see Raymie's picture in the paper and (maybe) come home. To win, not only does Raymie have to do good deeds and learn how to twirl a baton; she also has to contend with two girls as her competition. But as the competition approaches, loneliness, loss, and unanswerable questions draw the three girls into an unlikely friendship.

**The more you read,
The more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
The more places you'll go.**
-Dr. Seuss

Realistic Fiction
Fish in a Tree
Lynda Hunt

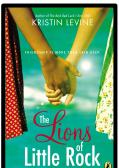


Ally has been smart enough to fool a lot of smart people. Every time she lands in a new school, she is able to hide her inability to read by creating clever yet disruptive distractions. She is afraid to ask for help; after all, how can you cure dumb? However, her newest teacher Mr. Daniels sees the bright, creative kid underneath the trouble maker. With his help, Ally learns not to be so hard on herself and that dyslexia is nothing to be ashamed of. As her confidence grows, Ally feels free to be herself and the world starts opening up with possibilities. She discovers that there's a lot more to her—and to everyone—than a label, and that great minds don't always think alike.

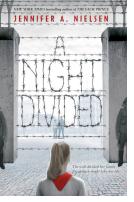
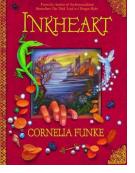
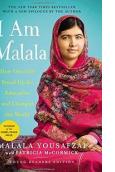
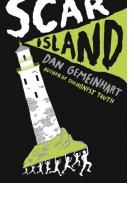
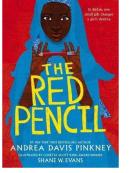
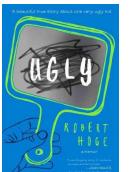
The MVMS Summer Reading program is designed to encourage students and their families to read middle school literature from a variety of different genres. Our goal is to peak student interest, inspire critical thinking and problem solving, think about the world around them, encourage empathy for others with differences, and challenge our students as readers. With that in mind, the interest level of all the selected books is for middle school students. However, some of the book selections may contain sensitive material and deal with more mature themes. Although the Summer Reading program is required for all students, they are allowed to choose their own Summer Reading book from the list of titles in this brochure. Students are encouraged to find more information about all of the books by reading the descriptions in this brochure and searching online before making their choice. For all currently enrolled students, there will be events at the end of the school year that will allow students to explore each book before making their choice.

Disclaimer: All title descriptions were found on Amazon.com

Historical Fiction
The Lions of Little Rock
Kristin Levine



As twelve-year-old Marlee starts middle school in 1958 Little Rock, it feels like her whole world is falling apart. Until she meets Liz, the new girl at school. Liz is everything Marlee wishes she could be: she's brave, brash and always knows the right thing to say. But when Liz leaves school without even a good-bye, the rumor is that Liz was caught passing for white. Marlee decides that doesn't matter. She just wants her friend back. To stay friends, Marlee and Liz are even willing to take on segregation and the dangers their friendship could bring to both their families.

<p>Historical Fiction A Night Divided Jennifer Nielsen</p> 	<p>With the rise of the Berlin Wall, twelve-year-old Gerta finds her family suddenly divided. She, her mother, and her brother Fritz live on the eastern side, controlled by the Soviets. Her father and middle brother, who had gone west in search of work, cannot return home. When she receives a mysterious drawing, Gerta puts two and two together and concludes that her father wants Gerta and Fritz to tunnel beneath the wall, out of East Berlin. However, if they are caught, the consequences will be deadly. No one can be trusted. Will Gerta and her family find their way to freedom?</p>	<p>Sci Fi & Fantasy Inkheart Cornelia Funke</p> 	<p>One cruel night, Meggie's father reads aloud from a book called INKHEART-- and an evil ruler escapes the boundaries of fiction and lands in their living room. Suddenly, Meggie is smack in the middle of the kind of adventure she has only read about in books. Meggie must learn to harness the magic that has conjured this nightmare. For only she can change the course of the story that has changed her life forever.</p>	<p>Nonfiction Memoir I Am Malala: Young Readers' Edition Malala Yousafzai</p> 	<p>Malala Yousafzai was only ten years old when the Taliban took control of her region. They said music was a crime. They said women weren't allowed to go to the market. They said girls couldn't go to school. Raised in a once-peaceful area of Pakistan transformed by terrorism, Malala was taught to stand up for what she believes. So she fought for her right to be educated. And on October 9, 2012, she nearly lost her life for the cause: She was shot point-blank while riding the bus on her way home from school. No one expected her to survive. Now Malala is an international symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest ever Nobel Peace Prize winner.</p>
<p>Mystery Scar Island Dan Gemeinhart</p> 	<p>Jonathan Grisby is the newest arrival at the Slabhenge Reformatory School for Troubled Boys. It is dark, damp, and dismal. It is just the place Jonathan figures he deserves because he has done something terrible. He's willing to accept whatever punishment he has coming. Just as he's getting used to his new situation, a freak accident leaves the troubled boys without any adult supervision. Suddenly the kids are free, with an entire island to themselves. But freedom brings unexpected danger. If Jonathan can't come to terms with the sins of his past and lead his new friends to safety... then every boy on the island is doomed.</p>	<p>Poetry/Verses The Red Pencil Andrea Davis Pinkney</p> 	<p>Life in Amira's peaceful Sudanese village is shattered when Janjaweed attackers arrive, unleashing unspeakable horrors. After losing nearly everything, Amira needs to find the strength to make the long journey on foot to safety at a refugee camp. She begins to lose hope, until the gift of a simple red pencil opens her mind -- and all kinds of possibilities.</p>	<p>Nonfiction Memoir Heroes of the Environment Harriet Rohmer</p> 	<p>This inspiring book presents the true stories of 12 people from across North America who have done great things for the environment. Heroes include a teenage girl who figured out how to remove an industrial pollutant from the Ohio River, a Mexican superstar wrestler who works to protect turtles and whales, and a teenage boy from Rhode Island who helped his community and his state develop effective e-waste recycling programs.</p>
<p>Mystery Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer John Grisham</p> 	<p>In the small city of Strattemburg, there are many lawyers, and though he's only thirteen years old, Theo Boone thinks he's one of them. Theo knows every judge, policeman, court clerk—and a lot about the law. He dreams of being a great trial lawyer, of a life in the courtroom. But Theo finds himself in court much sooner than expected. Because he knows so much—maybe too much—he is suddenly dragged into the middle of a sensational murder trial. A cold-blooded killer is about to go free, and only Theo knows the truth. The stakes are high, but Theo won't stop until justice is served.</p>	<p>Poetry/Verses Brown Girl Dreaming Jacqueline Woodson</p> 	<p>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 the remnants of Jim Crow and 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.</p>	<p>Informational Nonfiction Kid President's Guide to Being Awesome Brad Montague</p> 	<p>In his <i>Guide to Being Awesome</i>, Kid President pulls together lists of awesome ideas to help the world, awesome interviews with his awesome celebrity friends (like Beyoncé, Michelle Obama, and Jeff Foxworthy!), more than 100 tips to make the world a better place, and a step-by-step guide to make pretty much everything a little bit awesomer. Grab a corn dog and settle into your favorite comfy chair. Pretend it's your birthday! (In fact, treat everyone like it's THEIR birthday!)</p>
<p>Sci Fi & Fantasy The Wild Robot Peter Brown</p> 	<p>Can a robot survive in the wilderness? When robot Roz opens her eyes for the first time, she discovers that she is alone on a remote, wild island. She has no idea how she got there or what her purpose is--but she knows she needs to survive. After battling a fierce storm and escaping a vicious bear attack, she realizes that her only hope for survival is to adapt to her surroundings and learn from the island's unwelcoming animal inhabitants. As Roz slowly befriends the animals, the island starts to feel like home--until, one day, the robot's mysterious past comes back to haunt her.</p>	<p>Nonfiction Memoir Ugly - a Memoir Robert Hoge</p> 	<p>When Robert Hoge was born, he had a tumor the size of a tennis ball in the middle of his face and short, twisted legs. Surgeons removed the tumor and made him a new nose from one of his toes. Amazingly, he survived—with a face that would never be the same. Strangers stared at him, kids called him names, and adults could be cruel in their own ways. Everybody seemed to agree that Robert was "ugly." But Robert refused to let his face dictate his entire life. Then, when Robert came face to face with the biggest decision of his life, he followed his heart. This poignant memoir about overcoming bullying and thriving with disabilities shows that what makes us "ugly" also makes us who we are.</p>	<p>Informational Nonfiction Real Kids. Real Stories. Real Change: Courageous Actions Around the World Garth Sundem</p> 	<p>Eleven-year-old Tilly saved lives in Thailand by warning people that a tsunami was coming. Fifteen-year-old Malika fought against segregation in her Alabama town. Ten-year-old Jean-Dominic won a battle against pesticides—and the cancer they caused in his body. Six-year-old Ryan raised \$800,000 to drill water wells in Africa. And twelve-year-old Haruka invented a new environmentally friendly way to scoop dog poop. With the right role models, any child can be a hero. Thirty true stories profile kids who used their heads, their hearts, their courage, and sometimes their stubbornness to help others and do extraordinary things.</p>