

**Prince William County Public Schools**  
**Summer Reading Suggested Reading List**  
**7th Grade**

The purpose of the Prince William County Public Schools Summer Reading Suggested Reading List is for students to enjoy quality literature and to continue developing their independent reading skills to support critical thinking, creative thinking, communication, collaboration, and citizenship. Student participation in the challenge is voluntary. Students who choose to participate will read books they self-select. Students that read during the summer can grow and explore new experiences to support life-long reading habits.

The following titles are suggestions to help foster a love of reading for pleasure. Other books selected by the student with guidance from a parent, guardian, or librarian, are also acceptable.

Author	Title	Publication Date	Annotation
Bigelow, Lisa Jenn	<i>Hazel's Theory of Evolution</i>	2020	Hazel knows a lot about the world. But even Hazel doesn't have answers for the questions awaiting her as she enters eighth grade. As Hazel struggles to cope, she'll come to realize that sometimes you have to look within yourself--instead of the pages of a book--to find the answer to life's most important questions.
Braden, Ann	<i>The Benefits of Being an Octopus</i>	2018	Seventh-grader Zoey Albro focuses on caring for three younger siblings and avoiding rich classmates at school until her fascination with octopuses gets her on the debate team and she begins to speak out.
Callender, Kacen	<i>King and the Dragonflies</i>	2020	Twelve-year-old Kingston James is sure his brother Khalid has turned into a dragonfly. When his former best friend, the gay son of the local sheriff, runs away, the weight of expectations and secrets leads King to examine everything he thinks he knows about being brave, being a man, and being himself.
Craft, Jerry	<i>New Kid</i> , or any middle school book by Jerry Craft	2019	(graphic novel) Seventh grader Jordan Banks loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade.

Dionne, Evette	<i>Lifting As We Climb: Black Women's Battle for the Ballot Box</i>	2020	(nonfiction) This National Book Award longlisted book tells the important, overlooked story of Black women as a force in the suffrage movement, when fellow suffragists did not accept them as equal partners in the struggle.
Engle, Margarita	<i>Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings : a Memoir</i> , or any middle school book by Margarita Engle.	2015	In this poetic memoir, Margarita Engle, the first Latina woman to receive a Newbery Honor, tells of growing up as a child of two cultures during the Cold War.
Gemeinhart, Dan	<i>The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise</i>	2019	Twelve-year-old Coyote and her father rush to Poplin Springs, Washington, in their old school bus to save a memory box buried in a park that will soon be demolished.
Gratz, Alan	<i>Grenade</i> , or any middle school book by Alan Gratz	2020	On April 1, 1945, fourteen-year-old native Okinawan Hideki, is handed two grenades and told to go kill American soldiers. Hideki just wants to find his family, and his struggle across the island will bring him face-to-face with Ray, a marine in his very first battle.
Haddix, Margaret Peterson	<i>Children of Exile</i> , or any middle school book by Margaret Peterson Haddix	2016	Twelve-year-old Rosi, raised in a foster village, is returned to her biological parents and discovers home is not what she expected it to be.
Hale, Nathan	<i>Blades of Freedom</i> , or any book in the series Nathan Hale's hazardous tales	2020	(graphic novel) The story of the Haitian Revolution and its role in Napoleon's decision to sell Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe the whole Louisiana Territory, when they sought to buy only New Orleans.
Hiaasen, Carl	<i>Squirm</i> , or any middle school book by Carl Hiaasen	2018	Billy Dickens discovers that his mysterious father lives in Montana, so this summer Billy will fly across the country, hike a mountain, float a river, dodge a grizzly bear, shoot down a spy drone, and save his own father.
Hiranandani, Veera	<i>The Night Diary</i>	2018	Set in 1947, during the months before and after the independence of India and subsequent division with Pakistan, and is written as diary entries from the perspective of Nisha, a girl who has just celebrated her twelfth birthday along with her twin brother, Amil.
Hunt, Lynda Mullaly	<i>Shouting at the Rain</i> , or any book by Lynda Mullaly Hunt	2019	Delsie loves tracking the weather, living with her grandmother, and the support of friends and neighbors, but misses having a "regular family," especially after her best friend outgrows her.
Key, Watt	<i>Deep Water</i> , or any middle school book by Watt Key	2018	When a dive off the coast of Alabama goes horribly wrong, twelve-year-old Julie and one of her father's scuba clients struggle to survive after reaching an abandoned oil rig.

Korman, Gordon	<i>Restart</i> , or any book by Gordon Korman	2017	Chase does not remember falling off the roof, in fact he does not remember anything about himself, and when he gets back to middle school he begins to learn who he was through the reactions of the other kids--trouble is, he really is not sure he likes the Chase that is being revealed, but can he take the opportunity amnesia has provided and restart his life?
Ponti, James	<i>City Spies</i>	2020	Sentenced to juvenile detention after exposing her foster parents' crimes, a talented young hacker is rescued by a British spy who recruits five teen savants from different world regions to become elite agents for MI5.
Reedy, Trent	<i>Words in the Dust</i> , or any middle school titles by Trent Reedy	2011	Zulaikha, a thirteen-year-old girl in Afghanistan, faces a series of frightening but exhilarating changes in her life as she defies her father and secretly meets with an old woman who teaches her to read, her older sister gets married, and American troops offer her surgery to fix her disfiguring cleft lip.
Rhodes, Jewell Parker	<i>Ghost Boys</i> , or any book by Jewell Parker Rhodes	2018	After seventh-grader Jerome is shot by a White police officer, he observes the aftermath of his death and meets the ghosts of other fallen black boys including Emmett Till.
Soontornvat, Christina	<i>All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys' Soccer Team</i>	2020	(nonfiction) A unique account of the amazing Thai cave rescue told in a heart-racing, you-are-there style that blends suspense, science, and cultural insight.
Surrisi, Cynthia	<i>Side of Sabotage</i> , or any middle school book by Cynthia Surrisi	2018	A fancy fine dining establishment has opened in Quinnie Boyd's Maine town, creating new competition for her father's humble café. When things start to go wrong at the café, Quinnie suspects the people behind the new restaurant are to blame
Ying, Victoria	<i>City of Secrets</i>	2020	(graphic novel) Since his father's death, Ever Barnes has secretly been in charge of an amazing mechanical building but now, ruffians are after him and his new friend Hannah, the building owner's spunky daughter.
<p>You can find many titles at the Prince William Public Library (PWPL). The PWPL Digital library "provides free access to thousands of online and digital resources including eBooks, audiobooks, newspapers, and Premium Websites." Options for the digital content include: Read, Listen, Watch, and Learn. If you do not have a PWPL card, you can contact the public library to register for a Digital Library card.</p>			<p><a href="#">Prince William County Library Link</a></p>