

7th and 8th Grade Suggested Literature List



Required Summer Reading novels and accompanying assignments can be found on the link to the Boyd-Moline Library website section.

<http://www.thefirstacademy.org/school-life/boyd-moline-library-/suggested-literature-lists>

Use this list as a launching point for your child's summer reading. Remember that every child who reads or has read to them at least ten books and fills out the summer reading form will receive a Spirit Day pass and a Chick Fil A coupon.

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.” (*I Can Read with My Eyes Shut* by Dr. Seuss)

Peak by Roland Smith. (Electronic versions available: Kindle, epubBooks, PDF) A fourteen-year-old boy attempts to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mount Everest. BL: **5.0** - AR Pts: **9.0**

Little Women (the complete edition) by Lousia May Alcott. (Electronic versions available: Kindle, epubBooks) This story is based on the family life of the author and her sisters and their diverse personalities as they grew up. This complete edition contains both Book 1 “Little Women” and Book 2 “Good Wives.” BL: **7.9** – AR Points **33.0**

Flags of our Fathers: Heroes of Iwo Jima by James Bradley. (Electronic versions available: Kindle, epubBooks) In this novel, adapted for young readers by Michael French, James Bradley examines the lives of the six young soldiers (one of them Bradley's father) who raised the American flag over Iwo Jima in February 1945 and were immortalized by a famous photograph. BL: **8.2** – AR Points **22.0**

Gallagher Girls Series by Ally Carter. (Electronic versions available: iBooks, Kindle, epubBooks, PDF) Most people know the Gallagher Academy for Exceptional Young Women as a school for the elite--manicured lawns, limo-lined driveway, and the best faculty in the country. But they have no idea what really goes on behind the ivy, or what the brochures mean by "exceptional"--that the Gallagher Academy is actually a highly classified school for spies. The Gallagher Girls may be prodigies in espionage, but there are some mysteries even a genius I.Q. and serious combat skills can't help solve--like how to keep your heart undercover. BL: **4.7-6.1** – AR Points **9.0-10.0**

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Eye of the Crow by Shane Peacock. (Electronic versions available: iBooks, Kindle, epubBooks, PDF) In 1867, Sherlock Holmes, an impoverished young outcast with a Jewish father and a highborn mother, visits the scene of a woman's brutal murder, where he meets a wrongly accused young Arab and later becomes a suspect himself. BL: **5.2** – AR Points **9.0**

Mao's Last Dancer by Li Cunxin. (Electronic versions available: iBooks, Kindle, epubBooks, PDF) This story of passion, resilience, and a family's love captures the harsh reality of life in Communist China and the exciting world of professional dance. BL: **5.9** – AR Points **11.0**

Black Beauty by Anna Sewell. (Electronic versions available: iBooks, Kindle) A horse in nineteenth-century England recounts his experiences with both good and bad masters. BL: 7.7 - AR Points: **11.0**

The Secret Garden (Unabridged) by Frances Hodgson Burnett. (Electronic versions: Kindle, iBooks) Mary moves to a huge estate to live with her mysterious uncle, his ailing son, the servants--and a secret garden. BL: **6.3**- AR Points: **13.0**

The Wizard of Oz/The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (Unabridged) by Frank L Baum. (Electronic versions: iBooks, Kindle) Lifted from Kansas to the magical Land of Oz, Dorothy Gale meets a Scarecrow, a Tin Woodman, and a cowardly Lion, all of whom set off to find the Wizard and defeat the Wicked Witch of the West. BL: **7.0** - AR Points: **7.0**

Kira-Kira by Cynthia Kadohata. (Electronic versions available: iBooks, Kindle, epubBooks, PDF) This book chronicles the close friendship between two Japanese American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s and early 1960s and the despair when one sister becomes terminally ill. BL: **4.8** - AR Pts: **7.0**

Heat by Mike Lupica. (Electronic versions available: iBooks, Kindle) Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old, and he has no parents to offer them proof. BL: **5.3** - AR Pts: **9.0**

The Hobbit, or There and Back Again by J.R.R. Tolkien. (Electronic versions available: Kindle, epubBooks, PDF) Bilbo Baggins, a respectable and well-to-do hobbit, lives comfortably in his hobbit-hole until the day the wandering wizard Gandalf choose him to take part in an adventure from which he may never return. BL: **6.6** – AR Points **16.0**