Saint Ann’s Library
2013 Suggested Summer Reading List
for students entering 7th & 8th grades

Fiction, Nonfiction, Graphic, Biography... You name it, we’ve got it!

NEW! You can now check out e-books all summer long! Books available through our digital library are shaded. See instructions on the last page of this list.

Abirached, Zeina. A Game for Swallows: To Die, To Leave, To Return
Love Persepolis? Try this award-winning graphic memoir in which Zeina tells of her struggles growing up in war-torn Beirut in the 1980s. Simple but rich black-and-white drawings make this a great choice for both regular graphic novel readers and those who are just trying out the genre.

Applegate, Katherine. The One and Only Ivan
“I am Ivan. I am a gorilla. It’s not as easy as it looks.” Thus begins this year’s Newbery Medal winner (and Saint Ann’s Mock Newbery finalist), the spare yet richly emotional tale of Ivan and his friends, including an elderly elephant, a stray dog, and the daughter of the janitor at the mall where Ivan lives. In this fictionalized account of a true story, Ivan uses art to try to communicate with humans, who are often too dense to understand his drawings. Both funny and sad, this is a good choice for a quick, easy, and satisfying read.

Ballard, Chris. One Shot at Forever
The ultimate underdog sports tale. It’s 1971 and the Macon Ironmen, a rag-tag baseball team from small-town Illinois, make it all the way to the state finals—with hand-me-down uniforms and a hippie-loving English teacher as a coach. Ballard, a writer for Sports Illustrated, has crafted one heck of a heartwarming—and true—story. This shading means the book is available as an e-book from the Saint Ann’s Digital Library. Look for the shading throughout this list!

Beever, Julian. Pavement Chalk Artist: The Three-Dimensional Drawings of Julian Beever
A man hanging from the minute hand of a clock. A cat escaping from a pothole. A man falling down a flight of subway stairs. For years, Julian Beever has been wowing passersby around the world with his realistic 3D scenes drawn on street corners and public sidewalks. Check out this amazing and fun collection of photos of his chalk art!

Bowers, Rick. Spies of Mississippi: The True Story of the Spy Network that Tried to Destroy the Civil Rights Movement
A spy network where neighbors spied on neighbors, teachers spied on students, ministers spied on church-goers, and spies even spied on spies? That’s what the Mississippi Sovereignty Commission, formed in 1956, became. The goal was to stop integration and crush the civil rights movement in the state. Uses primary-source materials and interviews with surviving activists.

Cashore, Kristen. Graceling
Katsa kills. This is her grace. This is why her uncle, King Randa, keeps her at the castle and sends her out to do his bidding. But at 17, Katsa starts to question her uncle’s orders. When she meets Prince Po, a graced fighter, her life begins to change. She discovers truths about herself, her grace, her kingdom, and her world as she sets out on a path toward justice... and maybe love. If you like Graceling, read Fire and Bitterblue too!
Delisle, Guy. *Jerusalem: Chronicles from the Holy City*
In this new graphic travelogue, Delisle enters the world of Palestinians, Jews, and internationals living in Jerusalem and relays this world to us with characteristic straightforwardness, nuance, reflection and humor. If you like his style, check out *The Burma Chronicles* and *Pyongyang*.

Edwardson, Debby Dahl. *My Name Is Not Easy*
Alaska, 1960s. Luke and his brother are sent south from their Inupiaq (Eskimo) community to a boarding school with Eskimos, Indians, and a handful of white kids. The novel follows the students through several years as they experience racism and learn to come together. Written in a simple and accessible way but with intense and disturbing subject matter, this is one of those books that you’ll read in a day but that will stay with you long after you’ve finished.

Feinstein, John. *Rush for the Gold: Mystery at the Olympics*
Susan Carol Anderson may be only fifteen, but she is ready to swim at the London Olympics... or is she? As America’s new sweetheart, Susan Carol is bombarded with sponsorship offers and media requests. Struggling to deal with her overwhelming demands, Susan Carol begins to discover just how far some people will go for the gold.

Gantos, Jack. *Dead End In Norvelt*
In this semi-autobiographical yet crazily unbelievable novel, a kid named Jack Gantos spends his summer vacation grounded and finds himself forced to write obituaries for the eclectic people in his town. There may be a murder. Clever, surprising, hilarious. Newbery Award 2012.

Gidwitz, Adam. *In A Glass Grimly*
From the author of *A Tale Dark and Grimm* comes the newest fairy tale-inspired novel of two kids, one frog, and many disgusting adventures. Hilarious. Saint Ann’s author!

Haddon, Mark. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*
One night Christopher John Francis Boone finds his neighbor’s poodle dead and impaled on a garden fork. Christopher, who is autistic and can’t quite make sense of other people’s behavior, spends one night in jail and then determines to find the dog’s killer. His school social worker encourages him to write a book about his investigations. This is the book.

Hinds, Gareth. *The Odyssey*
Classic story, new format. Original vivid watercolor drawings bring *The Odyssey* to life, complete with its gods, heroes, and monsters. If you like this, try the graphic *Beowulf* by the same creator!
Hinton, S.E. **The Outsiders**
Since the death of Ponyboy’s parents, his brothers and his gang have been his family. When his best friend kills a member of a rival gang, a violent nightmare begins. This classic was one of the first novels published for young adults, and Hinton was only sixteen when she wrote it! If you like this, check out Hinton’s other books.

Hoose, Phillip. **Moonbird**
B95 is a *rufa* bird. He was first captured and banded in 1995, and since then the *rufa* population has decreased by 80 percent. Human activity has made it harder and harder for migratory birds to rest and eat while they fly. But B95 has survived almost 20 years, and each spring he flies 9,000 miles from Tierra del Fuego to the Canadian Arctic – and then back again! Amazing story, beautiful photographs.

Hopkinson, Deborah. **Titanic: Voices from the Disaster**
Just over 100 years ago, a luxury ship set sail from England to New York, only to collide with an iceberg and sink a few days later. This book weaves together stories of survivors and witnesses, giving minute-to-minute updates and new detail in this suspenseful and heart-wrenching story that we all think we know so well. Great photos and primary source documents!

Kantor, Melissa. **The Darlings In Love**
As freshman year continues, Jane, Natalya, and Victoria from *The Darlings Are Forever* are back, and this time they’re each trying to navigate their relationships with boys. Told from all three girls’ perspectives, *The Darlings in Love* gives a realistic portrayal of different ways teenage girls handle their first loves. If you like this title, try any of Kantor’s other books. Saint Ann’s author!

Kawakami, Kenji. **The Big Bento Box of Unuseless Japanese Inventions**
“Every Chindogu is an almost useless object, but not every almost useless object is a Chindogu.” Thus begins this amazing collection of “unuseless” Japanese inventions. Prepare to be wowed by photos of pant hankies, umbrella tripods, fish face covers, baby mops, and more. Just make sure you don’t actually use any of these items, or they can no longer be called Chindogu!

Key, Watt. **Fourmile**
Foster’s father is dead, his mother is about to lose their farm, and Foster has a bad feeling about Dax, his mother’s new boyfriend. When a mysterious stranger arrives, Foster begins to feel kinship again, but a sense of peace won’t last long at Fourmile. This is the coming-of-age story of a boy, his dog, and his search for home. Warning: some realistic violence.

Lo, Malinda. **Ash**
Lockhart, E. The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks
Frankie returns to her fancy boarding school after a summer of changes, and finds herself dating a gorgeous senior who is part of a long-standing all-boys secret society. Frankie uses her wit (and righteous indignation) to manipulate the club and challenge its (and the school’s) sexist and classist nature. If you like this clever and dynamic story, check out Lockhart’s other books, including the Ruby Oliver series.

Lowry, Lois. Son
The much-anticipated finale to the classic Giver series, Lois Lowry’s Son tells the story of Claire, a young woman determined to find the boy she birthed and was supposed to forget. Skillfully weaving together the characters and plots of The Giver, Gathering Blue, and Messenger, Lowry provides her readers with a satisfying concluding struggle between good and evil. [First three are available digitally; Son is not yet.]

Myers, Walter Dean. Monster
Written in the dual form of journal entries and a movie script, this 2000 Printz Award winner is about a teenager on trial for murder. Author Myers has said that the story is an amalgamation of real experiences of teenagers he has met in prisons.

Nelson, Vaunda Micheaux. No Crystal Stair
When Lewis Michaux was told by a white person that “Negroes don’t read,” he opened the Harlem bookstore that soon became legendary. Muhammad Ali, Malcolm X, and Eldridge Cleaver are just a few of the people you’ll meet in this “documentary novel” that tells the story of a man, a store, a time, a place, and a movement.

Ness, Patrick. A Monster Calls
Winner of the first Saint Ann’s Mock Newbery Award, A Monster Calls is the devastatingly moving story of a boy whose mother has cancer and who is visited by a monster each night. The monster wants Conor’s story and tells him stories of its own that question ideas of truth, good, and evil. This is an introspective and beautifully illustrated tale that you can read on a rainy afternoon...with a box of tissues.

Nielsen, Jennifer A. The False Prince
In a land of lies and wars, one orphan is forced to impersonate the king’s long-lost son, and therefore to become king himself. But the dangerous truth must come out. This remarkable tale will leave you wanting more, and you’re in luck, because it’s the first in a trilogy! Look for The Runaway King and the yet-to-be-revealed third and final book.

O’Brien, Caragh M. Birthmarked
Gaia is a 16-year-old midwife who is forced to turn three babies over to the Enclave each month, essentially stealing them from their mothers so they can lead “better” lives in the city. When Gaia’s parents are arrested, she begins a journey of questioning and ultimately challenging the Enclave’s ideas about creating an exclusive gene pool. If you like Birthmarked, read Prized and Promised.
Piskor, Ed. *Wizzywig*
Kevin “Boingthump” Phenicle may be wiretapping the FBI. He may have accidentally caused the first computer virus. He may not be a real person, but his exploits are based on the stories of real-life hackers. Graphic novel with easy-to-follow black and white drawings.

Preus, Margi. *Shadow on the Mountain*
Espen may only be 14, but he knows that the Nazi invasion of Norway is wrong, and that it’s up to him and others to fight it. Besides, deep down, don’t we all want to be spies, skiing through Scandinavian mountains to deliver secret messages and bring down a tyrannical regime?

Raskin, Ellen. *The Westing Game*
In this 1979 Newbery winner for all ages, Sam Westing chooses sixteen people to compete for his inheritance in his “final game.” Mystery abounds as the characters try to figure out each other’s connections to Westing in this intricate Clue-like plot.

Schlitz, Laura Amy. *Splendors and Glooms*
A girl living in the shadow of her dead brother. Puppets that seem to come alive. Orphans, thieves, witches, and a bit of magic. Creeped out yet? This beautifully written story will keep you on the edge of your seat as it takes you through the dark streets of Victorian England and beyond.

Schmatz, Pat. *Bluefish*
Boy (Travis) with secrets and dealing with loss meets girl (Velveeta) with secrets and dealing with loss. The two become intensely close, though romance is only suggested. Those familiar with *Stargirl* will appreciate Velveeta in this funny and moving novel. A quick but deep read.

Sedaris, David. *Me Talk Pretty One Day*
Scathing, hilarious vignettes of Sedaris’s life written in his characteristic dead-pan style. Wacky family, friends, and acquaintances abound. And if you like it, there’s plenty more Sedaris where that came from!

Sheinkin, Steve. *Bomb: The Race to Build – and Steal – the World’s Most Dangerous Weapon*
Soviet spies. Norwegian resistance against the Nazis. American scientists hidden in the desert. This is the gripping Newbery Honor-winning true story of the atomic bomb.
Smith, Sherri L. Flygirl
All Ida Mae Jones wants to do is fly. Her dad was a pilot, and years after his death she feels closest to him when she’s in the air. But as a young black woman in 1940s Louisiana, she knows the sky is off limits to her. Then America enters World War II, and the army forms the WASP (Women Air force Service Pilots). Ida can realize her dream now...if she can pass as white.

Spelman, Lucy H. & Ted Y. Mashima (editors). The Rhino with Glue-On Shoes
Zoo veterinarians write about their patients. A goldfish who receives cancer treatment, dung beetles with mites, a giraffe with an injured leg, and a homesick eel are just a few examples. Prepare to be charmed.

Tolan, Sandy. The Lemon Tree
A simple lemon tree outside a small stone house in Ramle, Israel (formerly Al-Ramle, Palestine), holds different meaning for Dalia, who lives there now, and Bashir, whose family lived there before 1948. This true account reads like a novel as it chronicles the relationship between an Israeli and a Palestinian family across decades.

Vanderpool, Clare. Navigating Early
What do the number pi, the Great Appalachian Bear, boats, war heroes, rattlesnakes, and pirates have in common? You’ll find them all in Navigating Early, the adventures of Jack Baker and Early Auden at a boarding school in Maine. It’s clever, it’s sad, it’s the newest novel by a Newbery Award winning author. Could she win again?

Wein, Elizabeth. Code Name Verity
“Verity” is a secret agent, captured by the Gestapo and forced to write out a confession. Hoping to gain more time, she describes her involvement in the resistance in great detail. But what is true and what isn’t? Where is her friend Maddie, and what else is happening while she sits in prison? A clever and thrilling read with a shocking end.

Zhang, Kat. What’s Left of Me
Two souls, one body. One soul will disappear, as always happens, and the other will go on as usual. Except Eva is not disappearing, and nobody knows but Addie. Will they try to live as two? Will they be locked up? What will Eva risk to be free? You won’t be able to put down this extraordinary novel. And you don’t have to – there are two more on their way!

Classics

Pride and Prejudice - Jane Austen
Jane Eyre - Charlotte Brontë
The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes - Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
The Three Musketeers - Alexandre Dumas
The Hunchback of Notre Dame - Victor Hugo
Their Eyes Were Watching God - Zora Neale Hurston
Rebecca - Daphne Du Maurier

The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde - Robert Louis Stevenson
The Lord of the Rings series - J.R.R. Tolkien
20,000 Leagues Under the Sea - Jules Verne
The War of the Worlds - H.G. Wells
Do you like futuristic adventure books? Post-apocalyptic science fiction? Revolutionary stick-it-to-‘em hacker novels? Try these!

Aguirre, Anna. *Enclave* (trilogy)
Anderson, M.T. *Feed*
Card, Orson Scott. *Ender’s Game* (series)
Clare, Cassandra. *Clockwork Angel* (trilogy)
Colfer, Eoin. *The Supernaturalist*
Collins, Suzanne. *The Hunger Games* (trilogy)
Condie, Ally. *Matched* (trilogy)
Dashner, James. *The Maze Runner* (trilogy)
Diestefano, Lauren. *Wither* (trilogy)
Doctorow, Cory. *Little Brother* (sequel *Homeland*)
DuPrau, Jeanne. *City of Ember* (series)
Fisher, Catherine. *Incarceron* (sequel *Sapphique*)
Hirsch, Jeff. *The Eleventh Plague*
Huxley, Aldous. *Brave New World*
Lu, Marie. *Legend* (trilogy)
Moore, Alan. *Watchmen* (graphic)
Ness, Patrick. *The Knife of Never Letting Go* (trilogy)
Oliver, Lauren. *Delirium* (trilogy)
Orwell, George. *1984*
Pfeffer, Susan. *Life As We Knew It* (trilogy)
Revis, Beth. *Across The Universe* (trilogy)
Roth, Veronica. *Divergent* (trilogy)
Westerfeld, Scott. *Leviathan* (trilogy)
Zevin, Gabrielle. *All These Things I've Done* (trilogy)

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**Other things to keep in mind:**
- You can check out a book from the digital library using a 3G or WiFi connection, but to actually download it to your device, you **must use WiFi**.
- If you want to use a Nook or other device, log onto the digital library, and then click “Help” for directions.

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Happy Reading!

Love, Hannah, Denise, and Ragan

Current and past booklists can be found online at [http://www.saintannsny.org/depart/library/publib.html](http://www.saintannsny.org/depart/library/publib.html).