Saint Ann's Library
2014 Suggested Summer Reading List
for students entering 7th & 8th grades

Check out e-books all summer long! See instructions on the last page of this list. If a book is available through our digital library, its title is shaded.

Ballard, Chris. **One Shot at Forever**
The ultimate underdog sports tale. It's 1971 and the Macon Ironmen, a ragtag 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.

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!

Clare, Cassandra. **City of Bones**
Fifteen-year-old Clary is out one night when she witnesses three teenagers murder another teen. But the body disappears, and it seems Clary is the only one who can see the murderers. Thus begins *The Mortal Instruments*, an urban fantasy series full of ancient feuds, supernatural creatures, and family secrets.

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.

Federle, Tim. **Better Nate Than Ever**
Nate Foster steals away from small-town Pennsylvania to try out for the Broadway musical ET. His first impressions of New York are hilarious, as are his witty observations about Broadway culture and his overly prepared competitors. Nate is out of his league, but his quirkiness – and photographic memory – just may be enough to land him a spot in the show. Smart, heartwarming, laugh-out-loud funny. Sequel: *Five, Six, Seven, Nate!*
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 overwhelming demands, Susan Carol begins to discover just how far some people will go for the gold. This book stands alone, but if you like it, check out earlier books in Feinstein’s *The Sports Beat* series.

Green, John. *The Fault in Our Stars*
Hazel is a 16-year-old girl with stage IV cancer. She is not excited about her cancer support group... until she meets Augustus. A shared intelligence and quirky humor bring the two teens together in this deeply moving page-turner that is at once sad and hopeful. Fans of the witty banter in John Green’s other books will not be disappointed. Quick, read it before you see the newly released movie!

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.

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: *That Was Then, This Is Now; Rumblefish; Tex;* and more.

Horowitz, Anthony. *Stormbreaker*
Not familiar with Alex Rider yet? What are you waiting for? This is the first volume of the action-packed British teen spy series. If you like it, read the other nine!

Kantor, Melissa. *Maybe One Day*
Zoe and Olivia are best friends whose lives are shattered when they are cut from their ballet troupe. But then something far worse happens – Olivia is diagnosed with cancer. This is a book about testing the bonds of friendship in the face of tragedy. A wonderful tearjerker by our very own Melissa Kantor.

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.
McNeal, Tom. **Far Far Away**
Jeremy Johnson Johnson is just a normal kid in the small town of Never Better. Well, except that the ghost of Jacob Grimm speaks to him – and only to him. Ginger Boultinghouse is a fiery trouble-making girl. Jacob tries to protect Jeremy from Ginger, and from a much more sinister force that may be lurking in their town. A modern semi-realistic twist on a classic (and creepy) fairy tale theme.

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.

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.

Rosoff, Meg. **Picture Me Gone**
Mila and her father (Gil) are planning a trip from London to upstate New York to visit Matthew, Gil’s best friend. When Matthew disappears, Gil and Mila decide to travel to New York anyway, meeting Matthew’s wife and baby and then setting out on Matthew’s trail. Mila is unusually observant, piecing together what others fail to notice. **Picture Me Gone** is a surprising and unique blend of introspection and page-turning action.

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 Jerry Spinelli’s **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. 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**
This is the gripping Newbery Honor-winning true story of the atomic bomb, featuring soviet spies, Norwegian resistance against the Nazis, and American scientists hidden in the desert.
Shepherd, Megan. **The Madman’s Daughter**
A mad scientist. A remote island. Animals that resemble humans. Violence. Romance. And a teenage daughter who has a bit of her father’s madness in her. Inspired by *The Island of Dr. Moreau*. Sequel: *Her Dark Curiosity*.

Sloan, Holly Goldberg. **Counting by 7s**
Willow Chance is a brilliant, charming, and slightly odd 12-year-old who loves the number 7. When tragedy strikes her family, she starts to connect with new people – an amazing cast of quirky characters – as her life and the lives of all around her are irrevocably changed. A beautifully written and surprisingly uplifting novel.

TenNapel, Doug. **Ghostopolis**
In this brightly colored graphic novel, a boy with an incurable disease is whisked away to the land of Ghostopolis. A successful blend of humor and emotions as Garth meets his grandfather’s ghost and tries to escape the evil ruler of the ghost world.

Terrill, Cristin. **All Our Yesterdays**
Em and Finn are in prison, and the easiest way to get out just might be to travel back in time. Four years earlier, Marina is a normal (privileged) teenager, friends with a congressman and in love with his younger brother James. When the stories connect, we find out just how far Em (and James) will go to save the world.

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. Sequel: *Rose Under Fire*.

Woodson, Jacqueline. **Hush**
When Toswiah Green’s father testifies against two police officers who have committed murder, her family must enter the witness protection program. As Toswiah (now known as “Evie”) struggles with her own identity, her formerly close-knit family begins to unravel. A powerful story about a girl fighting to be strong enough to survive her circumstances.

**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
Looking for a good biography or memoir? Look no further!

Beals, Melba Pattillo. **Warriors Don’t Cry: A Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock’s Central High**

In 1957, nine black students enrolled in Little Rock’s Central High School, becoming the first to integrate the previously all-white school. The challenges they faced were enormous, from social pressure to physical attacks and death threats. This is a memoir of that year, written by one of the Little Rock Nine. Also check out the fictional **Lions of Little Rock**, which takes place the following year when the governor closed high schools to prevent further integration.

Douglas, Gabrielle. **Grace, Gold & Glory: My Leap of Faith**

Personal and inspiring autobiography of Olympic gold medal gymnast Gabrielle Douglas. We haven’t been able to keep the book on the shelf since we got it!

Earl, Esther. **This Star Won’t Go Out: The Life and Words of Esther Grace Earl**

Meet Esther, the teenager who inspired John Green’s **The Fault in Our Stars**. Esther was diagnosed with thyroid cancer at age 12 and died in 2010 at age 16, but not before creating hundreds of journal entries, letters, drawings and more, and inspiring an online community of thousands. This collection of Esther’s writings and drawings is the moving and uplifting memoir of a remarkable girl.

Lazenby, Roland. **Michael Jordan: The Life**

Basketball fans, take note. Of all the books written about Jordan, this brand new one is already being called “the definitive biography.” Featuring first-time interviews with Jordan’s coaches, friends, teammates, and the man himself, this book is not to be missed.

Lewis, John. **March**

The first in a graphic trilogy about both John Lewis’s journey from civil rights activist to Congressman, and the civil rights movement at large. A masterfully written and illustrated memoir. A must read.

Yousafzai, Malala. **I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and was Shot by the Taliban**

Malala Yousafzai spoke out for girls’ education, even as those opposed to it were gaining power in parts of Pakistan. At the age of 15, she was shot in the head, and was not expected to survive. Not only did she live, she went on to become the youngest Nobel Peace Prize nominee ever, and an advocate for girls’ rights and education globally. In this memoir, she tells her own story and contextualizes it in the politics and history of the region.
Do you like futuristic adventure books? Post-apocalyptic science fiction? Revolutionary stick-it-to-‘em hacker novels? Try these!

Cline, Ernest. *Ready Player One*
The year is 2044. The economy has collapsed, the environment has gone to hell, the world is not a place you want to be. Sound familiar? It’s not. Enter the OASIS, the online virtual reality in *Ready Player One*, where a billionaire has hidden clues to his inheritance. Teenager Wade and other “gunters” dedicate their lives to finding the fortune before corporations take over the OASIS. This debut novel is brilliantly imaginative, highly original, and loads of fun.

Dashner, James. *The Eye of Minds*
From the author of the *Maze Runner* comes a new series where hackers rule and the lines between virtual reality and the world as we know it blur – maybe irreversibly.

Healey, Karen. *When We Wake*
The year is 2027, and Tegan is a normal teenager in Australia...until she dies and wakes up 100 year later, locked in a government facility amid an international debate about cryopreservation. Some things are better in the future – acceptance of multiple sexualities, for example – but other aspects of life are markedly worse – like xenophobia and environmental collapse. When Tegan uncovers government secrets, she has to decide what to do. Sequel: *While We Run*.

Lo, Malinda. *Adaptation*
Reese and David are returning from a high school debate competition when all flights are canceled due to flocks of birds. They get in a car accident and are unconscious for a month, and when they awake, strange things begin to happen. This book is full of unexplained occurrences, shocking secrets, a bit of teen romance (when Reese meets the intriguing Amber), and a cliffhanger ending. Sequel: Inheritance. Companion ebook: Natural Selection. Other books by Lo: Ash and Huntress.

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. Sequels: *Prized* and *Promised*.

Or these...

Anderson, M.T. *Feed*
Card, Orson Scott. *Ender’s Game* (series)
Colfer, Eoin. *The Supernaturalist*
Condie, Ally. *Matched* (trilogy)
DeStefano, Lauren. *Wither* (trilogy)
Doctorow, Cory. *Little Brother* (sequel: *Homeland*)
DuPrau, Jeanne. *City of Ember* (series)
Fisher, Catherine. *Incarceron* (sequel: *Sapphique*)
Fishman, Seth. *The Well’s End*

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)
Roth, Veronica. *Divergent* (trilogy)
Westerfeld, Scott. *Leviathan* (trilogy)
Need a break?

Beever, Julian. *Pavement Chalk Artist: The Three-Dimensional Drawings of Julian Beever*
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 these amazingly fun photos of his chalk
art, including a man falling down a flight of subway stairs, a cat escaping from a pothole, and much
more!

Holland, Jennifer. *Unlikely Friendships: 47 Remarkable Stories from the Animal Kingdom*
A cockatoo curled up with a cat. A dachshund nursing a piglet. A goat perched atop a hippo. This
charming book is full of touching stories, but it’s worth checking out for its photographs alone. A
guaranteed crowd-pleaser. If this is your cup of tea, try *Unlikely Loves*.

Kawakami, Kenji. *The Big Bento Box of Useless Japanese Inventions*
“Every Chindogu is an almost useless object, but not every almost useless object is a Chindogu.”
Thus begins this quirky collection of “useless” 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!

The Onion. *Our Dumb Century*
This arrangement of fake front pages from *The Onion* – one for each year of the 1900s – is laugh-
Really Weird Dream Last Night.’” 1990: “Bush Not Liar, Bush Says.” Need we go on?

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in (what you type when you arrive at school in the morning) with an “$” in front. For example, if your name is Eleanor
Roosevelt and your log-in is ROOS011, your library card number is SROOS011. Your PIN is your first and last initial,
lower case, followed by the last two digits of your library card number. So, Eleanor, your pin is er11. Now, go read some
books!

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device, you must use WiFi.
• You can read a book in your browser by choosing the Overdrive Read option during the checkout process.
• For more information, click “help” when you access the digital library.

Happy Reading!
Love, Hannah, Denise, and Ragan

Our booklists can be found at [http://saintannsny.org/divisions-and-offices/library/high-school-library/reading-list](http://saintannsny.org/divisions-and-offices/library/high-school-library/reading-list)