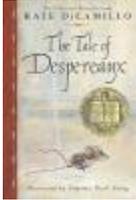


# SUMMER READING SUGGESTIONS

Students Entering Grade 6-8

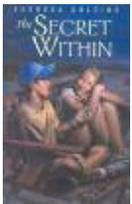
## Middle School Recommendations by Grade Level

### Sixth Grade



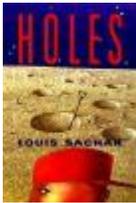
**Di Camillo: *The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess, Some Soup and a Spool of Thread*** c2003 *fantasy*

The adventures of Despereaux Tilling, a small mouse of unusual talents, the princess that he loves, the servant girl who longs to be a princess and a devious rat determined to bring them all to ruin.



**Golding: *The Secret Within*** c2002 *realistic fiction*

Carly Chambers spends her summer days delivering mysterious packages for her harsh father but when she sneaks out at night to find some freedom, she faces danger from all sides.



**Sachar: *Holes*** c1998 *realistic fiction*

Stanley is falsely accused of a crime and ends up in a juvenile detention center where he is forced to dig holes everyday. It is supposed to build his character, but he suspects there are ulterior motives.



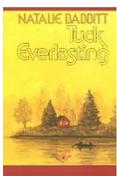
**Spinelli: *Stargirl*** c2000 *realistic fiction*

In this story about the perils of popularity, the courage of nonconformity and the thrill of first love, an eccentric student named Stargirl changes Mica High School forever.



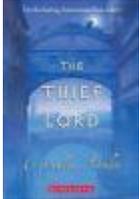
**Smith: *Peak*** c2007 *realistic fiction, adventure*

A fourteen-year-old boy attempts to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mount Everest.



**Tuck Everlasting** Doomed to - or blessed with - eternal life after drinking from a magic spring, the Tuck family wanders about trying to live as inconspicuously and comfortably as they can. When ten-year-old Winnie Foster stumbles on their secret, the Tucks take her home and explain why living forever at one age is less a blessing that it might seem.

## Before Entering 7th Grade



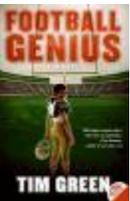
**Funke: *The Thief Lord*** c2001 *suspense*

Two brothers, having run away from the aunt who plans to adopt the younger one, are sought by a detective hired by their aunt, but they have found shelter with -- and the protection of -- Venice's "Thief Lord."



**Goodman: *Other Side of the Island*** c2008 *science fiction*

Born in the eighth year of Enclosure, ten-year-old Honor lives in a highly regulated colony with her defiant parents, but when they have an illegal second child and are taken away, it is up to Honor and her friend Helix, another "Unpredictable," to uncover a terrible secret about their Island and the Corporation that runs everything.



**Green: *Football Genius*** c2007 *realistic fiction*

Troy, a sixth-grader with an unusual gift for predicting football plays before they occur, attempts to use his ability to help his favorite team, the Atlanta Falcons, but he must first prove himself to the coach and players.



**Haddix: *Double Identity*** c2005 *science fiction, suspense*

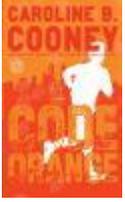
Thirteen-year-old Bethany's parents have always been overprotective, but when they suddenly drop out of sight with no explanation, leaving her with an aunt she never knew existed, Bethany uncovers shocking secrets that make her question everything she thought she knew about herself and her family



**Teigemeier: *Smile*** c2010 *nonfiction, graphic format*

An autobiography in graphic novel format describes how the author lost two of her front teeth in an accident when she was twelve, and her subsequent struggles with various corrective dental techniques throughout adolescence.

## Before Entering Eighth Grade



**Cooney:** *Code Orange* c2005 *realistic fiction, suspense*

While conducting research for a school paper on smallpox, Mitty finds an envelope containing 100-year-old smallpox scabs and fears that he has infected himself and all of New York.



**Paolini:** *Eragon* c2003 *fantasy* [series: Inheritance Cycle]

In Alagaesia, a fifteen-year-old boy of unknown lineage called Eragon finds a mysterious stone that weaves his life into an intricate tapestry of destiny, magic and power, peopled with dragons, elves and monsters.



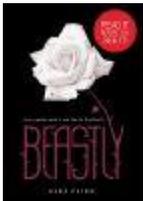
**Lupica:** *Million Dollar Throw* c2009 *realistic fiction*

Eighth-grade star quarterback Nate Brodie's family is feeling the stress of the troubled economy, and Nate is frantic because his best friend Abby is going blind, so when he gets a chance to win a million dollars if he can complete a pass during the halftime of a New England Patriot's game, he is nearly overwhelmed by the pressure to succeed.



**White:** *Surviving Antarctica: Reality TV 2083* c2005 *science fiction, adventure*

In the year 2083, five fourteen-year-olds who were deprived by chance of the opportunity to continue their educations reenact Scott's 1910-1913 expedition to the South Pole as contestants on a reality television show, secretly aided by a Department of Entertainment employee.



**Flinn:** *Beastly* c2007 *fantasy*

A modern retelling of "Beauty and the Beast" from the point of view of the Beast, a vain Manhattan private school student who is turned into a monster and must find true love before he can return.



**Herlong:** *The Great Wide Sea* c2008 *adventure*

Still mourning the death of their mother, three brothers go with their father on an extended sailing trip off the Florida Keys and have a harrowing adventure at sea.

## Reading Suggestions from Alberta Curriculum

### Grade 6

- The Breadwinner – Deborah Ellis
- Anne of Green Gables – L.M. Montgomery
- Ella Enchanted – Gail Carlson Levine
- Everything on a Waffle – Polly Horvath
- The Phantom Tollbooth – Norton Juster
- Maniac Magee – Jerry Spinelli
- The Root Cellar – Janet Lunn
- Silverwing – Kenneth Oppel
- Tuck Everlasting – Natalie Babbitt
- The White Mountains – John Christopher

### Grade 7

- Alien Secrets – Annette Curtis Klause
- The Hobbit – J.R.R. Tolkien
- Peacekeepers – Dianne Linden
- Skellig – David Almond
- Who is Frances Rain – Margaret Buffie
- Willia's New World – Barbara Demers
- The Wreckers – Iain Lawrence

### Grade 8

- Artemis Fowl – Eoin Colfer
- The Dark is Rising – Susan Cooper
- Dragonwings – Laurence Yep
- The Giver – Lois Lowry
- Invitation to the Game – Monica Hughes
- Journey to the River Sea – Eva Ibbotson
- Redwork – Michael Bedard
- The Seeing Stone – Kevin Crossley-Holland
- The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle – Avi