

June, 2017

Dear Students and Parents of John Jay Middle School,

At JJMS we place a high value on independent reading. Students are expected to read regularly as part of their homework. We hope that you will find many reading opportunities this summer. While there is no reading requirement over the summer, we are happy to provide appropriate and popular titles to assist you in making selections. Our list, for incoming 6th, 7th and 8th graders, is meant as a guide to help you find books and build your stamina.

Our JJMS Summer Reading Guide is organized by genre, and many of the titles on this list are available in the John Jay Middle School eBook Library. Incoming 7th and 8th grade students can easily access these eBooks by going to the Middle School website, clicking on the Library Information Center, and then clicking on JJMS eBook Library. When prompted to fill in a library number, students should enter their first initial and last name. Of course, most, if not all, of these titles are available at the public libraries as well.

Parents, we understand that the emotional maturity and reading ability of middle school students varies tremendously. We recognize that you are the best judges in guiding your child's selections. We hope that you will find our Summer Reading Guide helpful.

Happy Reading!

The English Department
The Library Media Specialist

LIST OF GENRE

Sixth Grade Historical Fiction
Seventh Grade Historical Fiction
Eighth Grade Historical Fiction
Realistic Fiction

Sports
Mystery
Nonfiction
Top Ten

Classics
Science Fiction
Fantasy
Adventure

Sixth Grade Historical Fiction

Crispin: The Cross of Lead

Avi

Falsely accused of theft and murder, an orphan peasant-boy in eighteenth century England flees his village and meets a larger-than-life juggler who holds a dangerous secret. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.* Winner of the 2003 Newbery Award.

Heart of a Samurai : Based on the True Story of Nakahama

Manjiro

Margi Preus

In 1841, rescued by an American whaler after a terrible shipwreck leaves him and his four companions castaways on a remote island, fourteen-year-old Manjiro, who dreams of becoming a samurai, learns new laws and customs as he becomes the first Japanese person to set foot in the United States.

The Shakespeare Stealer

Gary Blackwood

A young orphan boy is ordered by his master to infiltrate Shakespeare's acting troupe in order to steal the script of "Hamlet," but he discovers instead the meaning of friendship and loyalty.

Where the Mountain Meets the Moon

Grace Lin

Minli, an adventurous girl from a poor village, buys a magical goldfish, and the joins a dragon who cannot fly on a quest to find the Old Man of the Moon in hopes of bringing life to Fruitless Mountain and freshness to Jade River. A 2012 Newbery Honor book. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

Sphinx's Princess

Esther M. Friesner

Although she is a dutiful daughter, Nefertiti's dancing abilities, remarkable beauty, and intelligence garner attention near and far, so much so that her family

is summoned to the Egyptian royal court, where Nefertiti becomes a pawn in the power play of her scheming aunt, Queen Tiye. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

Seventh Grade Historical Fiction

[Fever 1793](#)

Laurie Halse Anderson

In 1793 Philadelphia, sixteen-year-old Matilda Cook, separated from her sick mother, learns about perseverance and self-reliance when she is forced to cope with the horrors of a yellow fever epidemic.

[Chains](#)

Laurie Halse Anderson

After being sold to a cruel couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War.

[Sacajawea](#)

Joseph Bruchac

Sacajawea, a Shoshoni Indian interpreter, peacemaker, and guide, and William Clark alternate in describing their experiences on the Lewis and Clark Expedition to the Northwest. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[A Break with Charity](#)

Ann Rinaldi

While waiting for a church meeting in 1706, Susanna English, daughter of a wealthy Salem merchant, recalls the malice, fear, and accusations of witchcraft that tore her village apart in 1692. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[March toward Thunder](#)

Joseph Bruchac Louis Nollette, a fifteen-year-old Abenaki Indian, joins the Irish Brigade in 1864 to fight for the Union in the Civil War.

Eighth Grade Historical Fiction

[Fallen Angels](#)

Walter Dean Myers

This is the riveting account of Richie Perry, a black teenager, on tour of duty in Vietnam in 1967. He and his buddies enlist for different reasons, but share one dream, getting home alive.

[Ringside 1925: Views from the Scopes Trial: A Novel](#)

Jennifer Bryant

The year is 1925, and the students of Dayton, Tennessee, are ready for a summer of fishing, swimming, some working, and drinking root beer floats at Robinson's Drugstore. But when their science teacher, J. T. Scopes, is arrested for having taught Darwin's theory of evolution in class, it seems it won't be just any ordinary summer in Dayton. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[The Book Thief](#)

Marcus Zusak

Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel, a young German girl, whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[The Chosen](#)

Chaim Potok

In 1940s Brooklyn an accident throws Reuven Malter and Danny Saunders together. Despite their differences (Reuven is a Modern Orthodox Jew with an intellectual, Zionist father; Danny is the brilliant son and rightful heir to a Hasidic rebbe), the young men form a deep friendship. Together they negotiate adolescence, family conflicts, the crisis of faith engendered when Holocaust stories begin to emerge in the U.S., loss, love, and the journey to adulthood.

[Sunrise over Fallujah](#)

Walter Dean Myers

Narrated by Robin, nephew of Richie Perry, the main character of Fallen Angels, this companion expertly evokes the beauty of Iraq and the ugliness of war.

Adventure

Great Wide Sea

M. H. Herlong

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.

Available in the JJMS eBook Library.

Theodore Boone, Kid Lawyer

John Grisham

In the small city of Strattenburg there are many lawyers, and thirteen-year-old Theo Boone thinks he is one of them. His inside knowledge of the justice system means trouble when a cold-blooded killer is about to go free and only Theo can stop him. There are 4 in the series, thus far. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

Chasing the Falconers: On the Run Series, Book 1

Gordon Korman

Aiden and Meg Falconer must escape from a juvenile detention center in order to prove their parents are innocent of charges which would put them in jail for life. There are 6 in the series.

Ruins of Gorlan: The Ranger's Apprentice Series, Book 1

John Flanagan

When fifteen-year-old Will is rejected by battle school, he becomes the reluctant apprentice to the mysterious Ranger Halt, and winds up protecting the kingdom from danger. 11 exciting books in all.

[The Outcasts: Brotherband Chronicles, Book 1](#)

John Flanagan

This exciting series is related to, but not dependent on *The Ranger's Apprentice*. Hal, Stig, and the other outcasts do not have the size and strength of the older, tough Skandians. When they face off against the Wolves and the Sharks in an ultimate race for survival, they hope that their courage and cunning are enough to help them win in a game that everyone seems to think is a matter of life and death.

[Storm Runners](#)

Roland Smith

Twelve-year-old Chase Masters travels the country with his father, a "storm runner." He is tested in ways he never could have imagined when he and a new friend are caught in a hurricane near St. Petersburg, Florida.

[Navigating Early](#)

Clare Vanderpool

The adventure of two boys who end up on a life-changing trip on the Appalachian Trail, where they deal with pirates, buried secrets, and extraordinary encounters. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[Bearwalker](#)

Joseph Bruchac

Although he is the littlest student in his class, thirteen-year-old Baron Braun calls upon the strength and wisdom of his Mohawk ancestors to face both man and

beast when he tries to get help for his classmates, who are being terrorized during a school field trip in the Adirondacks. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[Moon over Manifest](#)

Clare Vanderpool

Twelve-year-old Abilene Tucker is the daughter of a drifter who, in the summer of 1936, sends her to stay with an old friend in Manifest, Kansas, where he grew up, and where she hopes to find out some things about his past. Winner of the 2011 Newbery Award. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[Peak](#)

Roland Smith

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

Sports

[Heat](#)

Mike Lupica

Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball. Rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old and he has no parents to offer them proof.

[The Girl Who Threw Butterflies](#)

Mick Cochrane

Eighth-grader Molly's ability to throw a knuckleball earns her a spot on the baseball team, which not only helps her feel connected to her recently deceased father, who loved baseball, it helps in other aspects of her life, as well.

[The Rivalry: Mystery at the Army-Navy Game](#)

John Feinstein

Teen sportswriters Stevie Thomas and Susan Carol Anderson are assigned to cover the football game between long-time rivalries Army and Navy, and, after noticing the actions of secret service agents, they begin to suspect that the president, who is going to attend the event, is in danger.

Dairy Queen

Catherine Murdock

After spending her summer running the family farm and training the quarterback for her school's rival football team, sixteen-year-old D.J. decides to go out for the sport herself, not anticipating the reactions of those around her. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

The Running Dream

Wendelin Van Draanen

When a school bus accident leaves sixteen-year-old Jessica an amputee, she returns to school with a prosthetic limb and her track team finds a wonderful way to help rekindle her dream of running again. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

The Off Season

Catherine Murdock

High school junior D. J. Schwenk staggers under the weight of caring for her badly injured brother, her responsibilities on the dairy farm, a changing relationship with her friend Brian, and her own athletic aspirations.

Cover-Up

John Feinstein

Two teenagers learn that every player on a professional football team--which is supposed to play in the Super Bowl--has failed their drug test and the owner has covered up the results, and now they must find a way to prove it. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

The Crossover

Kwame Alexander

Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health. The 2015 Newbery Award winner. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[Shots on Goal](#)

Rich Wallace

While pursuing his goal of helping his soccer team win the league championship, fifteen-year-old Bones tries to deal with his resentment of his best friend, on whose girlfriend he has a crush. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[Keeping Score](#)

Linda Sue Park

During the 1950s, a young Maggie struggles to will her beloved Brooklyn Dodgers to a victory in the World Series and wishes that her friend Jim, a soldier in Korea, would answer her letters. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

Mystery

[When You Reach Me](#)

Rebecca Stead

As her mother prepares to be a contestant on the 1980s television game show, "The \$20,000 Pyramid," a twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seems to defy the laws of time and space. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[The Danger Box](#)

Blue Balliett

In small-town Michigan, twelve-year-old Zoomy and his new friend Lorrol investigate the journal found inside a mysterious box. They find family secrets and a more valuable treasure, while a dangerous stranger watches and waits.

Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children

Ransom Riggs

Sixteen-year-old Jacob, having traveled to a remote island after a family tragedy, discovers an abandoned orphanage, and, after some investigating, he learns the children who lived there may have been dangerous and quarantined, and they may also still be alive. There is a sequel *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

The Old Willis Place: A Ghost Story

Mary Downing Hahn

Tired of the rules that have bound them ever since "the bad thing happened," twelve-year-old Diana ignores her brother's warnings and befriends the daughter of the new caretaker. She sets in motion events that lead to the release of the spirit of an evil, crazy woman who once ruled the old Willis place. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

The London Eye Mystery

Siobhan Dowd

When Ted and Kat's cousin Salim disappears from the London Eye Ferris wheel, the two siblings must work together. Ted, with his brain that is "wired differently," and impatient Kat try to solve the mystery of what happened to Salim. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

Shadow Horse

Alison Hart

Thirteen-year-old Jas tries to prove that the owner of the farm where she works has killed her favorite horse, Whirlwind. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

Three Times Lucky
Sheila Turnage

Rising sixth grader Miss Moses LoBeau lives in the small town of Tupelo Landing, NC, where everyone's business is fair game and no secret is sacred. She washed ashore in a hurricane eleven years ago, and she's been making waves ever since.

Closed for the Season: A Mystery Story
Mary Downing Hahn

When thirteen-year-old Logan and his family move into a run-down old house in rural Virginia, he discovers that a woman was murdered there. He becomes involved with his neighbor, Arthur, in a dangerous investigation to try to uncover the killer. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

Vanishing Act: Mystery at the U.S. Open
John Feinstein

Eighth-grade sports reporters Susan, Carol, and Stevie reunite at the U.S. Open tennis championships where they investigate the mysterious disappearance of a top Russian player. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

Murder on the Orient Express
Agatha Christie

A Russian princess, a Hungarian count, a Swedish beauty, and an assortment of Americans, English, and French are brought together on the elegant Orient Express. A brutal murder and an unexpected blizzard bring in the vacationing Hercule Poirot. The results are excellent. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[The Mighty Miss Malone](#)

Christopher Paul Curtis

Deza Malone, the smartest girl in her class in Gary, Indiana, accompanies her mother and older brother on a trip to find her father, an African American man who left to find work after the Great Depression hit. They end up in a Hooverville outside of Flint, Michigan, and her brother attempts to be a performer while Deza and her mother search for a home. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[Seaglass Summer](#)

Anjali Banerjee

Eleven-year-old Poppy Ray longs to be a veterinarian, but she's never had a pet. This summer, she's going to spend a month with her uncle Sanjay, veterinarian and owner of the Furry Friends Animal Clinic on an island off the Washington coast. She loves tending to the dogs, cats, and even a bird but she's not prepared for quirky pet owners, gross stuff, or scary emergencies. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[Mockingbird](#)

Kathryn Erskine

Ten-year-old Caitlin, who has Asperger's Syndrome, struggles to understand emotions, show empathy, and make friends at school. While at home she seeks closure by working on a project with her father.

[The Thing about Luck](#)

Cynthia Kadohata

Just when twelve-year-old Summer thinks nothing else can possibly go wrong in a year of bad luck, an emergency takes her parents to Japan, leaving Summer to care for her little brother. She also has to help her grandmother cook, do laundry for harvest workers, and more surprising tasks.

[Dead End in Norvelt](#)

Jack Gantos

In the historic town of Norvelt, Pennsylvania, twelve-year-old Jack Gantos spends the summer of 1962 grounded for various offenses. He is assigned to help an elderly neighbor with a most unusual chore involving the newly dead, molten wax, twisted promises, Girl Scout cookies, underage driving, lessons from history, typewriting, and countless bloody noses.

[The Geography of You and Me](#)

Jennifer Smith

A friendship (or is it a romance?) develops when sixteen-year-old Lucy Patterson and seventeen-year-old Owen Buckley meet on an elevator rendered useless by a New York City blackout. Soon after, the two teenagers leave the city, but as they travel farther away from each other geographically, they stay connected emotionally, in this story set over the course of one year. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[Okay for Now](#)

Gary D. Schmidt

Fourteen-year-old Doug Swieteck faces many challenges, including a brother traumatized by Vietnam, suspicious teachers and police officers, and isolation, but when he meets a girl known as Lil Spicer, he develops a close relationship with her and finds a safe place at the local library.

[Every Soul a Star](#)

Wendy Mass

Ally, Bree, and Jack meet at Moon Shadow, an isolated campground, to watch a total eclipse of the sun; but soon they begin to learn a great deal about themselves, each other, and the universe. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[Liar and Spy](#)

Rebecca Stead

Seventh-grader Georges adjusts to moving from a house to an apartment, his father's effort to start a new business, his mother's extra shifts as a nurse, being picked on at school, and Safer, a boy who wants his help spying on another resident of their building. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[How to Survive Middle School](#)

Donna Gephart

When eleven-year-old David Greenberg's best friend makes the start of middle school even worse than he feared it could be, David becomes friends with Penny, who shares his love of television shows and posts one of their skits on YouTube, making them wildly popular--online, at least. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library*

Top Ten Books

Recommended by John Jay Students

during the 2016-2017 School Year

[Divergent, Book 1](#)

Veronica Roth

In a future Chicago, sixteen-year-old Beatrice Prior must choose among five predetermined factions to define her identity for the rest of her life, a decision made more difficult when she discovers that she is an anomaly who does not fit into any one group, and that the society she lives in is not perfect after all.

Available in the JJMS eBook Library

[Hatchet](#)

Gary Paulsen

After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the Canadian wilderness, learning to survive initially with only the aid of a hatchet given him by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents' divorce.

[The Hunger Games](#)

Suzanne Collins

Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen accidentally becomes a contender in the annual Hunger Games, a grave competition hosted by the Capitol where young boys and girls are pitted against one another in a televised fight to the death.

[The Maze Runner](#)

James Dashner

Sixteen-year-old Thomas wakes up with no memory in the middle of a maze and realizes he must work with the community in which he finds himself if he is to escape. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library*

[Out of My Mind](#)

Sharon Draper

Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.

[The Recruit, Book 1](#)

Robert Muchamore

James becomes a part of the highly secretive organization, CHERUB, a group of teens whose mission is to spy on terrorists and international drug dealers, hack into computers, and download crucial information for the government. This is the first book in the Cherub Series. Other books in the series are student favorites.

[The Fault in Our Stars](#)

John Green

Sixteen-year-old Hazel, a stage IV thyroid cancer patient, has accepted her terminal diagnosis until a chance meeting with a boy at cancer support group forces her to reexamine her perspective on love, loss, and life.

Available in the JJMS eBook Library

[The Face on the Milk Carton](#)

Caroline B. Cooney

A photograph of a missing girl on a milk carton leads Janie on a search for her real identity. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library*

[Wonder](#)

R.J. Palacio

Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, which entails enduring the taunting and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student.

[The Wave](#)

Todd Strasser

Presents a fictionalization of a real experiment at a California high school in which a history teacher started a fascist youth movement in an effort to show his students that the Holocaust could indeed happen again.

Classics

[The Pearl](#)

[John Steinbeck](#)

The tragic tale of how a priceless pearl brings heartache to a poor Mexican pearl diver and his family. It is an epic story about how the urge for material things can come into conflict with personal values.

[Emma](#)

[Jane Austen](#)

Jane Austen's talent for portraying 19th century British gentry is highlighted in this wonderful story of Emma. This wealthy English heroine thinks she knows what is best for everyone and sets out to manipulate events to her liking.

[The Legend of Sleepy Hollow](#)

[Washington Irving](#)

Washington Irving set this tale in a small town in the Hudson Valley, called Sleepy Hollow. The townsfolk believe in a legend of a headless horseman who rides through the woods at night and attacks people. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[Where the Red Fern Grows](#)

[Wilson Rawls](#)

Billy and his precious coonhound pups romp relentlessly through the Ozarks, trying to "tree" the elusive raccoon. In time, the inseparable trio wins the coveted gold cup in the annual coon-hunt contest, captures the wily ghost coon, and bravely fights with a mountain lion. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[The Fellowship of the Ring: Being the First Part of The Lord of the Rings](#)

J.R.R. Tolkien

In a sleepy village in the Shire, young Frodo Baggins finds himself faced with an immense task, as his elderly cousin Bilbo entrusts the "One Ring" to his care. Frodo must leave his home and make a perilous journey across Middle-earth to the Cracks of Doom, to destroy the Ring.

[Jane Eyre](#)

Charlotte Bronte

A gothic romance and a story of a woman who struggles for self-definition and determination in a society that too often denies her that right. There's drama; fires, storms, attempted murder, and a mad wife conveniently stashed away in the attic. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[The Call of the Wild](#)

Jack London

This is an adventure of a dog that is part St. Bernard, part Scotch Shepherd. He is forcibly taken to the Klondike gold fields where he becomes leader of a wolf pack. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[Robinson Crusoe](#)

Daniel Defoe

An Englishman spends four years shipwrecked on an island in the early 18th century.

[Anne of Green Gables](#)

L. M. Montgomery

Marilla Cuthbert and her brother Matthew want to adopt an orphan to help on the farm at Green Gables. They ask for a boy, but they get Anne, who has red hair and freckles, a big heart and who talks and talks and talks. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[A Separate Peace](#)

John Knowles

Gene and Finny are roommates at a New England prep school at the beginning of World War II. Gene betrays his roommate in a moment of anger, and the repercussions of his act bring Gene face to face with his inner nature. His conflict is a symbolic parallel to men at war.

Science Fiction

[Dangerous](#)

Shannon Hale

When aspiring astronaut Maisie Danger Brown, who was born without a right hand, and the other space camp students get the opportunity to do something amazing in space, Maisie must prove how dangerous she can be and how far she is willing to go to protect everything she has ever loved. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[The Reluctant Assassin: Book one of the W.A.R.P. series](#)

Eoin Colfer

First in the WARP series. Riley, a teen orphan boy living in Victorian London, has had the misfortune of being apprenticed to Albert Garrick, an illusionist who has fallen on difficult times and now uses his unique conjuring skills to gain access to victims' dwellings. The intended victim turns out to be a scientist from the future, part of the FBI's Witness Anonymous Relocation Program (WARP), and Riley is unwittingly transported via wormhole to modern day London.

[The Finisher](#)

David Baldacci

Vega Jane was always told no one could leave the town of Wormwood. She was told there was nothing outside but a forest filled with danger and death. And she always believed it -- until the night she saw Quentin Herms run away. *

[SYLO](#)

D. J. MacHale

Pemberwick Island, Maine is occupied by a Navy section called SYLO. They claim a virus has been unleashed, but Tucker Pierce, who has seen strange aircraft and experienced the power of the Ruby, realizes something else is going on.

[Legend](#)

Marie Lu

In a dark future, when North America has split into two warring nations, fifteen-year-olds Day, a famous criminal, and June, the brilliant soldier hired to capture him, discover that they have a common enemy. **A Westchester Library System "Battle of the Books" title.**

[Mila 2.0](#)

Debra Driza

Sixteen-year-old Mila discovers she is not who or what she thought she was, which causes her to run from both the CIA and a rogue intelligence group. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[Avalon](#)

Mindee Arnett

Jeth Seagrave is the leader of a ragtag team of teenage mercenaries who skirt the line between honor and the law in an attempt to win freedom for his sister and himself in the form of their parents' old spaceship, Avalon. Book 1 of the *Avalon* series. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[Crewel](#)

Gennifer Albin

Gifted with the unusual ability to embroider the very fabric of life, sixteen-year-old Adeline is summoned by Manipulation Services to become a Spinster, a move that will separate her from her beloved family and home forever.

[The Last Dog on Earth](#)

Daniel Ehrenhaft

When a mysterious disease that infects dogs sweeps the country, Logan Moore's dog, Jack is in terrible danger and the two friends go on the lam to keep Jack from being shot on sight. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[The Revenge of Seven](#)

Pitticus Lore

The worst was supposed to be over. They were reunited after a decade apart. They were discovering the truth about their past. They were training and getting stronger every day. They were even happy. They never imagined the Mogadorians could turn one of their own against them. The Lorien Legacy continues in Book 5.

Non-Fiction

[Animals that Changed the World](#)

Keltie Thomas

Describes how more than twenty animal species have changed the course of history, and discusses the uses of sheep, cats, guinea pigs, pigeons, and more.

[How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous](#)

Georgia Bragg

This nonfiction book shares the sometimes gruesome details of the deaths of nineteen famous historical figures, including King Tut, Pocahontas, George Washington, Edgar Allan Poe, and Marie Curie

[Saving the Ghost of the Mountain: An Expedition among Snow Leopards in](#)

[Mongolia](#)

Sy Montgomery

Provides an account of an expedition mounted by the Snow Leopard Trust to the mountains of Mongolia in an effort to learn more about the elusive snow leopard and find ways to keep it from extinction.

[Bomb: The Race to Steal and Build the World's Most Dangerous Weapon](#)

Steve Sheinken

Examines the history of the atomic bomb, discussing the discovery of the behavior of uranium when placed next to radioactive material, the race to build a bomb, and the impact of the weapon on societies around the world.

[Brown Girl Dreaming](#)

Jacqueline Woodson

Author Woodson shares her childhood memories and reveals the first sparks that ignited her writing career in free-verse poems about growing up in the North and South. A National Book Award Winner and Newbery Honor book for 2015.

[The Impossible Rescue](#)

Martin Sandler

The true story of three men sent by President McKinley in 1897 to drive two herds of reindeer across parts of Alaska to feed stranded whalers whose ships were trapped in ice. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[The Notorious Benedict Arnold](#)

Steven Shienkin

An introduction to the life of Benedict Arnold that highlights not only the traitorous actions that made him legendary, but also his heroic involvement in the American Revolution.

[The Dark Game: True Spy Stories](#)

Paul Janeczko

A collection of true spy stories from throughout the history of the United States, discussing personalities, missions, traitors, technological advances, and more.

Available in the JJMS eBook Library.

[Amelia Lost: the Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart](#)

Candice Fleming

Traces the life of female aviator Amelia Earhart from her childhood to her final flight, discusses the extensive search for her and her missing plane, and includes photographs, maps, handwritten notes by Amelia, and sidebars.

[Buried Alive ! How 33 Miners Survived 69 Days Deep under the Chilean Desert](#)

Elaine Scott

Relates the experiences of thirty-three Chilean miners who were trapped two thousand feet below the surface of the earth in August 2010. Includes photographs of the mine, but not the actual crisis.

Fantasy

[Ghost Hawk](#)

Susan Cooper

An historical fantasy which begins around 1620, when Little Hawk is nearing proving time to become a man in his Wampanoag tribe. He is sent out into the woods alone, armed only with a bow and arrows, and returns to find his family dead from smallpox. As he finds shelter, he befriends his first Pilgrim, John Wakely, and both boys' lives change forever.

[The Demon King](#)

Cinda Williams Chima

Relates the intertwining fates of former street gang leader Han Alister and headstrong Princess Raisa. Han takes possession of an amulet that once belonged to an evil wizard, and Raisa uncovers a conspiracy in the Grey Wolf Court. Book 1 of the *Seven Realms* series. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

Found

Margaret Peterson Haddix

When thirteen-year-olds Jonah and Chip, who are both adopted, learn they were discovered on a plane that appeared out of nowhere, full of babies with no adults on board, they realize that they have uncovered a mystery involving time travel and two opposing forces, each trying to repair the fabric of time.

Alistair Grim's Odditorium

Gregory Funaro

In Victorian England, Grubb, an orphan about twelve years old, escapes his life of drudgery as a chimney sweep's apprentice and finds himself in a very strange house filled with magical objects and creatures, but soon he learns that there are dark forces seeking his new master. Book 1 in the *Odditorium* series.

The One and Only Ivan

Katherine Applegate

When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

Splendors and Glooms

Laura Amy Schlitz

The master puppeteer, Gaspare Grisini, is so expert at manipulating his stringed puppets that they appear alive. Clara Wintermute, the only child of a wealthy doctor, is spellbound by Grisini's act and invites him to entertain at her birthday party. When Clara vanishes that night, suspicion of kidnapping falls upon the puppeteer and his assistants Lizzie Rose and Parsefall. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

[The Accidental Highwayman](#)

Ben Tripp

In eighteenth-century England, young Christopher "Kit" Bristol unwittingly takes on the task of his dead master, notorious highwayman Whistling Jack, who pledged a fairy he would rescue feisty Princess Morgana from an arranged marriage with King George III. A Westchester Library System "**Battle of the Books**" title.

[Birthmarked](#)

Caragh M. O'Brien

Sixteen-year-old Gaia Stone is a midwife who dutifully delivers at least three babies a month and hands them over to the Enclave, a community within walls where the children are adopted and live with conveniences which are not available to the outside world. She begins to question her loyalty to the group after her mother is brutally taken away from her by the people she serves.

[Shadowfell](#)

Juliet Marillier

Fifteen-year-old Neryn is alone in the land of Alban, where the oppressive king has ordered anyone with magical strengths captured. But when she sets out for Shadowfell, a training ground for a rebel group, she meets a mysterious soldier and the Good Folk, who tell her that she, alone, can save Alban. Book 1 of the *Seven Waters Trilogy*. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*

100 Cupboards

Nathan D. Wilson

Twelve-year-old Henry York and his cousin Henrietta discover 100 hidden portals to other worlds in the bedroom wall of his aunt and uncle's house. First in the "100 Cupboards" series. *Available in the JJMS eBook Library.*