



## MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING LIST\* FOR STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 6

### ESSENTIAL QUESTION: HOW DO WE DECIDE WHAT IS TRUE?

#### ***The Strange Case of Origami Yoda* by Tom Angleberger**

Is Origami Yoda real? This is the question that plagues sixth-grader Tommy and drives the plot of this snappy debut. *Fiction; Lexile: 760L*

#### ***Free at Last! The Story of Martin Luther King, Jr.* by Angela Bull**

This biography provides facts on how the slain civil rights leader raised the American social conscience about equality and nonviolence. Read about King's struggle to deliver a message of peace. *Nonfiction; Lexile: 720L*

#### ***Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass* by Lewis Carroll**

In these two beloved works of fiction, you will travel with Alice down the rabbit hole and through the looking glass. There, in a world of fantasy, you will meet the Mad Hatter, the Queen of Hearts, and other delightful characters. The classic poem "Jabberwocky" is included. *Fiction; Lexile: 890L*

#### ***Tiger Tales* by Deborah Chancellor**

This nonfiction book uncovers the truth about how the number of wild tigers and other animal populations are decreasing because of hunting. *Nonfiction; Lexile: 820L*

#### ***Notes from a Liar and Her Dog* by Gennifer Choldenko**

Stuck in a family that she does not like, Ant copes by pretending that her "real" parents are coming to rescue her, by loving her dog Pistachio, by volunteering at the zoo, and by bending the truth and telling lies. *Fiction; Lexile: 580L*

#### ***Woman Hollering Creek and Other Stories* by Sandra Cisneros**

In this collection of short stories, Cisneros writes about Mexican Americans living in border towns – their lives, their dreams, and their families. The collection includes the story "Eleven." *Fiction; Lexile: 960L*

#### ***Fortunately, the Milk* by Neil Gaiman**

While picking up milk for his children's cereal, a father is abducted by aliens and finds himself on a wild adventure through time and space; or was he? *Fiction; Lexile: 680L*

#### ***The Circuit* by Francisco Jimenez**

In this autobiography, Jimenez tells of his difficult early years as part of a family of migrant farm workers. To him, life consisted of constant moving around and work, with school wedged in around harvesting jobs. *Nonfiction; Lexile: 880L*

#### ***Who Could That Be at This Hour?* by Lemony Snicket**

A mock-autobiographical account of 13-year-old Snicket's apprenticeship with an enigmatic secret society. *Fiction; Lexile: 870L*

#### ***Liar & Spy* by Rebecca Stead**

Seventh-grader Georges adjusts to moving from a house to an apartment, his father's efforts 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. *Fiction; Lexile: 670L*

#### ***My Life as a Book* by Janet Tashjian**

Derek discovers an old newspaper clipping about a 17-year-old who drowned, and his mother explains that the teen was babysitting him at the time and died saving him. Derek is determined to learn more about her death and his involvement in it. *Fiction; Lexile: 880L*

**Please see the Summer Reading cover letter for instructions on the writing assignment.**

**\*This is a suggested book list only. Students may choose their own books, providing their selections address the essential question.**