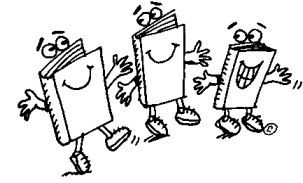


## **Bernardsville Middle School Suggested Summer Reading List**



### **Students Entering Grade 6**

**Please Note: All suggested summer reading titles are recommended for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade reading level. It is up to you and your parents/guardians to decide which books are appropriate for you.**

#### **Top Teacher Picks:**

##### ***Treasure Island* – Robert Louis Stevenson**

While going through the possessions of a deceased guest who owed them money, the mistress of the inn and her son find a treasure map that leads them to a pirate's fortune.

##### ***Harry's Mad* – Dick King-Smith**

Harry's legacy from his great-uncle, a talking parrot, proves to be a much more exciting gift than he ever imagined.

##### ***Miss Spitfire: Reaching Helen Keller* - Sarah Elizabeth Miller**

At age twenty-one, partially-blind, lonely but spirited Annie Sullivan travels from Massachusetts to Alabama to try and teach six-year-old Helen Keller, deaf and blind since age two, self-discipline and communication skills.

- Mrs. Reznick, Literacy – Grade 6

##### ***The Underneath* – Kathi Appelt**

An old hound that has been chained up at his hateful owner's run-down shack, and two kittens born underneath the house, endure separation, danger, and many other tribulations in their quest to be reunited and free.

##### ***The Phantom Tollbooth* – Norton Juster**

Milo travels through a magical tollbooth and begins a journey to the Kingdom of Wisdom, where he and a "watch" dog named Tock try to end the feud between numbers and words.

##### ***The Secret Garden* – Frances Hodgson Burnett**

##### ***Baby* - Patricia MacLachlan**

Taking care of a baby left with them at the end of the tourist season helps a family come to terms with the death of their own infant son.

##### ***Bread and Roses, Too* by Katherine Paterson**

Ten-year-old Mary comes to live in a lonely house on the Yorkshire moors and discovers an invalid cousin and the mysteries of a locked garden.

- Miss Paparozzi, Literacy – Grade 6

##### ***The Enchanted Forest Chronicles* - Patricia Wrede**

Follows the adventures of Princess Cimorene, a headstrong young woman whose refusal to be proper--even after she becomes a queen and mother--brings her into the realm of dragons, witches, wizards, and other magical, and sometimes unsavory creatures.

- Mrs. Dorfman, Literacy – Grade 6/G&T

##### ***The Lightning Thief* - Rick Riordan**

After learning that he is the son of a mortal woman and a Greek God, twelve-year-old Percy is sent to a summer camp for demigods like himself, and joins his new friends on a quest to prevent a war between the gods.

##### ***The Last Apprentice Series* - Joseph Delaney**

Young Tom starts work as an apprentice for the village spook, whose job is to protect ordinary folk from "ghouls, boggarts, and all manner of wicked beasties."

##### ***Chasing Redbird* - Sharon Creech**

Thirteen-year-old Zinnia Taylor uncovers family secrets and self truths while clearing a mysterious settler trail that begins on her family's farm in Kentucky.

- Miss MacGorman, Middle School Media Specialist

#### **Suggested Titles:**

Twelve-year-old Rosa and thirteen-year-old Jake form an unlikely friendship as they try to survive and understand the 1912 Bread and Roses strike of mill workers in Lawrence, Massachusetts.

##### ***Castle Corona* - Sharon Creech**

Two orphaned peasant children discover a mysterious pouch, the contents of which lead

them to the majestic Castle Corona, where their lives may be transformed forever.

***Coraline* - Neil Gaiman**

Looking for excitement, Coraline ventures through a mysterious door into a world that is similar, yet disturbingly different from her own, where she must challenge a gruesome entity in order to save herself, her parents, and the souls of three others.

***Cornelia and the Audacious Escapades of the Somerset Sisters* - Lesley M. M. Blume**

Eleven-year-old Cornelia S. Englehart, a lonely daughter of famous pianists who lives in New York City, learns about language and life from a new elderly neighbor who shares stories about the fabulous adventures she and her sisters had while traveling around the world.

***A Crooked Kind of Perfect* - Linda Urban**

Ten-year-old Zoe Elias, who longs to play the piano but must resign herself to learning the organ, instead, finds that her musicianship has a positive impact on her workaholic mother, her jittery father, and her school social life.

***Edward's Eyes* - Patricia MacLachlan**

Edward is one of a large and close family that loves baseball, music, books, and each other, and when he unexpectedly dies and his parents donate his organs, his wonderful eyes go to a perfect recipient.

***Larklight* - Philip Reeve**

Myrtle and Art, living with their father in an old Victorian house that floats in Earth's orbit, are called upon to save themselves and the universe from elephant-sized white spiders and join forces with the notorious space pirate Jack Havock.

***Leepike Ridge* - N.D. Wilson**

While his widowed mother continues to search for him, eleven-year-old Tom, presumed dead after drifting away down a river, finds himself trapped in a series of underground caves with another survivor and a dog, and pursued by murderous treasure-hunters.

***No Castles Here* - A.C.E. Bauer**

Eleven-year-old Augie Boretski dreams of escaping his run-down Camden, New Jersey, neighborhood, but things start to turn around with help from a Big Brother, a music teacher, and a mysterious bookstore owner, so when his school is in trouble, he pulls the community together to save it.

***Raleigh's Page* - Alan Armstrong**

In the late 16th century, fifteen-year-old Andrew leaves school in England and must prove himself as a page to Sir Walter Raleigh before embarking for Virginia, where he helps to establish relations with the Indians.

***The Secret Order of the Gumm Street Girls* - Elise Primavera**

In order to save the town of Sherbet, four girls with very little in common become involved with some people and events that seem to bear a resemblance to "The Wizard of Oz."

***Swordbird* - Nancy Yi Fan**

Warring factions of blue jays and cardinals call on Swordbird, the heroic bird of peace, to rescue them from the evil machinations of Turnatt, the tyrant hawk lord who plans to enslave them.

***Theodosia Throckmorton and the Serpents of Chaos* - R. L. LaFevers**

Eleven-year-old Theodosia has the ability to detect black magic and ancient curses that are attached to objects in the Museum of Legends and Antiquities, which her father is the curator of, and discovers that a new artifact from Egypt is cursed and she must return it to the tomb it was excavated from before it destroys the British Empire.

***The Thing About Georgie* - Lisa Graff**

Georgie's dwarfism causes problems, but he could always rely on his parents, his best friend, and classmate Jeanie the Meanie's teasing, until a surprising announcement, a new boy in school, and a class project shake things up.

***What the Dickens* - Gregory Maguire**

As a terrible storm rages, ten-year-old Dinah and her brother and sister listen to their cousin Gage's tale of a newly-hatched, orphaned, skibberree, or tooth fairy, called What-the-Dickens, who hopes to find a home among the skibbereen tribe, if only he can stay out of trouble.

***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.

***The White Giraffe* - Lauren St. John**

After a fire kills her parents, eleven-year-old Martine must leave England to live with her grandmother on a wildlife game reserve in South Africa, where she befriends a mythical white giraffe.

***The Willoughbys* - Lois Lowry**

A tongue-in-cheek take on classic themes in children's literature, in which the four Willoughby children set out to become "deserving orphans" after their neglectful parents embark on a treacherous around-the-world adventure, leaving them in the care of an odious nanny.

Summaries from:

[Titlewave](http://Titlewave.com). Follett Library Resources. [Titlewave.com](http://Titlewave.com)