

**STONY BROOK'S SUGGESTED SUMMER READING LIST 2009**  
FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE IN THE FALL

\*All of these authors have written other good books.

**39 Clues series** (Assorted authors) Amy and Dan, members of the powerful Cahill family, try to uncover the thirty-nine clues which will reveal the secrets of their lineage. There are currently 4 books in this series. #1 *The Maze of Bones*, #2 *One False Note*, #3 *The Sword Thief*, #4 *Beyond the Grave* (There will be 10 books in this series, each written by a different author.)

Amato, Mary. *Please Write in this Book*. When Ms. Wurtz leaves a blank book in the Writer's Corner with a note encouraging those who find it to "talk to each other" in its pages, the student's entries spark a classroom-wide battle.

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

Anderson, Laurie Halse. *Fever, 1793*. A deadly epidemic sweeps through Philadelphia where sixteen-year-old Mattie Cook watches her bustling city steadily descend into a devastating nightmare.

Appelt, Kathi. *The Underneath*. 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.

Broach, Elise. *Masterpiece*. After Marvin, a beetle, makes a miniature drawing as an eleventh birthday gift for James, a human with whom he shares a house, the two new friends work together to help recover a Durer drawing stolen from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Bruchac, Joseph. *Code Talker : A Novel about the Navajo Marines of World War Two*. After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.

Choldenko, Gennifer. *Al Capone Does My Shirts*. A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.

Collins, Suzanne. *Gregor the Overlander*. Babysitting can be such a drag – literally! While Gregor is babysitting his two-year-old sister Boots, she is sucked into an underground world. Gregor has no option but to embark on a mission to retrieve his sister by joining forces with mutant subterranean creatures in a battle against some particularly nasty rats. *Gregor and the Prophecy of Bane, Gregor and the Curse of the Warmbloods, Gregor and the Marks of Secret, Gregor and the Code of Claw* continue the story.

Cooney, Caroline B. *Face on the Milk Carton*. A photograph of a missing girl on a milk carton leads Janie on a search for her real identity. This incredible story continues in the following three books: *Whatever Happened to Janie?, Voice on the Radio, What Janie Found*

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Dowd, Siobhan. *The London Eye Mystery*. 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--to try to solve the mystery of what happened to Salim.

Du Prau, Jeanne. *The City of Ember*. Lina and Doon are citizens of Ember, an isolated city surrounded by darkness. Upon realizing that the town's resources are dwindling and that the electrical shortages are becoming more severe, Lina and Droon try to discover a way to save the people of Ember. Sequels: *People of Sparks*, *Prophet of Yonwood*, and *The Diamond of Darkhold*.

Enright, Dominique. *The Boys' Book : How to be the Best at Everything*. A book of activities for boys that provides step-by-step instructions for everything from reading a compass and building a raft to vanquishing vampires and hypnotizing chickens.

Foster, Juliana. *The Girls' Book : How to be the Best at Everything*. A book of activities for girls that provides step-by-step instructions for everything from strumming a guitar, eating with chopsticks, and making a camp in the wilderness to coping when zombies attack and surviving an alien invasion.

Gaiman, Neil. *The Graveyard Book*. The orphan Bod, short for Nobody, is taken in by the inhabitants of a graveyard as a child of eighteen months and raised lovingly and carefully to the age of eighteen years by the community of ghosts and otherworldly creatures. **Newbery Medal Winner – 2009**

Goodman, Alison. *Eon : Dragoneye Reborn*. Sixteen-year-old Eon hopes to become an apprentice to one of the twelve energy dragons of good fortune and learn to be its main interpreter, but to do so will require much, including keeping secret that she is a girl.

Gutman, Dan. *Baseball Card Adventure series*. Funny and well-paced, perfect for fans of time-travel, fantasy, and baseball! Full of sports trivia and actual historical documents. Joe Stoshack travels back in time to meet baseball greats!! In *Ray and Me*, the latest tile, Joe learns a hard lesson about wearing his baseball helmet at the plate. Stosh travels back to 1920 to try to save minor league baseball player Ray Chapman, who is the only known player to die from being struck in the head by a baseball. **There are 9 books in this series.**

Haddix, Margaret Peterson. *Among the Hidden*. In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke has lived all his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm, until another "third" convinces him that the government is wrong. **This is the first of 6 books in the Shadow Children series.**

Haddix, Margaret Peterson. *Found*. 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. **Book 1 in the series "Missing".**

Horowitz. Anthony. *Stormbreaker*. After the death of the uncle who had been his guardian, fourteen-year-old Alex Rider is coerced to continue his uncle's dangerous work for Britain's intelligence agency, MI6. The story continues with *Point Blank*, *Skeleton Key*, *Eagle Strike*, *Ark Angel* and *Snakehead*.

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Horowitz, Anthony. *Gatekeepers* series. Sent to live in a foster home in a remote Yorkshire village, Matt, a troubled fourteen-year-old, uncovers an evil plot involving witchcraft and the site of an ancient stone circle. The titles in this series are: *Raven's Gate*, *Evil Star*, *Nightrise*, and *Necropolis*.

Hunter, Erin. *Seekers* series. Three young bears of different species--one black, one polar, and one grizzly--travel on a perilous quest to the Northern Lights, escorting a shape-shifting grizzly cub whose destiny will affect them all. **There are 3 books in this series.**

Hunter, Erin. *Warriors*. A fascinating feline fantasy--the struggle between ThunderClan, a group of feral cats, and the enemy, ShadowClan. **This series contains 8 titles.**

Hunter, Erin. *Warriors: The New Prophecy*. Called by StarClan to fulfill a new prophecy, a group of young cats sets out on a long and dangerous journey, knowing only that trouble threatens the forest. **This series contains 6 titles.**

Hunter, Erin. *Warriors: Power Of Three*. Hollypaw, Jaypaw, and Lionpaw, the children of the ThunderClan warriors Squirrelflight and Brambleclaw, learn their powers can help the Clan and begin their apprenticeships, and a prophecy warns of trouble. **This series contains 6 titles.**

Kinney, Jeff. *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*. It's a new school year, and Greg Heffley finds himself thrust into middle school, where undersized weaklings share the hallways with kids who are taller, meaner, and already shaving. The hazards of growing up before you're ready are uniquely revealed through words and drawings as Greg records them in his diary. Sequels: *Rodrick Rules* and *The Last Straw*

Law, Ingrid. *Savvy*. Recounts the adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her "savvy"--a magical power unique to each member of her family--just as her father is injured in a terrible accident

Levine, Gail Carson. *Ever*. Fourteen-year-old Kezi and Olus, Akkan god of the winds, fall in love and together try to change her fate--to be sacrificed to a HYTE god because of a rash promise her father made--through a series of quests that might make her immortal.

Lord, Cynthia. *Rules*. Frustrated at life with an autistic brother, twelve-year-old Catherine longs for a normal existence but her world is further complicated by a friendship with a young paraplegic.

Lupica, Mike. *Comeback Kids* series. Young sport aficionados team up to help each other succeed in both sports and school. **There are 4 books in this series.**

Michael, Livi. *City of Dogs*. Sam's new dog, Jenny, comes from a parallel world of Norse mythology where her attempt to save the life of her first boy interrupted the gods' plans for the world's final battle, and now her escape from them threatens Sam's world.

Myers, Walter Dean. *Journal of Scott Pendelton: A World War II Soldier*. A seventeen-year-old soldier from central Virginia records his experiences in a journal as his regiment takes part in the D-Day invasion of Normandy and subsequent battles to liberate France. (This is part of the **My Name is America** series of historical fiction for boys).

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Myracle, Lauren. *Eleven*. The year between turning eleven and turning twelve brings many changes for Winnie and her friends.

O'Connor, Barbara. *How to Steal a Dog*. Living in the family car in their small North Carolina town after their father leaves them virtually penniless, Georgina, desperate to improve their situation and unwilling to accept her overworked mother's calls for patience, persuades her younger brother to help her in an elaborate scheme to get money by stealing a dog and then claiming the reward that the owners are bound to offer

Paterson, Katherine. *Bridge to Terabithia*. During a storm, Jess' new friend Leslie meets an unexpected tragedy while trying to reach their secret kingdom to Terabithia. Newbery Medal 1978

Paulsen, Gary. *Hatchet*. After his plane crashes in the Canadian wilderness, thirteen-year-old Brian must survive with only the aid of a hatchet. (Companion books are *The River*, *Brian's Winter*, and *Brian's Return*.)

Paulsen, Gary. *Lawn Boy*. Things get out of hand for a twelve-year-old boy when a neighbor convinces him to expand his summer lawn mowing business.

Riordan, Rick. **Percy Jackson & the Olympians series**. Beginning with *The Lightning Thief*. Percy, expelled from six schools for being unable to control his temper, learns the truth from his mother that his father is the Greek god Poseidon, and is sent to Camp Half Blood where he is befriended by a satyr and the demigod daughter of Athena who join him in a journey to the Underworld to retrieve Zeus's lightning bolt and prevent a catastrophic war. *Sea of Monsters*, *Titan's Curse* and *Battle of the Labyrinth*, and *The Last Olympian* continue this popular series.

Gordon, Roderick. *Tunnels*. When Will Burrows and his friend Chester embark on a quest to find Will's archaeologist father, who has inexplicably disappeared, they are led to a labyrinthine world underneath London, full of sinister inhabitants with evil intentions toward "Topsoilers" like Will and his father. Sequel: *Deeper*.

Smith, Jeff. *Bone*. Graphic Novels present the adventures of three cousins from Boneville, Fone Bone, Phoney Bone, and Smiley Bone. **There are 9 books in this series.**

Stewart, Trenton Lee. *The Mysterious Benedict Society*. After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules. Sequel: **The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Perilous Journey**

Wood, Don. *Into the Volcano, A Graphic Novel*. Fourteen-year-old Kezi and Olus, Akkan god of the winds, fall in love and together try to change her fate--to be sacrificed to a Hyte god because of a rash promise her father made--through a series of quests that might make her immortal.