

natural world with her grandfather.

Lowry, Lois. **The Giver**

The Elders of the Committee choose Jonas to be the person responsible for receiving and keeping all the memories of the past—a huge task for this exceptional boy. (Fiction)

Osa, Nancy. **Cuba 15**

Violet Paz does not know much about her Cuban background and is not excited about the quinceanera, the celebration of a Hispanic girl's fifteenth birthday, her abuela (grandmother) has planned for her. (Fiction)

**More great reads for either grade level**

### Fiction

Boyne, John. **The Boy in the Striped Pajamas: A Fable**

Choldenko, Gennifer. **Al Capone Shines My Shoes**

Gantos, Jack. **Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key**

Holm, Jennifer. **Middle School is Worse than Meatloaf**

Lin, Grace. **Where the Mountain Meets the Moon**

O'Dell, Scott. **Island of the Blue Dolphins**

Philbrick, Rodman. **Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg**

**Figg**

Ryan, Pam Munoz. **The Dreamer**

Spinelli, Jerry. **Stargirl**

Tan, Shaun. **The Arrival**

Zimmerman, Tracie Vaughn. **Reaching for Sun**

### Non-Fiction

Grandits, John. **Blue Lipstick: Concrete Poems**

Murphy, Jim. **Truce: The Day the Soldiers Stopped Fighting**

Partridge, Elizabeth. **Marching for Freedom: Walk Together, Children, Don't You Grow Weary**

Smith, Charles R. **Twelve Rounds to Glory: The Story of Muhammad Ali**

Wulffson, Don. **The Kid who Invented the Popsicle**

## Where can you borrow these books?

### Lansingburgh Public Library

Address: 114th Street and 4th Avenue  
Troy, NY 12182  
Phone: (518) 235-5310  
Hours: Mon-Wed 1:00pm-7:00pm  
Friday 10:00am-4:00pm  
Saturday 10:00am-1:00pm

### Troy Public Library

Address: 100 Second Street  
Troy, NY 12180  
Phone: (518) 274-7071  
Hours: Mon-Thur 9:00am-8:00pm  
Friday 9:00am-5:00pm  
Saturday 9:00am-1:00pm

Visit both libraries online at:  
[www.thetroylibrary.org](http://www.thetroylibrary.org)

## Where can you purchase these books?

### Amazon

Online at: [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

### Barnes and Noble Booksellers

Location: Colonie Center, lower level

### Borders

Location: Crossgates Mall, upper level

### Market Block Books

Location: 290 River Street  
Troy, NY 12180

**Get lost in a good book!**

**Knickerbacker Middle School**

**Dive into Summer Reading**

**What better way to relax over the summer than with a great book!**



# Why Spend Your Summer Reading?

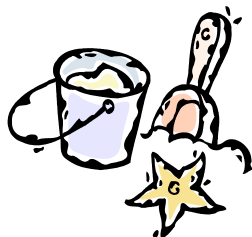
Dear Parents and Students:

We believe reading during the summer vacation months contributes significantly to a student's academic growth. As a result, we recommend that our students read at least three books this summer.

This brochure provides a sample of books that students may choose from. It has been designed to provide for various reading levels and interests. However, students may substitute any other grade appropriate book. We advise parents and students to select books wisely. Summer reading should be an enjoyable experience, and the books chosen should be appropriate for the student both in terms of content and level of difficulty.

Also, the Lansingburgh branch of the Troy Public Library will be open this summer for students to check out books. The back of this brochure details hours and location. What a great way to beat the heat!!

Just like swimming or throwing a baseball, reading is a skill that improves with practice. Let's encourage reading! The entire faculty and staff at Knickerbacker Middle School look forward to seeing you in the fall! Happy reading!



## 6th Graders Entering 7th Grade

Brooks, Bruce. **The Moves Make the Man**

An African American basketball player and an emotionally troubled white shortstop in North Carolina form a precarious friendship. (Fiction)

Clemens, Andrew. **Things not Seen**

When fifteen-year-old Bobby wakes up and finds himself invisible, he and his parents and his new, blind friend Alicia try to find out what caused his condition and how to reverse it. (Fiction)

Forbes, Esther. **Johnny Tremain**

This 1944 Newberry Medal-winning novel follows a young apprentice from a tragic accident in a silversmith's shop to his dramatic involvement as a patriot during the days of the Revolutionary War. (Fiction)

Myers, Walter Dean. **Hoops**

A teenage basketball player from Harlem is befriended by a former professional player who, after being forced to quit because of a point shaving scandal, hopes to prevent other young athletes from repeating his mistake. (Fiction)

Paulsen, Gary. **My Life in Dog Years**

In this book the author describes some of the dogs that were special to him during his life. (Non-fiction, biography)

Sperry, Armstrong. **Call it Courage**

The story of a youth who overcomes his fear of the sea and proves his courage to himself and his tribe. (Fiction)

Stead, Rebecca. **When you Reach Me**

As her mother prepares to be a contestant on a television game show, twelve-year-old NYC girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes that seem to defy the laws of time and space. (Fiction)

Telgemeier, Raina. **Smile**

When Raina falls and injures her front teeth, she begins a difficult and embarrassing period having braces, and adding to this humiliation, she endures boy trouble and false friends but finally learns the importance of true friends and having a wonderful smile. (Fiction)

Woodson, Jacqueline. **Locomotion**

In a series of poems, eleven-year-old Lonnie writes about his life, after the death of his parents, separated from his younger sister, living in a foster home, and finding his poetic voice at school. (Non-Fiction, poetry)

## 7th Graders Entering 8th Grade

Alexie, Sherman. **The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian**

Budding cartoon artist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Indian is the school mascot. (Fiction)

Bachrack, Susan. **Tell them we Remember: The Story of the Holocaust**

The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's collection of artifacts and pictures tells the story of the Holocaust. (Non-fiction)

Bloor, Edward. **Tangerine**

Twelve-year-old Paul, who lives in the shadow of his football hero brother, fights for the right to play soccer despite his near blindness, and is able to discover a haunting truth when his family moves to Tangerine, Florida. (Fiction)

Cofer, Judith Ortiz. **Call me Maria**

Maria leaves her mother and homeland of Puerto Rico to live with her father in New York City. Using poems, prose and letters-written in English, Spanish, and Spanglish—Maria voices her emotions as she is torn between two cultures. (Fiction)

Cooper, Michael L. **Fighting for Honor**

This book examines the history of Japanese Americans and their mass relocation to internment camps during World War II. (Non-fiction)

Grimes, Nikki. **Bronx Masquerade**

While studying the Harlem Renaissance, students at a Bronx high school read aloud poems they've written, revealing their innermost thoughts and fears to their formerly clueless classmates. (Fiction, poetry)

Kadohata, Cynthia. **Kira Kira**

This is the story of the close relationship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s. The youngest sister, Katie, lives through love and despair when her older sister becomes seriously ill. (Fiction)

Kelly, Jacqueline. **Evolution of Calpurnia Tate**

In central Texas in 1899, 11-year-old Callie is instructed to be a lady by her mother, learns about love from her eldest brother, and studies the

Turn over for more great reads!