



Summer Reading Challenge

6TH Grade Summer Reading List 2025

1. **My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George**
Sam Gribley surprises everyone when he decides to live on his own in the Catskill Mountains. He learns about courage, independence, and the need for companionship in this gripping, inspiring, wilderness-survival adventure.
2. **Cracker! The Best Dog in Vietnam by Cynthia Kadohata**
A realistic story of America's war in Vietnam, using the alternating viewpoints of an army dog named Cracker and her 17-year-old handler, Rick Hanski.
3. **When Friendship Followed Me Home by Paul Griffin**
Ben Coffin has never felt like he fits in. A former foster kid, he keeps his head down at school to avoid bullies and takes refuge in reading sci-fi books at the library. But that changes when he finds a scruffy abandoned dog named Flip and becomes friends with the librarian's daughter, Halley.
4. **One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia**
Set during one of the most tumultuous years in recent American history, one crazy summer is the heartbreaking, funny tale of three girls in search of the mother who abandoned them.
5. **Hold Fast by Blue Balliett**
11-year-old Early and her family don't have much in the way of physical possessions, but they are rich in love and affection for one another. Early's parents, especially her father, pass on to her a love of books and a strong faith that situations can improve if you work hard enough.
6. **The Gate by Nancy Carabio Belanger**
Joshua Lasko is a smart-alecky middle school boy, whose faith disappears at his father's death. He meets Pie, a nursing home resident, and his life turns around into a whopping surprise.
7. **A Handful of Stars by Cynthia Lord**
Lily, an orphaned 12-year-old who lives in a small eastern Maine town, becomes fast friends with Salma, a Latina migrant worker who has come with her family to pick blueberries. But as the Blueberry Queen pageant approaches Lily and Selma are confronted with the hard truths of prejudice and migrant life.
8. **Keys to the kingdom (Mister Monday) by Garth Nix**
Arthur Penhaligon is not supposed to be a hero. He is, in fact, supposed to die an early death. But then he is saved by a key shaped like the minute hand of a clock. Arthur is safe - but his world is not. Along with the key comes a plague brought by bizarre creatures from another realm. A stranger named Mister Monday, his avenging messengers with blood-stained wings, and an army of dog-faced Fetchers will stop at nothing to get the key back - even if it means destroying Arthur and everything around him. Desperate, Arthur ventures into a mysterious house - a house that only he can see. It is in this house that Arthur must unravel the secrets of the key - and discover his true fate.