**Grade 6 Suggested Summer Reading List**

### ***Tuck Everlasting*** by Natalie Babbitt-Winnie Foster discovers a spring on her family’s property that grants immortality, and she meets members of the Tuck family who have drunk from the stream. Winnie must decide whether she, herself, wants immortality.

***The Phantom Tollbooth*** by Norton Juster, Jules Feiffer (illus.)- This ingenious fantasy centers around Milo, a bored ten-year old who comes home to find a large toy tollbooth sitting in his room. Joining forces with a watchdog named Tock, Milo drives through the tollbooth gates and begins a memorable journey.

***Maniac Magee*** by Jerry Spinelli- When Jeffrey Lionel Magee wanders into Two Mills, Pennsylvania, a legend is in the making. Before too long, stories begin to circulate about how fast and how far he can run and about feats so incredible they earn him the nickname "Maniac."

***The Sisters Grimm Series*** ( any book in the series)- by , Michael Buckley- When orphaned sisters Sabrina and Daphne are sent to live with their mysterious grandmother, Relda Grimm, who lives in a strange town in New York state, known for its extraordinary number of unexplained and unusual crimes, they begin to unravel a mystery that leads to their ancestors' magical beginnings.

***Chasing Vermeer*** by Blue Balliett- This bewitching first novel is a puzzle, wrapped in a mystery, disguised as an adventure, and delivered as a work of art. When a book of unexplainable occurrences brings Petra and Calder together, strange things start to happen.

***Hoot*** by Carl Hiaasen- Everybody loves Mother Paula’s pancakes. Everybody, that is, except the colony of cute but endangered owls that live on the building site of the new restaurant. Can the awkward new kid and his feral friend prank the pancake people out of town? Or is the owls’ fate cemented in pancake batter?

***Escape Under the Forever Sky***by Eve Yohalem- This suspenseful story is funny and touching. Lucy's mother is the U.S. Ambassador to Ethiopia, so Lucy's life must be one big adventure, right? Wrong. Lucy's worrywart mother keeps her locked up inside the ambassador's residence. All Lucy can do is read about the exotic and exciting world that lies beyond the compound walls. Until one day Lucy gets kidnapped!

***Travel Team*** by Mike Lupica- After he is cut from his travel basketball team—the very same team that his father once led to national prominence—twelve-year-old Danny Walker forms his own team of cast-offs that might have a shot at victory.

***The Boy in the Striped Pajamas***by John Boyne- Bored and lonely after his family moves from Berlin to a place called "Out-With" in 1942, Bruno, the son of a Nazi officer, befriends a boy in striped pajamas who lives behind a wire fence.Their meeting results in a friendship that has devastating consequences.

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| ***Escape From Mr. Lemoncello’s Library*** by Chris Grabenstein- Twelve-year-old Kyle gets to stay overnight in the new town library, designed by his hero (the famous game maker Luigi Lemoncello), with other students but finds that come morning he must work with friends to solve puzzles in order to escape.***Greenwild*** by Pari Thomason- Daisy Thistledown has been living an incredible life of adventure travelling the world with her mother. When her mom disappears, however, Daisy is thrown into a secret world full of magic hidden within elements of nature. She must work with the inhabitants to protect Greenwild from those who want to destroy it. Great for those who love a good fantasy novel.***Absolutely Normal Chaos*** by Sharon Creech-A prequel to the Newbery Medal-winning *Walk Two Moons,* this book chronicles the daily life of 13-year-old Mary Lou Finney during her most chaotic and romantic summer ever. Mary Lou's summer journal -- which she begins grudgingly as a dreaded assignment for school becomes a hilarious chronicle of the circle of people and events that make her summer. |

***Wringer*** by Jerry Spinelli- As Palmer comes of age, he must either accept the violence of being a wringer at his town's annual Pigeon Day or find the courage to oppose it.

***Ghost*** by Jason Reynolds-The story of an African American middle school runner with the talent to qualify for the Junior Olympics—if he can learn to control his temper. Money is tight and his father is in jail, and Ghost has been having a lot of what he calls “altercations.”

***Catherine, Called Birdy*** by Karen Cushman- Catherine, the daughter of an impoverished knight, is in her fourteenth year when she begins a record of her daily life. Her diary of the year 1290 provides a revealing, amusing, and vivid picture of both Catherine’s thoughts and Medieval life.

***The Fourteenth Goldfish*** by Jennifer L. Holm- Ellie is an 11-year-old girl who is having problems moving forward and finding her passion when her grandfather re-enters her life as a 13-year-old boy due to his discovery of an age reversing formula. With his help, she finally understands the cycle of life, finds that science is her passion and starts to live.

***I Am Malala*** *by* Malala Yousafzai. I *come from a country that was created at midnight. When I almost died it was just after midday.*When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education.

***Freak the Mighty***  by Rodman Philbrick- This is a powerful story of a unique friendship between a troubled, oversized boy and the tiny, physically challenged genius who proves that courage comes in all sizes.

**The City of Ember** by Jeanne Duprau-The story of Lina Mayfleet and Doon Harrow, two teenage citizens of a subterranean city called Ember, which was established 241 years before the events of the book to allow the human race to survive an impending apocalyptic event.

***Schooled*** by Gordon Korman- Homeschooled by his hippie grandmother, Capricorn (Cap) Anderson has never watched television, tasted a pizza, or even heard of a wedgie. But when his grandmother lands in the hospital, Cap is forced to move in with a school counselor and attend the local middle school.

***The Unteachables*** byGordan Korman- The Unteachables are a notorious class of misfits, delinquents, and academic train wrecks. They have been removed from the student body and isolated in room 117.The Unteachables never thought they’d find a teacher who had a worse attitude than they did. And Mr. Kermit never thought he would actually care about teaching again. Over the course of a school year, though, room 117 will experience mayhem, destruction—and maybe even a shot at redemption.

***The Lightning Thief*** by Rick Riordan-Percy Jackson is a good kid, but he can't seem to focus on his schoolwork or control his temper. And lately, being away at boarding school is only getting worse - Percy could have sworn his pre-algebra teacher turned into a monster and tried to kill him. When Percy's mom finds out, she knows it's time that he knew the truth about where he came from, and that he goes to the one place he'll be safe.

***The Watsons Go To Birmingham*** by Christopher Paul Curtis- Enter the hilarious world of ten-year-old Kenny and his family, the Weird Watsons of Flint, Michigan. There's Momma, Dad, little sister Joetta, and brother Byron, who's thirteen and an "official juvenile delinquent." When Momma and Dad decide it's time for a visit to Grandma, Dad comes home with the amazing Ultra-Glide, and the Watsons set out on a trip like no other.

***Short*** by Holly Goldberg Sloan- Julia is very short for her age, but by the end of the summer run of *The Wizard of Oz*, she’ll realize how big she is inside, where it counts. Bubbling over with humor and tenderness, this is an irresistible story of self-discovery and of the role models who forever change us.

***The Big Field*** by Mike Lupica- When fourteen-year-old baseball player Hutch feels threatened by the arrival of a new teammate named Darryl, he tries to work through his insecurities about both Darryl and his remote and silent father, who was once a great ballplayer too.

***The Mighty Miss Malone*** by Christopher Paul Curtis- Deza Malone, the smartest girl in her class in Gary, Indiana, accompanies her mother and older brother on a trip to find her father, an African American man who left to find work after the Great Depression hit. They end up in Hooverville outside of Flint, Michigan, and her brother attempts to be a performer while Deza and her mother search for a home.

***Football Genius*** by Tim Green-Troy, a sixth-grader with an unusual gift for predicting football plays before they occur, attempts to use his ability to help his favorite team, the Atlanta Falcons, but he must first prove himself to the coach and players.

***Out of Left Field*** by Ellen Klages-Katy Gordon isn’t allowed to play Little League – even though she is undeniably the best pitcher – because she is a girl. So Katy sets out to prove that girls can – and have! – played baseball throughout history. This book is both Katy’s story and an interesting history of women in baseball.

***The Mysterious Benedict Society***by Trenton Lee Stewart-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.

***Smile***by Raina Telgemeier- The author relates, in graphic form, her experiences after she injured her two front teeth and had to have surgeries and wear embarrassing braces and headgear, all while also dealing with the trials and tribulations of middle school.

***The Stonekeeper*** by Kazu Kibuishi-After moving to their ancestral home, Emily and Navin's mother is kidnapped by a tentacled creature in the basement that leads the children on a deadly chase into the magical world below their home.