



Moon Area School District Summer Reading 2009 Links and Resources

There are many options available for summer reading. To assist our students and parents in finding selections that meet their reading interests, Moon Area School District has compiled the following links. Moon Area School District is also currently reviewing the English/Language Arts curriculum and has plans to incorporate a summer reading list specific to Moon Area for students from 6th grade through 12th grade for 2010-2011.

The reading lists indicated by the links below are selected resources recommended by AdLit.org., Barnes & Noble, Amazon.com, and Borders. AdLit.org is a national multimedia project offering information and resources to the parents and educators of struggling adolescent readers and writers. AdLit.org is an educational initiative of WETA, the flagship public television and radio station in the nation's capital, and is funded by Carnegie Corporation of New York and by the Ann B. and Thomas L. Friedman Family Foundation.

Following the resource links are grade specific links of selections that are currently under review by the Moon Area School District English/Language Arts Department. Formal recommendation of the selections on each of these lists will be made once the curriculum cycle review is completed during the 2009-2010 school year.

Please note: It is important that parents/guardians involve themselves in choosing the reading selections of their children. The Moon Area School District is able to provide a comprehensive list of reading web links and options suggested by recognized organizations for children's literature. Nevertheless, thousands of books are represented in the following web links. Therefore, the Moon Area School District shall not take responsibility for the content or views of any one selection in any of the advertised web links on this site.

Web Links to Summer Reading Resources:

[Moon Area Public Library](#)

[Amazon.com Young Adult Summer Reading List 2009](#)

[Barnes and Noble Summer Reading Book Club](#)

[Barnes and Noble Teen Books](#)

[Borders – Summer Reading at Borders](#)

[Newberry Medal and Honor Books, 1922-Present](#)

[YALSA \(Young Adult Library Services Association\) ALEX Awards](#)— The Alex Awards are given to ten books written for adults that have special appeal to young adults, ages 12 through 18. The winning titles are selected from the previous year's publishing. The Alex Awards were first given annually beginning in 1998 and became an official ALA award in 2002.

[YALSA Great Graphic Novels for Teens](#)

[YALSA Outstanding Books for the College Bound](#)

[YALSA Top 10 Rated Books by Teens](#)

MASD Proposed Reading Lists for Summer 2010

(The following lists are currently under review for summer 2010.)

[Grades 6, 7 and 8](#)

[Grades 9 and 10](#)

[Grades 11 and 12](#)

Middle School Summer Reading Program

(Currently Under Review for 2010-2011)

In preparation for the 2010–2011 school year, the Moon Area Middle School Language Arts Department has provided a list of optional readings that will not be required but are good suggestions for students who are looking for additional titles to read over the summer.

Optional Reading – Middle School

Entering 6th Grade

- ✓ **Because of Winn-Dixie**
By Kate DiCamillo
- ✓ **Esperanza Rising**
By Pam Munoz Ryan
- ✓ **Storm Warriors**
By Elisa Carbone
- ✓ **Voices at Whisper Bend**
By Katherine Ayres

Entering 7th Grade

- ✓ **A Wrinkle in Time**
by Madeleine L'Engle
- ✓ **Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key**
by Jack Gantos
- ✓ **No More Dead Dogs**
by Gordon Korman
- ✓ **Princess Ben**
by Catherine Gilbert Murdock
- ✓ **The Man Who Was Poe**
by Avi
- ✓ **The Mysterious Benedict Society**
by Trenton Lee Stewart
- ✓ **Found**
by Margaret Haddix

Entering 8th Grade

- ✓ **Chains**
By Laurie Halse Anderson
- ✓ **Six Innings: A Game in the Life**
By James Preller
- ✓ **The Boy Who Couldn't Die**
By William Sleator
- ✓ **The Indian in the Cupboard**
By Lynne Reid Banks
- ✓ **Notes from the Midnight Driver**
By Jordan Sonnenblick
- ✓ **Call of the Wild**
by Jack London

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Grades 9 and 10 Summer Reading Program

(Currently Under Review for 2010-2011)

Ella Minnow Pea: A Novel in Letters – Mark Dunn – The people of Nollop are good citizens, but as the use of more and more letters in the alphabet are outlawed, how will its residents communicate?

A Lesson Before Dying – Ernest Gaine – This is the story of Jefferson, a young black man wrongfully accused of robbing and murdering a white man and sentenced to death. His godmother, Miss Emma, enlists Grant Wiggins to teach Jefferson how to be a man and die with dignity.

Enders Game – Orson Scott Card – the science fiction novel presents imperiled humankind who have barely survived two conflicts with the Formics (an insectoid alien race also know as the “Buggers”). In preparation for an anticipated third invasion, an

international fleet maintains a school to find and train future fleet commanders. The world's most talented children, including the novel's protagonist Ender Wiggin, are taken at a very young age to a training center known as the Battle School. There, teachers train them in the arts of war through increasingly difficult games including ones undertaken in zero gravity in the Battle Room where Enders tactical genius is revealed.

In these Girls, Hope is a Muscle – Madeline Blaise – They were a talented team with a near-perfect record but a reputation for choking in the crunch of the state playoffs. Finally, after five straight years of disappointments, the Amherst Hurricanes found they just might have what it takes to go all the way. From tryouts to the final buzzer of a championship game, Madeleine Blais captures the complexities of girls' experiences in school, athletics, and society itself as these young women fight to excel on and off the courts and in their own hearts.

The Chocolate War – Robert Cormier – Set at the fictional Trinity High School, the story follows protagonist Jerry Renault as he challenges the school's cruel, brutal, and ugly mob rule. This uncompromising portrait of conformity and corruption quickly became a bestselling, provocative classic for young adults.

Rebecca – Daphne Du Maurier – This is a novel of mystery and passion, a dark psychological tale of secrets and betrayal, dead loves and an estate called Manderley that is as much a presence as the humans who inhabit it.

Black Boy – Richard Wright – This incredible bestselling classic is Richard Wright's unforgettable and eloquent autobiography of growing up in the Jim Crow South.

Secret Life of Bees – Sue Monk Kidd – Searching for the truth about her mother's life and death, a grieving Lily finds the answers, love, and acceptance where she least expects it.

The Book Thief – Marcus Zusak – Living in Nazi Germany, young Liesel and her family choose to lie and steal to protect a Jewish refugee hiding in their basement. Narrated by Death, this is not your typical World War II story.

The Hunger Games – Suzanne Collins – Katniss has been providing for her family since her father died, but is she strong enough to win the Hunger Games, a deadly competition that can have only one winner?

Chasing Lincoln's Killer – James Swanson – Based on rare archival material, obscure trial manuscripts, and interviews with relatives of the conspirators and the man hunters, Chasing Lincoln's Killer is a face-paced thriller about the pursuit of John Wilkes Boothe, a wild twelve-day chase through the streets of Washington, D.C., across the swamps of Maryland, and into the forests of Virginia.

Uglies – Scott Westerfeld – a 2005 science fiction novel in which everyone is turned "Pretty" by extreme cosmetic surgery upon reaching age 16. This is the story of teenager Tally Youngblood who rebels against society's enforced conformity, after she learns the downsides to becoming a "pretty" from her new found friends Shay and David. When Shay risks her life and runs away, the authorities offer Tally the worst choice she can imagine: find her friend and turn her in, or never turn pretty at all.

Speak – Laurie Halse Anderson – Since the beginning of the school year, high school freshman Melinda has found that it's been getting harder and harder for her to speak out loud. What could have caused her to suddenly fall mute? Could it be due to the fact that no one at school is speaking to her because she called the cops and got everyone busted at the seniors' big end-of-summer party? Or maybe it's because her parents' only form of communication is Post-It notes written on their way out the door. While Melinda is bothered by things, deep down she knows the real reason why she's been struck mute.

Climbing the Stairs – Padma Venkatraman – When Vidya's father is seriously injured, her family moves from their progressive home to the household of her conservative relatives, where she must adjust to a new set of expectations.

I Heard the Owl Call My Name – Margaret Craven – Mark Brian, a young priest, has no more than three years to live, but he doesn't know it. His bishop does, and he sends Mark into the Indian village of Kingcome to learn to live the rest of his life to the fullest and not worry about the future he will never have. The villagers teach him about living in harmony with nature and acceptance of his fate.

Lovely Bones – Alice Sebold – This is the story of a teenage girl who, after being brutally raped and murdered, watches from heaven as her family and friends go on with their lives, while she herself comes to terms with her own death.

Grades 11 and 12 Summer Reading Program

(Currently Under Review for 2010-2011)

Live from the Battlefield—from Vietnam to Baghdad -Peter Arnett – This book represents one man’s odyssey through war, describing an exciting and often painful journey. Arnett, who reports for CNN, is one of America’s great war correspondents and in the book he manages not only to provide the details of war, but also to illuminate the problems of reporting the action to the folks back home.

Dune – Frank Herbert – Dune is one of the best-selling science fiction novels in history. Set in the far future amidst a sprawling feudal interstellar empire where planetary fiefdoms are controlled by noble Houses that owe an allegiance to the Imperial House Corrino, Dune tells the story of young Paul Atreides as he and his family accept control of the desert planet Arrakis, the only source of the spice mélange, the most important and valuable substance in the universe. The story explores the complex and multilayered interactions of politics, religion, ecology, technology, and human emotion, as forces of the Empire confront each other for control of Arrakis and its spice.

Jane Eyre – Charlotte Bronte – Jane is plain, poor, alone and unprotected, but due to her fierce independence and strong will she grows and is able to defy society’s expectations of her.

O Pioneers! – Willa Cather – This is the story of an immigrant family’s struggle to save their Nebraska farm. Cather’s placement of woman at the center of her story, her realistic description of life on the Midwestern prairie, and her vivid portrayal of the immigrant experience at the turn of the century make this a true American classic.

Roots – Alex Haley – This is the story of a young African boy named Kunte Kinte, who in the late 1700s was kidnapped from his homeland and brought to the United States as a slave.

The Sun Also Rises – Ernest Hemingway – A brilliant profile of the Lost Generation, Hemmingway’s first bestseller captures life among the expatriates on Paris’s Left Bank during the 1920’s, the brutality of bullfighting in Spain, and the moral and spiritual dissolution of a generation.

The Natural – Bernard Malamud – Biting, witty, provocative, and sardonic, The Natural is widely considered to be the premier baseball novel of all time. It tells the story of Roy Hobs – an athlete born with rare and wondrous gifts – who is robbed of his prime playing years by a youthful indiscretion that nearly costs him his life. But at an age when most players are considering retirement, Roy reenters the game, lifting the lowly New York Knights from last place in the pennant contention and becoming an instant hero in the process. Now all he has to worry about are the fixers, the boss, the slump, the jinx, the fans...and the dangerously seductive Memo Paris, the one woman Roy can’t seem to get out of his mind.

The Things They Carried – Tim O’Brien – They carried malaria tablets, love letters, z8-pound mine detectors, dope, illustrated Bibles, and each other. And, if they made it home alive from Vietnam, they carried unrelenting images of a nightmarish war that history is only beginning to absorb.

The Joy Luck Club – Amy Tan – This book explores the tender and tenacious bond between four daughters and their mothers. The daughters know one side of their mothers, but they don’t know about their earlier never-spoken of lives in China. The mothers want love and obedience from their daughters, but they don’t know the gifts that the daughters keep to themselves.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time – Mark Haddon – Christopher has two mysteries to solve: who killed Wellington the dog and what happened to his mother. But Christopher, who has Asperger Syndrome, a form of autism, approaches these mysteries and the world itself in a unique and special way.

The Kite Runner – Khaled Hosseini – Years after he flees Afghanistan, Amir, now an American citizen, returns to his native land and attempts to atone for the betrayal of his best friend before he fled Kabul and the Taliban.

The Road – Cormac McCarthy – After an apocalyptic catastrophe, a father and his young son embark on a grim and perilous quest following the road to the sea.

Deadline – Chris Crutcher – Ben Wolf learns he only has one year to live and decides to keep it a secret from everyone, even his brother. He decides to fulfill his greatest fantasies such as dating the beautiful, smart girl named Dallas. He worries about what will happen to those he is leaving behind. He ponders his life’s purpose and legacy.

Adoration of Jenna Fox – Mary E. Pearson – Who is Jenna Fox? Seventeen-year-old Jenna has been told that is her name. She has just awakened from a coma, they tell her, and she is still recovering from a terrible accident in which she was involved a year ago. But what happened before that? Jenna doesn’t remember her life. Or does she? And are the memories really hers?

The Glass Castle – Jeanette Walls – This is a 2005 memoir which details the struggles the author faced throughout childhood with an alcoholic father and a self-interested mother who cared more about her art and happiness than her children. The book follows her life as a vivid and unique family slowly falls apart, leaving Jeanette and her siblings to fend for themselves.

Into Thin Air – Jon Krakaur – This non-fiction book details the author’s May 10, 1996, ascent of Mount Everest, which turned catastrophic when eight climbers were killed and several others were stranded by a storm.

Enrique’s Journey – Sonia Narzio - In this astonishing true story, Narzio recounts the unforgettable odyssey of a Honduran boy who was left behind by his mother at age 5. After 11 years apart, he decides he will go and find her. Enrique braves unimaginable hardship and peril to reach his mother in the United States.

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