Lynbrook Middle School Nonfiction Summer Reading Suggestions



This is a list of recommended readings. Students are free to read any book of interest to fulfill their summer reading requirement of two books. The grade level markers are suggestions, only!



Suggested Grades	Title & Author	Book Description
6, 7, 8	<i>El Deafo</i> By. CeCe Bell	Going to school and making new friends can be tough. But going to school and making new friends while wearing a bulky hearing aid strapped to your chest? That requires superpowers! In this funny, poignant graphic novel memoir, author Cece Bell chronicles her hearing loss at a young age and her experiences with the Phonic Ear, a very powerfuland very awkwardhearing aid.
6, 7, 8	How they Croaked By. Georgia Bragg	King Tut died of malaria; Edgar Allan Poe is suspected to have had rabies. Beethoven and Galileo both met their ends due to lead poisoning. Fifteen other historical figures, including world leaders, writers, and scientists, were felled by things as mundane as pneumonia and as unpredictable as angry mobs. Also try How They Choked
6, 7, 8	Life in Motion: An Unlikely Ballerina By. Misty Copeland	*Middle Grade Adaptaptation.* As the first African-American principal dancer at the American Ballet Theatre, Misty Copeland has been breaking down all kinds of barriers in the world of dance. But when she first started dancingat the late age of thirteenno one would have guessed the shy, underprivileged girl would one day make history in her field.
6, 7	Unstoppable: The True Stories of Amazing Bionic Animals By. Nancy Furstinger	Nancy Furstinger profiles many animals in <i>Unstoppable</i> —all of whom are making their way around with the help of prosthetics, braces, orthotics and wheelchairs! Readers will meet the caretakers, prosthetists, vets, and loving families that help to make recovery possible.
6, 7, 8	Real Friends By. Shannon Hale	*Graphic Novel memoir!* Following little Shannon's life from kindergarten through fifth grade, Real Friends captures the emotional roller coaster ride of friendship, from navigating the tricky waters of cliques and bullies to her neverending struggle to stay in "The Group." Shannon's honest and heartfelt story reminds us of how hard it was to learn what real friends areand why finding them is worth the journey.
6, 7, 8	Unbroken: Young Reader's Edition By. Laura Hillenbrand	*This is the <u>teen adaptation</u> of the adult best-selling biography.* Louis Zamperini traded delinquency for adulation, becoming a runner on the 1938 Olympic track team; in WWII he survived a plane crash only to be captured as a POW; after battling alcoholism, he became a Christian crusader. The tension never wavers, creating a humdinger of a page-turner.
7, 8	The Boys Who Challenged Hitler By. Phillip Hoose	At the outset of World War II, Denmark did not resist German occupation. Deeply ashamed of his nation's leaders, fifteen-year-old Knud Pedersen resolved with his brother and a handful of schoolmates to act against the Nazis if the adults would not. Naming their secret club after the fiery British leader, the young patriots in the Churchill Club committed countless acts of sabotage, infuriating the Germans, who eventually had the boys tracked down and arrested.
8	<i>March: Book 1</i> By. John Lewis	*Graphic Novel!* Congressman John Lewisthe last surviving member of the "Big Six" civil rights leadersrecounts his formative years in this first volume of the March trilogy. The book opens on "Bloody Sunday" then fast-forwards to Barack Obama's January 2009 inauguration. This graphic novel is powerful and moving. This is Book 1 of the March Trilogy.

6, 7, 8	The Boys in the Boat: By. Gregory Mone	*Young Reader's Edition!* Out of the depths of the Great Depression comes the astonishing tale of nine working-class boys from the American West who at the 1936 Olympics showed the world what true grit really meant. With rowers who were the sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers, the University of Washington's eight-oar crew was never expected to defeat the elite East Coast teams, yet they did, going on to shock the world by challenging the German boat rowing for Adolf Hitler.
7, 8	Beyond Courage: The Untold Story of Jewish Resistance During the Holocaust By. Doreen Rappaport	Under the noses of the military, Georges Loinger smuggles thousands of children out of occupied France into Switzerland. In Belgium, three resisters ambush a train, allowing scores of Jews to flee from the cattle cars. In Poland, four brothers lead more than 1,200 ghetto refugees into the forest to build a guerilla force and self-sufficient village. And twelve-year-old Motele Shlayan entertains German officers with his violin moments before setting off a bomb.
6	Knucklehead: Tall Tales & Mostly Tue Stories About Growing Up Scieszka By. Jon Scieszka	WARNING: This book is extremely funny! This is a memoir of what it was like to grow up in the 1950s with 5 brothers and other almost true stories by American children's author Jon Scieszka.
6, 7, 8	Hidden Figures By. Margot Lee Shetterly	This <u>young readers' edition</u> of Shetterly's #1 New York Times bestseller tells the powerful story of African-American mathematicians Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, Katherine Johnson, and Christine Darden, whose work in a group of dedicated female mathematicians known as "human computers" forever changed the face of NASA and the country.
7, 8	The Port Chicago 50: Disaster, Mutiny, and the Fight for Civil Rights By. Steve Sheinkin	On July 17, 1944, a massive explosion rocked the segregated Navy base at Port Chicago, California, killing more than 300 sailors who were at the docks, critically injuring off-duty men in their bunks, and shattering windows up to a mile away. On August 9th, 244 men refused to go back to work until unsafe and unfair conditions at the docks were addressed. When the dust settled, fifty were charged with mutiny, facing decades in jail and even execution. This is a fascinating story of the prejudice that faced black men and women in America's armed forces during World War II.
7, 8	Undefeated: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team By. Steve Sheinkin	When superstar athlete Jim Thorpe and football legend Pop Warner met in 1904 at the Carlisle Indian Industrial School in Pennsylvania, they forged one of the winningest teams in American football history. Called "the team that invented football," they took on the best opponents of their day, including Harvard and the Army in a series of breathtakingly close calls, genius plays, and bone-crushing hard work. But this is not just an underdog story. It's an unflinching look at the persecution of Native Americans and its intersection with the beginning of one of the most belovedand exploitativepastimes in America.
6, 7, 8	Brown Girl Dreaming By. Jaqueline Woodson	Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement.