

Lynbrook Middle Schools Nonfiction Reading Suggestions

Grade 6 through 8

Bell, Cece. El Deafo. 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/illustrator Cece Bell chronicles her hearing loss at a young age and her subsequent experiences with the Phonic Ear, a very powerful—and very awkward—hearing aid. The Phonic Ear gives Cece the ability to hear—sometimes things she shouldn't—but also isolates her from her classmates. She really just wants to fit in and find a true friend, someone who appreciates her as she is. After some trouble, she is finally able to harness the power of the Phonic Ear and become "El Deafo, Listener for All." And more importantly, declare a place for herself in the world and find the friend she's longed for.



RUARED

Bragg, Georgia. How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous. Shares the sometimes gruesome details of the deaths of nineteen famous historical figures, including King Tut, Pocahontas, George Washington, Edgar Allan Poe, and Marie Curie.

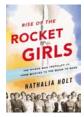
Furtstinger, Nancy. <u>Unstoppable: True Stories of Amazing Bionic Animals</u>. Nancy Furstinger profiles Chris P. Bacon and many other animals in *Unstoppable*—all of whom are making their way around with the help of prosthetics, braces, orthotics and wheelchairs! Readers will meet the caretakers, prosthetists, vets, and loving families that help to make recovery possible. Furstinger offers a glimpse into the cutting-edge technologies, such as 3D printing and brain-controlled prosthetics that are helping to improve the lives of animals and humans alike.





Hillenbrand, Laura. <u>Unbroken: An Olympian's Journey from Airman to Castaway to Captive</u>. 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. *This is the teen adaptation of the adult best-selling biography.

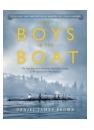
Holt, Nathalia. Rise of the Rocket Girls: the Women Who Propelled Us, from Missiles to the Moon to Mar. Tells the story of women who charted a course not only for the future of space exploration but also for the prospects of female scientists.





Hoose, Phillip. The boys who challenged Hitler: Knud Pedersen and the Churchill Club. 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 take action 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. But their efforts were not in vain: the boys' exploits and eventual imprisonment helped spark a full-blown Danish resistance. Interweaving his own narrative with the recollections of Knud himself, here is Phillip Hoose's inspiring story of these young war heroes.

Mone, Gregory. The Boys in the Boat: The True Story of an American Team's Epic Journey to Win Gold at the 1936 Olympics. "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"--Amazon.com. *This is the teen adaptation of the adult best-selling biography.



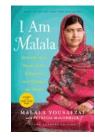


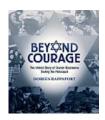


<u>Scieszka, John. Knuckleheds: Tall Tales & Mostly True Stories About Growing Up Scieszka.</u>

Presents a memoir of what it was like to grow up in the 1950s and other almost true stories by American children's author Jon Scieszka.

Yousafzai, Malala with Patricia McCormick. <u>I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood up for Education and Changed the World</u>. Malala Yousafzai's describes her fight for education for girls under Taliban rule, the support she received from her parents to pursue an education, and how the Taliban retaliated against her by trying to kill her.





Rappaport, Doreen. <u>Beyond Courage: The Untold Story of Jewish Resistance During the Holocaust</u>. Under the noses of the military, Georges Loinger smuggles thousands of children out of occupied France into Switzerland. Through twenty-one meticulously researched accounts, Doreen Rappaport illuminates the defiance of tens of thousands of Jews across eleven Nazi-occupied countries during World War II. In answer to the genocidal madness that was Hitler's Holocaust, the only response they could abide was resistance, and their greatest weapons were courage, ingenuity, the will to

Sheinkin, Steve. <u>Bomb: The Race to Build--And Steal--The World's Most Dangerous Weapon</u>. "Harry Gold was right: This is a big story." So begins this depiction of the "creation-and theft-of the deadliest weapon ever invented." This fascinating tale focuses mainly on three individuals who sabotaged German bomb efforts while working for the Norwegian resistance. This true story is peppered with photographs and reads like an international spy thriller.

survive, and the resolve to save others or to die trying.





Sheinkin, Steve. The Port Chicago 50: Disaster, Mutiny, and the Fight for Civil Rights. 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.

Swanson, James. <u>Chasing Lincoln's Killer</u> Here is a fast-paced account of the assassination of the sixteenth president and the gripping 12-day hunt for John Wilkes Booth and his fellow conspirators that followed.





Woodson, Jacqueline. <u>Brown Girl Dreaming</u>. The author shares her childhood memories and reveals the first sparks that ignited her writing career in free-verse poems about growing up in the North and South.

