

**Jackson Township School District
Middle School Literacy
Required Summer Reading List 2009**

8th Grade Titles- Select One	Summary
The Outsiders S.E. Hinton	The story of two rival groups, the greasers and sock's during the 1960's.
Shooting the Moon Frances O'Roark Dowell	Twelve year old Jamie Dexter's brother joins the army and is sent to the Vietnam War. At first, she can't wait to hear about his tales about battle. However, when he only sends her rolls of film to be developed, she begins to see a side of war she never imagined.
All Shook Up Shelly Pearsall	Thirteen year old Josh has to move to Chicago with his father while his mother nurses his grandmother. Starting a new school isn't Josh's only problem – it turns out his father is an Elvis impersonator.
Things Not Seen Andrew Clements	Fifteen year old Bobby, his parents and his friend Alicia try to find a cure when he wakes up one day and finds himself invisible.
Three Cups of Tea (The Young Reader's Edition) Greg Mortenson & David Oliver Relin	In 1993, while climbing one of the world's most difficult peaks, Mortenson became lost and ill, and eventually found aid in the tiny Pakistani village of Korphe. He vowed to repay his generous hosts by building a school; his efforts have grown into the Central Asia Institute, which has since provided education for 25,000 children. Retold for middle readers, the story remains inspirational and compelling.
Swordbird Nancy Yi Fan (Resource Students Only)	Swordbird is about a supernatural hero and the struggle against an evil hawk and his crows and ravens.
Stand Tall Joan Bauer (Resource Students Only)	Tree is a six foot 12 year old who is trying to deal with the divorce of his parents with the help of his friends and Vietnam Vet grandfather.

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7th Grade Titles- Select One	Summary
Where the Red Fern Grows Wilson Rawls	A young boy, Billy, living in the Ozark mountains saves his money to buy two hunting dogs.
Ruby Holler Sharon Creech	Orphaned twins, Florida and Dallas accompany an elderly couple to a beautiful, mysterious place called Ruby Holler.
The Last Dog on Earth Daniel Ehrenhaft	Fourteen year old rebellious Logan hates everyone except his dog Jack. As a mysterious disease is sweeping across the country, Logan and Jack go on the run.
Before We Were Free Julia Alvarez	Anita de la Torre begins to understand the true meaning of freedom as she begins to realize what it means to live under a dictatorship in the Dominican Republic.
Jackie's Nine Sharon Robinson	Sharon Robinson writes about the nine core values her father, baseball legend, Jackie Robinson used to help him cope with his struggles as the first African American player in the major leagues.
The Jacket Andrew Clements (Resource Students Only)	A sixth grader realizes he is prejudiced when he falsely assumes that an African-American schoolmate has stolen his coat. The story pointedly delivers a timely message and can serve as a springboard for dialogue about tolerance and self-honesty.
Rules Cynthia Lord (Resource Students Only)	Twelve year old Catherine wants a normal life. However, things never go the way she planned, especially as she deals with a brother with autism.

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6TH Grade Titles-Select One	Summary
Souder William Armstrong	Angry and humiliated when his sharecropper father is jailed for stealing food for his family, a young boy grows in understanding by learning to read and with the help of the devoted family dog.
Al Capone Does My Shirts Gennifer Choldenko	In 1935 Moose Flannegan and his family move to Alcatraz where his father works as a prison guard.
Fairest Gail Carson Levine	A fairy tale set in a kingdom that is devoted to singing.
No More Dead Dogs Gordon Korman	Wallace is an 8 th grade football hero sent to detention because he is unable to lie. He gets into more trouble when he begins to take over the drama club play.
The Golden Age of Pirates Bob Temple	An interactive history adventure that explores pirate life. Offers interesting details and facts about notorious pirates such as Blackbeard.
The Secret School Avi (Resource Students Only)	In 1925, 14 year old Ida secretly becomes the teacher of a one-room school house after it is closed down.
Runt Marion Dane Bauer (Resource Students Only)	Runt, the smallest cub in the litter wants to prove himself to his father and his pack.