

# Springfield Public Schools

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List

### 2019

Bertrand, Diane Trino's Choice (fiction)

*To be thirteen is worthless, Trino Oliveres thinks. Trino gets angry when he looks at the world around him. When he gets invited to hang with a rival gang, what kind of choice does he have? To run or to die?*

Fleischman, John Phineas Gage: a Gruesome but True Story about Brain Science (nonfiction)

*The true story of Phineas Gage, whose brain had been pierced by an iron rod in 1848, and who survived and became a case study in how the brain functions.*

Gaiman, Neil The Graveyard Book (fiction)

*The orphan Bod, short for Nobody, is taken in by the inhabitants of a graveyard as a child of eighteen months and raised lovingly and carefully to the age of eighteen years by the community of ghosts and otherworldly creatures.*

Giff, Patricia Reilly Pictures of Hollis Woods (fiction)

*A troublesome twelve-year-old orphan, staying with an elderly artist who needs her, remembers the only other time she was happy in a foster home, with a family that truly seemed to care about her.*

Goldin, David and Karen Science Fair Winners: Junkyard Science (nonfiction)

Romano Young Each book in the Science Fair Winners series sketches out 20 science projects related to a theme. Within the theme, the topics vary but generally deal with interesting issues that are relevant to both contemporary scientific research and everyday life. *The casual writing style and Goldin's playful illustrations make the books and the projects approachable, and the pull quotes from scientists are engaging.*

Gratz, Alan The Brooklyn Nine: A Novel Told in Nine Innings (fiction)

*Follows the fortunes of a German immigrant family through nine generations, beginning in 1845, as they experience American life and play baseball.*

Halpern, Jack Dormia (fiction)

*After learning of his ancestral ties to Dormia, a hidden kingdom in the Ural Mountains whose inhabitants possess the ancient power of "wakeful sleeping," twelve-year-old Alfonso sets out on a mission to save the kingdom from disaster.*

Key, Watt Alabama Moon (fiction)

*After the death of his father, ten-year-old Moon Blake is removed from the Alabama forest where he was raised and sent to a boy's home, where, for the first time, he has contact with the outside world and learns about friendship, love, and humanity.*

Korman, Gordon Schooled (fiction)

*Cap lives in isolation with his grandmother, a former hippie; but when she falls from a tree and breaks her hip, Cap is sent to a foster home where he has his first experience in a public school. 3*

Lubar, David Hidden Talents (fiction)

*Thirteen-year-old Martin, a new student at an alternative school for misfits and problem students, falls in with a group of boys with psychic powers and discovers something surprising about himself.*

Lupica, Mike Heat (fiction)

*Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old and he has no parents to offer them proof.*

O'Connor George Athena: Grey-Eyed Goddess (graphic novel)

*Top-notch artwork and design values are used to tell the myths of Athena including complementary (or conflicting) stories of how she gained the Pallas moniker along with quick treatments of Perseus and Medusa and the weaver Arachne. O'Connor's take on mythology is well researched, synthesized, and presented, yet it still maintains a stupendous superhero appeal.*

Ostertag, Molly The Witch Boy (graphic novel)

*In Aster's family, boys are shapeshifters and girls are witches—but Aster has always been more interested in witchcraft than shapeshifting. As Aster tries to remain true to himself, secrets about his family's past are unearthed. First in a series.*

Park, Linda Sue A Single Shard (historical fiction)

*Living under a bridge in a twelfth-century Korean village, the orphan Tree-ear dreams of becoming a potter. How can he convince master potter Min that he deserves a chance? Out of love and loyalty, the twelve-year-old hero of this Newbery Award-winning novel undertakes a dangerous mission.*

Pierce, Tamora Alanna: The First Adventure (fiction)

*Alanna, who aspires to be a knight even though she is a girl, disguises herself as a boy to become a royal page, learning many hard lessons along her path to high adventure.*

Riordan, Rick Sea of Monsters (fiction)

*Seventh-grader Percy Jackson has recently discovered that he is the son of Poseidon, making him half human and half god. Along with his demigod and satyr friend, he must save his beloved Camp Half-Blood from evil forces determined to destroy it.*

Spinelli, Jerry Crash (fiction)

*A young football player discovers that life is not about shoving other people and other opinions aside.*

Stead, Rebecca When You Reach Me (fiction)

*As her mother prepares to be a contestant on the 1980s television game show, "The \$20,000 Pyramid," a twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seems to defy the laws of time and space.*

Tarshis, Lauren Emma-Jean Lazurus Fell Out of a Tree (fiction)

*A quirky and utterly logical seventh-grade girl named Emma-Jean Lazarus discovers some interesting results when she gets involved in the messy everyday problems of her peers.*