



South Carolina Reads

2008

100 Suggested Titles for Middle School Students

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This is a suggested reading list for middle school students and is not intended for elementary students. However, some titles will be of interest to high school students. The recommended titles reflect the quality and complexity of the types of material middle school students should be reading both at school and outside of class. This list contains contemporary titles to create a more comprehensive list for expanding options for classroom teachers, librarians, students, and parents.

The purpose of this list is to provide suggestions for literature with a wide appeal to middle school students. While this list is not intended to replace existing reading lists, classroom teachers, reading teachers, library information specialists, parents, and others should use this list to encourage their young people to read a wider variety of current literature.

Criteria used in the selection of books for this suggested reading list were:

- Copyright date must be within five years from the current calendar date;
- Each title must have at least three favorable reviews from recognized review sources;
- Each title must be currently available in print; and
- The current winner of the South Carolina Junior Book Award.

This list will be updated annually to meet the selection criteria as outlined above. For more information about this middle school suggested reading list, please contact Martha Alewine (malewine@ed.sc.gov).

100 Suggested Titles for Middle School Students Alphabetical by Author

| Author | Title | ©Date |
|-------------------------------|--|-------|
| 1. Alexander, Alma | Gift of the Unmage | 2007 |
| 2. Anderson, Jody Lynn | May-Bird and the Ever After | 2006 |
| 3. Aubin, Henry | Rise of the Golden Cobra | 2007 |
| 4. Avi | Book Without Words: A Fable of Medieval Magic | 2005 |
| 5. Balliett, B. | Wright 3, The | 2006 |
| 6. Birdsall, Jeanne | Penderwicks, The: a summer tale of four sisters, two rabbits, and a very interesting boy | 2007 |
| 7. Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker | Lacemaker and the Princess, The | 2007 |
| 8. Burns, Lorie Griffin | Tracking Trash: Flotsam, Jetsam, and the Science of Ocean Motion | 2007 |
| 9. Caldwell, Dave | Speed Show: How NASCAR Won the Heart of America | 2006 |
| 10. Carbone, Elisa Lynn | Blood on the river: Jamestown 1607 | 2006 |
| 11. Carey, Janet Lee | Dragon's keep | 2007 |
| 12. Choldenko, Gennifer | Al Capone Does My Shirts | 2004 |
| 13. Cooper, Susan | Victory | 2006 |
| 14. Copeland, Mark | Bundle at Blackthorpe Heath, The | 2006 |
| 15. Creech, Sharon | Heartbeat | 2004 |
| 16. Curtis, Christopher Paul | Elijah of Buxton | 2007 |
| 17. DeFelice, Cynthia | Missing Manatee, The | 2005 |
| 18. Duey, Kathleen | Skin Hunger: A Resurrection of Magic, Book One | 2007 |
| 19. Durst, Sarah Beth | Into the Wild | 2007 |
| 20. Edwards, Julie | Dragon: Hound of Honor | 2004 |
| 21. Farmer, Nancy | Sea of Trolls, The | 2004 |
| 22. Fleischman, Sid | Escape!: the story of the Great Houdini | 2006 |
| 23. Fletcher, Charlie | Stoneheart | 2007 |
| 24. Frazier, Neta Lohnes | Stout-hearted Seven, The: Orphaned on the Oregon Trail | 2006 |
| 25. Fuqua, Jonathan Scott | Willoughby Spit Wonder, The | 2004 |
| 26. Gandits, John | Technically, It's Not My Fault | 2004 |
| 27. Gilkerson, William | Pirate's Passage | 2006 |
| 28. Going, K. L. | Liberation of Gabriel King, The | 2005 |
| 29. Gravett, Christopher | Real Knights: Over 20 True Stories of Chivalrous Deeds | 2005 |

| Author | Title | ©Date |
|---------------------------------------|--|--------------|
| 30. Gray, Dianne E. | Tomorrow the River | 2006 |
| 31. Grimes, Nikki | Road to Paris, The | 2006 |
| 32. Haarsma, P. J. | Softwire Virus on Orbis 1 | 2006 |
| 33. Hale, Shannon | Princess Academy | 2006 |
| 34. Hannigan, Kathrine | Ida B-- : and her plans to maximize fun, avoid disaster, and (possibly) save the world | 2004 |
| 35. Harness, Cheryl | Franklin & Eleanor | 2004 |
| 36. Hart, Lenore | Treasure of Savage Island, The | 2005 |
| 37. Hesse, Karen | Aleutian Sparrow | 2005 |
| 38. Hobbs, Will | Crossing the Wire | 2006 |
| 39. Hoffman, Alice | Incantation | 2006 |
| 40. Holm, Jennifer | Penny from Heaven | 2006 |
| 41. Horowitz, A | Snakehead | 2007 |
| 42. Hostetter, Joyce | Blue | 2006 |
| 43. Jocelyn, Martha | Mable Riley : a reliable record of humdrum, peril, and romance | 2004 |
| 44. Jones, Kimberly | Sand Dollar Summer | 2006 |
| 45. Jordan, Rosa | Goatnappers, The | 2007 |
| 46. Kadohata, Cynthia | Cracker!: the best dog in Vietnam | 2007 |
| 47. Keehn, Sally M. | Gnat Stokes and the foggy bottom swamp queen | 2005 |
| 48. Kent, Deborah | Riding the Pony Express | 2006 |
| 49. Kerr, P. B. | Children of the Lamp, The: The Akhenaten Adventure | 2004 |
| 50. Kinney, Jeff | Diary of a wimpy kid: Greg Heffley's journal | 2007 |
| 51. Kladstrup, Kristen | Book of Story Beginnings, The | 2006 |
| 52. Klages, Ellen | Green Glass Sea, The | 2006 |
| 53. Korman, Gordon | Schooled | 2007 |
| 54. Landy, Derek | Skulduggery Pleasant | 2007 |
| 55. Larson, Kirby | Hattie Big Sky | 2006 |
| 56. Lester, Julius | Day of Tears: A Novel in Dialogue | 2005 |
| 57. Lisle, Janet Taylor | Black Duck | 2006 |
| 58. Lupica, Mike | Heat | 2006 |
| 59. Mack, Tracy and Michael Citrin | Sherlock Holmes and the Baker Street Irregulars | 2006 |
| 60. Mantell, Paul | Arthur Ashe: Young Tennis Champion | 2006 |

| Author | Title | ©Date |
|--------------------------|--|--------------|
| 61. Marrin, Albert | Oh, Rats! | 2006 |
| 62. Marsh, Katherine | Night tourist, The | 2007 |
| 63. Mass, Wendy | Mango-shaped space, A: A novel | 2003 |
| 64. Mazer, Harry | Boy No More, A | 2004 |
| 65. McWhorter, Diane | Dream of Freedom, A: The Civil Rights Movement from 1954 to 1968 | 2004 |
| 66. Miller, Millie | Our World: A Country-by-Country Guide | 2006 |
| 67. Moses, Shelia P. | I, Dred Scott | 2004 |
| 68. Murphy, Jim | Desperate Journey | 2006 |
| 69. Murphy, Pat | Wild girls, The | 2007 |
| 70. Nimmo, Jenny | Snow Spider, The | 2006 |
| 71. Paulsen, Gary | The legend of Bass Reeves : being the true account of the most valiant marshal in the West | 2006 |
| 72. Patron, Susan | Higher Power of Lucky, The | 2006 |
| 73. Peck, Richard | The Teacher's Funeral: A Comedy in Three Parts | 2004 |
| 74. Porter, Pamela | Crazy Man, The | 2005 |
| 75. Rinaldi, Anne | Unlikely friendship, An: a novel of Mary Todd Lincoln and Elizabeth Keckley | 2007 |
| 76. Riordan, Rick | Lightning Thief, The | 2005 |
| 77. Rowling, J.K. | Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows | 2007 |
| 78. Russo, Marisabina | Always Remember Me: How One Family Survived World War II | 2005 |
| 79. Salisbury, Graham | Eyes of the emperor | 2005 |
| 80. Selznick, Brian | The Invention of Hugo Cabret | 2007 |
| 81. Shafer, Audrey | Mailbox, The | 2006 |
| 82. Shreve, Susan | Kiss Me Tomorrow | 2006 |
| 83. Simmons, Michael | Pool Boy | 2005 |
| 84. Skye, Obert | Leven Thumps and the Gateway to Foo | 2005 |
| 85. Smelcer, J. E. | Trap, The | 2006 |
| 86. Stanley, Diane | Bella at midnight | 2006 |
| 87. Stead, Rebecca | First light | 2007 |
| 88. Stewart, Jennifer J. | Close Encounters of a Third World Kind | 2004 |
| 89. Stine, R. L. | Creepy Creatures: 3 Ghoulish Graphix Tales | 2006 |
| 90. Stone, Jeff | Crane | 2007 |
| 91. Telgemeier, Raina | Truth about Stacey, The: A Baby-sitters Club Graphic Novel | 2006 |

| Author | Title | ©Date |
|-----------------------------|---|--------------|
| 92. Turner, Ann Warren | Hard Hit | 2006 |
| 93. Van Maarsen, Jacqueline | Friend Called Anne | 2005 |
| 94. Weeks, Sarah | Jumping the Scratch | 2006 |
| 95. Whitesel, Cheryl | Blue Fingers: A Ninja's Tale | 2004 |
| 96. Wilhelm. Doug | Revealers, The | 2003 |
| 97. Wong, Li Keng | Good fortune: My journey to Gold Mountain | 2006 |
| 100. Woodson, Jacqueline | Feathers | 2007 |