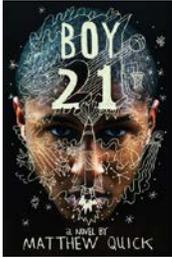


SUMMER READING BOOK TRAILERS & AUTHOR INFORMATION 2018

8th INTO 9th GRADE

Keep in mind that links can change. Preview before viewing with students.

Links last checked May 2018.



***Boy 21*- Matthew Quick**

Genre: Fantasy

250 pages

Basketball has always been an escape for Finley. He lives in broken-down Belmont, a town ruled by the Irish mob, drugs, violence, and racially charged rivalries. At home, his dad works nights, and Finley is left to take care of his disabled grandfather alone. He's always dreamed of getting out someday, but until he can, putting on that number 21 jersey makes everything seem okay. Russ has just moved to the neighborhood, and the life of this teen basketball phenom has been turned upside down by tragedy. Cut off from everyone he knows, he won't pick up a basketball, but answers only to the name Boy21--taken from his former jersey number. As their final year of high school brings these two boys together, a unique friendship may turn out to be the answer they both need. [Trailer](#) [Author Site](#)



***Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers*- Mary Roach**

Genre: Non-Fiction

1230L 320 pages

An oddly compelling, often hilarious forensic exploration of the strange lives of our bodies postmortem. For two thousand years, cadavers some willingly, some unwittingly have been involved in science's boldest strides and weirdest undertakings. They've tested France's first guillotines, ridden the NASA Space Shuttle, been crucified in a Parisian laboratory to test the authenticity of the Shroud of Turin, and helped solve the mystery of TWA Flight 800. For every new surgical procedure, from heart transplants to gender reassignment surgery, cadavers have been there alongside surgeons, making history in their quiet way. In this fascinating, ennobling account, Mary Roach visits the good deeds of cadavers over the centuries from the anatomy labs and human-sourced pharmacies of medieval and nineteenth-century Europe to a human decay research facility in Tennessee, to a plastic surgery practice lab, to a Scandinavian funeral directors' conference on human composting. In her droll, inimitable voice, Roach tells the engrossing story of our bodies when we are no longer with them. [Trailer](#) [Author Site](#)

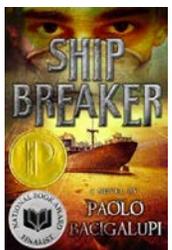


***The Knife of Never Letting Go*- Patrick Ness**

Genre: Science Fiction

860L 496 pages

Prentisstown isn't like other towns. Everyone can hear everyone else's thoughts in an overwhelming, never-ending stream of Noise. Just a month away from the birthday that will make him a man, Todd and his dog, Manchee -- whose thoughts Todd can hear too, whether he wants to or not -- stumble upon an area of complete silence. They find that in a town where privacy is impossible, something terrible has been hidden -- a secret so awful that Todd and Manchee must run for their lives. [Trailer](#) [Author Site](#)

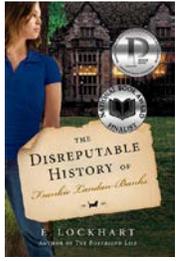


***Ship Breaker*- Paolo Bacigalupi**

Genre: Young Adult Fiction

HL690L 336 pages

In America's Gulf Coast region, where grounded oil tankers are being broken down for parts, Nailer, a teenage boy, works the light crew, scavenging for copper wiring just to make quota--and hopefully live to see another day. But when, by luck or chance, he discovers an exquisite clipper ship beached during a recent hurricane, Nailer faces the most important decision of his life: Strip the ship for all it's worth or rescue its lone survivor, a beautiful and wealthy girl who could lead him to a better life. In this powerful novel, award-winning author Paolo Bacigalupi delivers a thrilling, fast-paced adventure set in a vivid and raw, uncertain future. [Trailer](#) [Author Site](#)



***The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau Banks*- E. Lockhart Genre: Young Adult Fiction**

890L 352 pages

Frankie Landau-Banks at age 14:

Debate Club.

Her father's "bunny rabbit."

A mildly geeky girl attending a highly competitive boarding school.

Frankie Landau-Banks at age 15:

A knockout figure.

A sharp tongue.

A chip on her shoulder.

And a gorgeous new senior boyfriend: the supremely goofy, word-obsessed Matthew Livingston.

Frankie Landau-Banks.

No longer the kind of girl to take "no" for an answer.

Especially when "no" means she's excluded from her boyfriend's all-male secret society.

Not when her ex boyfriend shows up in the strangest of places.

Not when she knows she's smarter than any of them.

When she knows Matthew's lying to her.

And when there are so many, many pranks to be done.

Frankie Landau-Banks, at age 16:

Possibly a criminal mastermind.

This is the story of how she got that way. [Trailer](#) [Author Site](#)



***Nothing*-Janne Teller- Martin Aitken**

Genre: Contemporary Young Adult Fiction

1000L 240 pages

When Pierre-Anthon realizes there is no meaning to life, the seventh-grader leaves his classroom, climbs a tree, and stays there. His classmates cannot make him come down, not even by pelting him with rocks.

So to prove to Pierre-Anthon that life has meaning, the children decide to give up things of importance.

The pile starts with the superficial—a fishing rod, a new pair of shoes. But as the sacrifices become more extreme, the students grow increasingly desperate to get Pierre-Anthon down, to justify their belief in meaning. Sure to prompt intense thought and discussion, *Nothing*—already a treasured work overseas—is not to be missed. [Trailer](#)



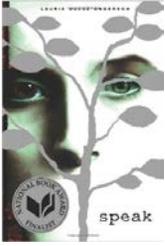
***The Adoration of Jenna Fox* - Mary E. Pearson**

Genre: Science Fiction

570L 288 pages

Who is Jenna Fox? Seventeen-year-old Jenna has been told that is her name. She has just awoken from a coma, they tell her, and she is still recovering from a terrible accident in which she was involved a year ago. But what happened before that? Jenna doesn't remember her life. Or does she? And are the memories really hers? This fascinating novel represents a stunning new direction for acclaimed author Mary Pearson. Set in a near future America, it takes readers on an unforgettable journey through questions of biomedical ethics and the nature of humanity. Mary Pearson's vividly drawn characters and masterful writing soar to a new level of sophistication.

[Trailer](#) [Author Site](#)

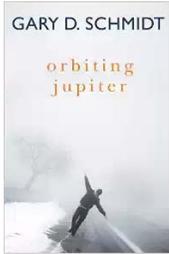


***Speak*- Laurie Halse Anderson**

Genre: Fiction

690L 208 pages

Melinda Sordino busted an end-of-summer party by calling the cops. Now her old friends won't talk to her, and people she doesn't even know hate her from a distance. The safest place to be is alone, inside her own head. But even that's not safe. Because there's something she's trying not to think about, something about the night of the party that, if she let it in, would blow her carefully constructed disguise to smithereens. And then she would have to speak the truth. This extraordinary first novel has captured the imaginations of teenagers and adults across the country. [Trailer](#) [Author Site](#)



***Orbiting Jupiter*- Gary Schmidt**

Genre: Realistic Fiction

740L 192 pages

The two-time Newbery Honor winner Gary D. Schmidt delivers the shattering story of Joseph, a father at thirteen, who has never seen his daughter, Jupiter. After spending time in a juvenile facility, he's placed with a foster family on a farm in rural Maine. Here Joseph, damaged and withdrawn, meets twelve-year-old Jack, who narrates the account of the troubled, passionate teen who wants to find his baby at any cost. In this riveting novel, two boys discover the true meaning of family and the sacrifices it requires. [Author talks about book](#)

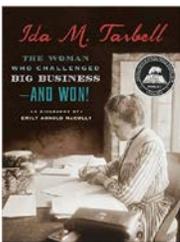


***Eyes Wide Open: Going Behind the Environmental Headlines*- Paul Fleischman**

Genre: Nonfiction

1080L 208 pages

Paul Fleischman offers teens an environmental wake-up call and a toolkit for decoding the barrage of conflicting information confronting them. We're living in an Ah-Ha moment. Take 250 years of human ingenuity. Add abundant fossil fuels. The result: a population and lifestyle never before seen. The downsides weren't visible for centuries, but now they are. Suddenly everything needs rethinking – suburbs, cars, fast food, cheap prices. It's a changed world. This book explains it. Not with isolated facts, but the principles driving attitudes and events, from vested interests to denial to big-country syndrome. Because money is as important as molecules in the environment, science is joined with politics, history, and psychology to provide the briefing needed to comprehend the 21st century. [Author talks about book](#)

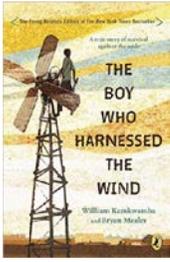


***Ida Tarbell: The Woman Who Challenged Big Business-and Won!* Emily A. McCully**

Genre: Biography

1120L 288 pages

Born in 1857 and raised in oil country, Ida M. Tarbell was one of the first investigative journalists and probably the most influential in her time. Her series of articles on the Standard Oil Trust, a complicated business empire run by John D. Rockefeller, revealed to readers the underhanded, even illegal practices that had led to Rockefeller's success. Rejecting the term "muckraker" to describe her profession, she went on to achieve remarkable prominence for a woman of her generation as a writer and shaper of public opinion. This biography offers an engrossing portrait of a trailblazer in a man's world who left her mark on the American consciousness. [Article](#) [Author Site](#)



***The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* -William Kamkwamba**

Genre: Nonfiction

920L 320 pages

William Kamkwamba was born in Malawi, a country where magic ruled and modern science was mystery. It was also a land withered by drought and hunger. But William had read about windmills, and he dreamed of building one that would bring to his small village a set of luxuries that only 2 percent of Malawians could enjoy: electricity and running water. His neighbors called him misala—crazy—but William refused to let go of his dreams. With a small pile of once-forgotten science textbooks; some scrap metal, tractor parts, and bicycle halves; and an armory of curiosity and determination, he embarked on a daring plan to forge an unlikely contraption and small miracle that would change the lives around him. *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* is a remarkable true story about human inventiveness and its power to overcome crippling adversity. It will inspire anyone who doubts the power of one individual's ability to change his community and better the lives of those around him. [Trailer](#) [Author TED talk 4 minutes](#)

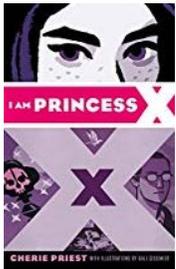


***Six of Crows*- Leigh Bardugo**

Genre: Fantasy

HL790L 480 pages

Ketterdam: a bustling hub of international trade where anything can be had for the right price--and no one knows that better than criminal prodigy Kaz Brekker. Kaz is offered a chance at a deadly heist that could make him rich beyond his wildest dreams. But he can't pull it off alone...A convict with a thirst for revenge. A sharpshooter who can't walk away from a wager. A runaway with a privileged past. A spy known as the Wraith. A Heartreder using her magic to survive the slums. A thief with a gift for unlikely escapes. Six dangerous outcasts. One impossible heist. Kaz's crew is the only thing that might stand between the world and destruction—if they don't kill each other first. [Trailer](#) [Author site](#)

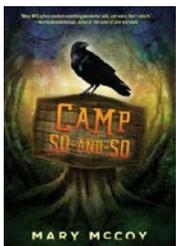


***I Am Princess X* - Cherie Priest**

Genre: Mystery/Thriller

790L 227 pages

Libby and May created their own comic, Princess X. Libby draws and May writes the stories. On a stormy night, Libby and her mother die in a car accident. Supposedly. But then May begins to see Princess X online, and receives clues to the mystery surrounding Libby's death. And she begins to wonder...is Libby still alive? [Trailer](#)

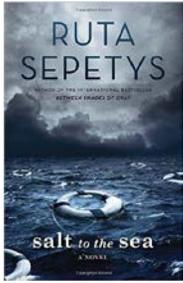


***Camp So-And-So* - Mary McCoy**

Genre: Mystery/Thriller

960L 424 pages

Twenty-five campers. Five cabins. One very dangerous summer camp. Cabin 1 must face off against their ultimate rivals, the posh campers across the lake—who may be more dangerous than they seem. Cabin 2 is being stalked by a murderous former camper. Cabin 3 sets off on a quest to break an age-old curse. Cabin 4 will meet their soul mates—who also pose a deadly threat. And Cabin 5...well, it might already be too late for Cabin 5. This is no ordinary camp. Survival will require courage, cunning, and perhaps even magic. And the hot dogs are terrible. [Trailer](#)



***Salt to the Sea* - Ruta Sepetys**

Genre: Historical Fiction

HL560L 400 pages

World War II is drawing to a close in East Prussia and thousands of refugees are on a desperate trek toward freedom, many with something to hide. Among them are Joana, Emilia, and Florian, whose paths converge en route to the ship that promises salvation, the *Wilhelm Gustloff*. Forced by circumstance to unite, the three find their strength, courage, and trust in each other tested with each step closer to safety. Just when it seems freedom is within their grasp, tragedy strikes. Not country, nor culture, nor status matter as all ten thousand people—adults and children alike—aboard must fight for the same thing: survival. This masterful work of historical fiction is inspired by the real-life tragedy that was the sinking of the *Wilhelm Gustloff*—the greatest maritime disaster in history. [Trailer](#)



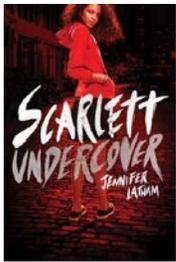
***Outrun the Moon* - Stacy Lee**

Genre: Historical Fiction

HL780L 400 pages

San Francisco, 1906: On April 18, a historic earthquake rocks San Francisco, destroying Mercy's home and school. Now she's forced to wait with her classmates for their families in a temporary park encampment. Though fires might rage, and the city may be in shambles, Mercy can't sit by while they wait for the army to bring help—she still has the “bossy” cheeks that mark her as someone who gets things done. But what can one teenage girl do to heal so many suffering in her broken city?

[Book Review \(6 minutes long\)](#)



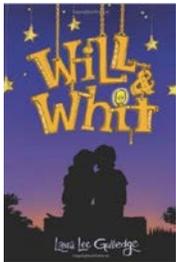
***Scarlett Undercover* - Jennifer Latham**

Genre: Historical Fiction

HL780L 400 pages

Meet Scarlett, a smart, sarcastic, kick-butt, Muslim American heroine, ready to take on crime in her hometown of Las Almas. When a new case finds the private eye caught up in a centuries-old battle of evil genies and ancient curses, Scarlett discovers that her own family secrets may have more to do with the situation than she thinks -- and that cracking the case could lead to solving her father's murder. Jennifer Latham delivers a compelling story and a character to remember in this one-of-a-kind debut novel.

[Trailer](#)



***Will & Whit* - Laura Lee Gulledge**

Genre: Graphic Novel

192 pages

Wilhelmina “Will” Huxstep is a creative soul struggling to come to terms with a family tragedy. She crafts whimsical lamps, in part to deal with her fear of the dark. As she wraps up another summer in her mountain town, she longs for unplugged adventures with her fellow creative friends, Autumn, Noel, and Reese. Little does she know that she will get her wish in the form of an arts carnival and a blackout, courtesy of a hurricane named Whitney, which forces Will to face her fear of darkness. [Trailer](#)

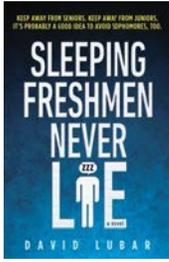


***The Shadow Hero* - Gene Luen Yang**

Genre: Graphic Novel

GN420L 176 pages

An unlikely 19-year-old young man, Hank, is the son of Chinese immigrants who own a grocery store in 1940s America. When his mother is rescued by a superhero, (she) ...decides that it's Hank's fate to become a hero himself...Though Hank initially shies away from assuming the role of caped crusader, when tragedy strikes, he's eventually inspired to call himself the Green Turtle, and fight back against gangsters who have been intimidating his family and many others in Chinatown. [Trailer](#)

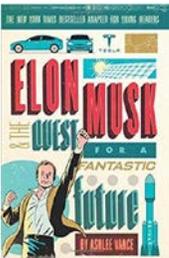


***Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie* - David Lubar**

Genre: Comedy

560L 288 pages

Starting high school is never easy. Seniors take your lunch money. Girls you've known forever are suddenly beautiful and unattainable. And you can never get enough sleep. Could there be a worse time for Scott's mother to announce she's pregnant? Scott decides high school would be a lot less overwhelming if it came with a survival manual, so he begins to write down tips for his new sibling. Meanwhile, he's trying his best to capture the attention of Julia, the freshman goddess. In the process, Scott manages to become involved in nearly everything the school has to offer. So while he tries to find his place in the confusing world of high school, win Julia's heart, and keep his sanity, Scott will be recording all the details for his siblings—and your—enjoyment. [Hard to find a good trailer...this is the best one...doesn't really start until 30 sec. in](#) [Chapter 1 read aloud](#)



***Elon Musk and the Quest for the Fantastic Future* -Ashlee Vance (YA Edition)**

Genre: Biography

1150L 288 pages

There are few people in history who could match Elon Musk's relentless drive and vision. A modern combination of famous inventors and industrialists like Thomas Edison, Henry Ford, and Steve Jobs, Elon is the man behind companies such as SpaceX, Tesla Motors, SolarCity, and PayPal that are transforming the way we live. Written with exclusive access to Elon, his family, and his friends, this book traces Elon's journey from a kid in South Africa to a young man in the United States, his dramatic technical inventions, and his world-changing companies. Elon has sparked new levels of innovation in the world, and this book gives young readers a detailed but fast-paced look at his story [Trailer](#)

SUMMER SUMMER SUMMER

Summer Reading Assignment for Students Entering Grades 9-12

- Students will be required to read a minimum of 2 books from the above list, however, more are encouraged.
- Students will complete a digital book talk on one of the books they have read when they return to school in September.
- **Students are required to provide a written list of the books they read including the name of each author.**
- When they return to school in September the student and teacher will collaborate to decide which book they will use for their digital book talk.
- Students will be required to complete an in-class timed writing on the book they did not select for their digital book talk.

Students should follow the guidelines listed below as they prepare for their digital book talks.

Components of a Digital Book Talk:

- The digital book talk involves various options of technology based programs for students to select from. Options will be presented upon return to school. To prepare for the book talk, students may take notes on the following suggested components.
 - Briefly summarize the plot of the book and identify the genre, but **do not** give away the ending. Think about what you would and would not have wanted to know before reading.
 - Prepare what you are going to say about the book. You don't need to memorize, but you need to know the points you are going to make. Practice until you are comfortable with your material.
 - Optional topics to focus on:
 - The theme of the book
 - The major conflict
 - A brief description of the main characters and their relationships
 - Setting and how it relates to the plot and characters
 - Mention if the book reminds you of another book you have read or a movie you have seen
 - Identify what you think the author would have wanted readers to take from the experience of reading the book
 - Tell the audience if you recommend the book and why or why not. Remember, even if the book was not one of your favorites, does not mean that someone else may not enjoy reading the book.
 - Point out a significant or powerful passage from your book. This should be short and leave the listener wanting more.