

Grade 6 Summer Reading

Please select, purchase and read ONE of the following Newberry Honor books. Themes include friendship, courage, and individuality, to name a few. Bring the book to school on the first day and as directed thereafter. Be prepared to discuss and respond in writing about characters, settings, plot, conflict, and theme.

One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia: In the summer of 1968, after travelling from Brooklyn to Oakland, California to spend a month with the mother they barely know, eleven-year-old Delphine and her sisters arrive to a cold welcome as they discover that their mother, a dedicated poet and printer, is resentful of the intrusion of their visit and wants them to attend a nearby Black Panther summer.

Al Capone Does My Shirts by Dan Gutman: A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.

Pictures of Hollis Woods by Patricia Reilly Giff: 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.

The Invention of Hugo Cabret: Orphan, clock keeper, and thief, Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity. But when his world suddenly interlocks with an eccentric, bookish girl and a bitter old man who runs a toy booth in the station, Hugo's undercover life and his most precious secret are put in jeopardy. A cryptic drawing, a treasured notebook, a stolen key, a mechanical man, and a hidden message from Hugo's dead father form the backbone of this intricate, tender, and spellbinding mystery.

The Hidden Girl: A True Story of the Holocaust by Lola Rein Kaufman and Lois Metzger: A gripping tale of one young girl's struggle to survive during the Holocaust.

When her mother is killed by the Gestapo, a Jewish girl named Lola is sent into hiding. At first, Lola secretly lives in the home of a Ukrainian woman. But when someone threatens to expose her to the Nazis, Lola must flee again, this time hiding with another family in a dirt hole beneath a barn.

Struggling against cold and hunger, the hidden family lives under the constant threat of discovery. Lola has lost everything--her home and her family. All she has left is one

article of clothing, a dress lovingly embroidered by her mother. Will Lola ever find safety--or freedom?

Among the Hidden by Margaret Peterson Haddix:

In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke, an illegal third child, has lived all his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm in this start to the Shadow Children series from Margaret Peterson Haddix.

Luke has never been to school. He's never had a birthday party, or gone to a friend's house for an overnight. In fact, Luke has never had a friend.

Luke is one of the shadow children, a third child forbidden by the Population Police. He's lived his entire life in hiding, and now, with a new housing development replacing the woods next to his family's farm, he is no longer even allowed to go outside.

Then, one day Luke sees a girl's face in the window of a house where he knows two other children already live. Finally, he's met a shadow child like himself. Jen is willing to risk everything to come out of the shadows -- does Luke dare to become involved in her dangerous plan? Can he afford not to?

Because of Winn Dixie by Kate DiCamillo: One summer's day, ten-year-old India Opal Buloni goes down to the local supermarket for some groceries—and comes home with a dog. But Winn-Dixie is no ordinary dog. It's because of Winn-Dixie that Opal begins to make friends. And it's because of Winn-Dixie that she finally dares to ask her father about her mother, who left when Opal was three. In fact, as Opal admits, just about *everything* that happens that summer is because of Winn-Dixie. This updated edition of Kate DiCamillo's classic novel invites readers to make themselves at home—whether they're experiencing the book for the first time or returning to an old favorite.