

6th Grade Reading Suggestions  
Skokie Middle School  
2010-2011

Call #	Author	Title/Summary	Genre
FIC AND	Anderson, Laurie Halse	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Chains</u></p> <p>In 1776, 13-year-old slave Isabel is promised her freedom when her mistress dies. However, her mistress' heir dismisses Isabel's claims and sells her and her sister to a cruel couple. Isabel's new owners are powerful British sympathizers. The rebels enlist her to spy on them; she does so for her freedom.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>National Book Award Finalist</b></p>	Historic Fiction
FIC BAR	Bartoletti, Susan Campbell	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>The Boy Who Dared</u></p> <p>Helmuth Hüber is a young teenager when Hitler comes to power. However, he is 17 when he is arrested for distributing anti-Nazi information. His life and decisions are presented in this powerful book.</p>	Historic Fiction
FIC BAS	Baskin, Nora Raleigh	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Anything But Typical</u></p> <p>Jason, a 12-year-old autistic boy, finds his life difficult. It is hard to maneuver school and family life. His only outlet is an online site where he posts stories. There he finds acceptance and friendship. Unfortunately, this is threatened, and Jason finds it challenging to cope.</p>	Realistic Fiction
FIC BEI	Beil, Michael	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>The Red Blazer Girls: The Ring of Rocamadour</u></p> <p>Three girls at a private school stumble into a mystery involving an ancient artifact. To solve the mystery, the girls must decipher clues about math, literature and religion.</p>	Mystery
FIC CLY	Clayton, Emma	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>The Roar</u></p> <p>Following the animal plague, the world's remaining population is living in a crowded England behind a wall. When children are asked to participate in a reality game, 12-year-old Mika learns that there are mysterious secrets that may affect his world.</p>	Science Fiction
FIC COL	Collins, Suzanne	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>The Hunger Games</u></p> <p>In Panem, the government requires each of its territories to provide two contestants for the Hunger Games. This fight to the death pits contestants against one another. Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdine volunteers to take her sister's place in the competition. Can she survive?</p>	Science Fiction

FIC COM	Comerford , Lynda B.	<u>Rissa Bartholomew's Declaration of Independence</u> Rissa Bartholomew decides to assert her independence and not follow the herd. Unfortunately, she angers her friends and starts out middle school without her own group. To survive, Rissa tries to reach out and make a new friend. Her efforts to find herself sometimes backfire.	Realistic Fiction
FIC DRA	Draper, Sharon M.	<u>Out of My Mind</u> Melody, a fifth-grader with cerebral palsy, has a photographic memory and an enormous vocabulary. However, she is unable to speak until she receives a computer that gives her a voice for the first time.	Realistic Fiction
FIC FOR	Ford, Michael	<u>The Fire of Ares</u> A young Helot slave learns about his true identity through a precious amulet. This changes his life and places him in a life threatening conflict.	Historic Fiction
FIC GRE	Green, Tim	<u>Baseball Great</u> Josh just wants to play baseball on his school team. However, his father enrolls him on the Titans, a championship team. Unfortunately, to remain on the team, Josh is forced to do something that is potentially dangerous.	Sports
FIC HER	Herlong, M.H.	<u>The Great Wide Sea</u> Ben's life has been changed abruptly. First, his mother died in an accident, and Ben's dad was unable to cope. He sold the family's home and purchased a sailboat. Then he took Ben and his younger brothers on a proposed yearlong cruise. Despite some tension, things went fairly smoothly at first. Then father disappeared one night. Can the boys survive on their own?	Survival
FIC LOG	Logsted, Greg	<u>Alibi Junior High</u> 13 year-old Cody has spent his life traveling the world with his undercover agent father. However, he is totally unprepared for entering the world of junior high.	Realistic Fiction and Adventure
FIC MAC	MacDonald, Bailey	<u>Wicked Will</u> Can young Will Shakespeare and a member of a travelling acting troupe solve a murder mystery?	Mystery, Historic Fiction
FIC MAR	Marsh, Katherine	<u>The Night Tourist</u> After a near fatal accident, Jack Perdu is sent to a doctor in New York City. Jack hadn't been in the city since his mother died there years earlier. While at Grand Central Station, Jack meets a strange girl who takes him on a tour of New York's Underworld. It is a place that the dead remain until they are ready to move on to the next level. Jack hopes that he can contact his mother. However, Jack's presence in the underworld could prove fatal.	Mystery, Fantasy

FIC NAY	Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds	<u>Faith, Hope and Ivy June</u> Although they both live in Kentucky, Ivy June and Catherine's lives are very different. They are chosen to participate in an exchange program. Ivy June travels to Lexington to spend two weeks with Catherine's family. Then Catherine spends two weeks with Ivy June's family in an isolated home in mountain community. Along the way, the girls record their feelings as they experience distinct lifestyles and question assumptions.	Realistic Fiction
FIC PAU	Paulsen, Gary	<u>Notes from the Dog</u> 14-year-old Finn wants to spend his summer talking to as few people as possible. However, when Johanna moves in next-door, she changes his attitude and his life.	Realistic Fiction
FIC PRE	Preller, James	<u>Bystander</u> When 13-year-old Eric moves to a new school, he witnesses someone being harassed by the school bully. The incident makes Eric uncomfortable. However, he becomes "friends" with the bully and his clique. Eric's uneasiness persists, and he calls the bully on some of his behavior. Then Eric becomes a target and painfully learns the penalties of being a bystander.	Realistic Fiction
FIC RAL	Rallison, Janette	<u>My Fair Godmother</u> After her older sister steals her boyfriend, Savannah desperately needs a prom date. When a godmother appears to help Savannah, she is sure that her wishes will be granted. However, the godmother's skills are lacking. Instead of going to the prom, Savannah and a boy find themselves trapped in the Middle Ages.	Fantasy, Humor
FIC SAL	Salmon, Dena K.	<u>Discordia: The Eleventh Dimension</u> Lance finds school and everyday life a challenge. He is only happy when he plays Discordia, an online game. However, when a level 60 player invites Lance and his friend to play with him, they are actually brought into the virtual world of Discordia. There Lance and his friend must try to rescue the dimension and themselves.	Science Fiction
FIC SHE	Sheth, Kasmira	<u>Boys without Names</u> Gopal and his family move to Mumbai to find a better life. However, Gopal's father goes missing, and Gopal is lured into working in a sweatshop. He is locked there and he attempts to escape.	Realistic Fiction
FIC SHE	Shearer, Alex	<u>Canned</u> Fergal's unusual hobby of collecting strange cans leads him to a shocking discovery. He joins forces with another collector, and they investigate.	Mystery
SS HAL	Rich, Susan, ed.	<u>Half-Minute Horrors</u> Read some of the shortest, scariest stories ever. Selections present frightening tales from Margaret Atwood, Neil Gaiman, Lemony Snicket, R. L. Stine and other noted authors.	Short Stories

323.11 PAR	Partridge, Elizabeth	<u>Marching for Freedom</u> Based on interviews from participants who were children and teens during 1965, this book recalls the events at Selma, Alabama that changed history.	Non-Fiction
355.4 BRU	Bruce, Julia	<u>Siege! Can You Capture a Castle?</u> Learn how to plan and execute the siege of a castle. Discover weapons and strategies of 14 <sup>th</sup> century warfare.	Non-Fiction
364.152 MAC	Macleod, Elizabeth	<u>Royal Murder: The Deadly Intrigue of Ten Sovereigns</u> Read about royal murderers and royal victims including Vlad the Impaler, a noble who is known to us as Dracula.	Non-Fiction
551.6 CHR	Christie, Peter	<u>The Curse of Akkad</u> How has climate change been a transformative force in nature? Learn how climate has influenced evolution, caused the decline of the first world empire and sparked epidemics.	Non-Fiction
920 FLE	Fleischman, John	<u>Black and White Airmen: Their True History</u> Although John and Herb were in the same grade-school class together, they didn't know each other. However, during World War II, they both flew for the Army Air Force. Because the armed forces were segregated, they never met. When they met 50 years later, they became friends. They decided to share their stories.	Non-Fiction
B BAR	Fleming, Candice	<u>The Great and Only Barnum: The Tremendous, Stupendous Life of the Showman P.T. Barnum</u> What do you know about the founder of the "greatest show on earth"? Read how a prankster from a small town became the greatest showman of all time. Visit his Barnum's American Museum that featured exotic displays, and learn how he created the three-ring circus.	Biography
BIO COL	Hoose, Phillip	<u>Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice</u> In early 1955, Claudette Colvin refused to give up her seat on a Montgomery, Alabama bus. She was the first to challenge Jim Crow segregation laws, yet few know her name.	Biography
940.4 MUR	Murphy, Jim	<u>Truce: The Day the Soldiers Stopped Fighting</u> On December 25, 1914, soldiers on both sides of World War I put down their weapons and celebrated Christmas together in between their trenches.	Non-Fiction
973.7 ALL	Allen, Thomas B. and Roger MacBride Allen	<u>Mr. Lincoln's High –Tech War: How the North Used the Telegraph, Railroads, Surveillance Balloons, Ironclads, and More to Win the Civil War</u> Lincoln, our only president to hold a patent, was very interested in the inventions of his day. His curiosity helped the North utilize technology to win the Civil War.	Non-Fiction