

# GATE 6/7/8 Summer Reading 2023

We strongly urge students to read regularly over the summer, so we have put together a list of suggested titles. While reading lower-level “just for fun” books or re-reading your favorite series is a good way to maintain reading habits, we recommend reading a few “challenge” books over the summer. We have included a list of books that are likely to meet students’ challenge levels and we recommend that students read at least two new books from this list over the summer. The books you choose must be **new to you**. They cannot be books you have read before.

These suggested books will be available at all major book retailers such as Barnes & Noble or Amazon. You can also check many of them out at your public library. **Please note: we are not requiring a summer book report.**

## **The value in reading everyday:**

Research shows that students that read over the summer maintain and improve upon their current reading skills and also score higher on standardized tests. In order to maintain/improve reading skills by moving to a higher level and to boost future test scores, we recommend reading over the summer. We also feel that reading independently will prepare students for the rigors of high school. With today’s 21st Century being the Age of Information, reading comprehension and analysis skills are needed more than ever before!

## **Need Help Choosing a Book? Try These Tips:**

- Utilize your Lexile Level range to help you determine an appropriate leveled book. This can be found in your last NWEA report. **Please Note: you do not need to find a book that is in your Lexile range; Lexile is just *one* way to find a “just right” book.**
- Select a book from a genre you don’t normally read
- Visit the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) website to launch the [Teen Book Finder Database](#) to help you get an idea of the different books listed.

**Please view some of our book recommendations on the next few pages! Happy reading!**

# **Summer Reading Recommendations** **(Lexile Score in Parentheses):**

\* = Young teen age rating/mature themes - parents/guardians please preview before approving

## **Realistic Fiction**

- Dark Waters by Catherine MacPhail (460)
- \*Juvie by Paul Kropp (500)
- Goodbye Stranger by Rebecca Stead (560)
- Touching Spirit Bear by Ben Mikaelson (670)
- This Side of Home by Renee Watson (670)
- \*Monster by Walter Dean Myers – OR anything else by Walter Dean Myers (670)
- Tears of a Tiger by Sharon Draper – OR anything else by Sharon Draper (700)
- Orbiting Jupiter by Gary D. Schmidt (740)
- Mosquitoland by David Arnold (750)
- Heat, Game Changers, or other titles by Mike Lupica (800-900)
- \*Paper Towns (850) or \*Fault in Our Stars by John Green (850)
- Like No Other by Una LaMarche (1000)
- Crossover by Kwame Alexander (750)
- Solo by Kwame Alexander (640)
- Swing by Kwame Alexander (610)
- House Arrest by K.A. Holt (610)
- Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds (720)
- Towers Falling by Jewell Parker Rhodes (410)
- Haunting Violet by Alyxandra Harvey (700)
- Death Cloud by Andrew Lane (940)
- Wonderstruck by Brian Selznick (830)
- Tunnel Vision by Susan Shaw (500)
- The Secret of ROVER by Rachel Wildavsky (690)
- Then I Met My Sister by Christine Hurley Deriso (680)
- Tall Story by Candy Gourlay (670)

- The Summer I Learned to Fly by Dana Reinhardt (750)
- Okay for Now by Gary Schmidt (850)
- Where Things Come Back by John Corey Whaley (960)
- Now Is the Time for Running by Michael Williams (650)

### **Historical Fiction**

- Fever, 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson (580)
- The Gadget by Paul Zindel (590)
- The Book Thief by Marcus Zusak (730)
- Boy at the Top of the Mountain by John Boyne (890)
- Inside Out & Back Again by Thanhha Lai (800)
- City of Orphans by Avi (570)
- Strings Attached by Judy Blundell (650)
- Five 4ths of July by Pat Raccio Hughes (710)
- Bird in a Box by Andrea Davis Pickney (670)
- Small Acts of Amazing Courage by Gloria Whelan (940)

### **Science Fiction**

- Virals by Kathy and Brendan Reichs (480)
- All Fall Down or any other Embassy Row Novel by Ally Carter (610)
- The Fixer by Jennifer Lynne Boyles (620)
- Matched, Crossed, or Reached by Allie Condie (630-680)
- Michael Vey Series by Richard Paul Evans (610-750)
- Stormbreaker by Alex Horowitz (670)
- Taken (700) – Erin Bowman
- Legend by Marie Lu (710)
- H2O by Virginia Bergen (740)
- \*Divergent, \*Insurgent, or \*Allegiant by Veronica Roth (Grade Level Equivalent 9.0, Letter Z, (700- 710)
- Four by Veronica Roth (750)
- The Giver or Son (Sequel to The Giver) by Lois Lowry (760)
- The Maze Runner by James Dashner OR any other title by James Dashner (770)
- The Game by Monica Hughes (760)
- The Testing by Joelle Charboneau (830)

- Ultraviolet by R. J. Anderson (900)
- Awaken by Katie Kacvinsky (700)
- Human.4 by Mike A. Lancaster (770)
- Invasion: A C.H.A.O.S. Novel by Jon S. Lewis (760)

### **Fantasy**

- Series: The Heroes of Olympus (640-690) or Percy Jackson and the Olympians (630-700) by Rick Riordan
- Series: 1st -Eragon (710), 2nd -Eldest (970), 3rd -Brisinigr (1050), or 4th -Inheritance by Christopher Paolini
- Any books in the series known as Mortal Instruments by Cassandra Clare Miss Peregrine's Children (890) (or other titles in the series)
- The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate DiCamillo (700)
- Chime by Franny Billingsley (600)
- Entwined by Heather Dixon (740)
- Ruby Red by Kerstin Gier (680)
- Born at Midnight by C.C. Hunter (650)
- The Floating Islands by Rachel Neumeier (860)
- Akata Witch by Nnedi Okorafor (590)

### **Non-Fiction**

- Tasting the Sky by Ibtisam Barakat (870)
- Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly (1120)
- I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou (1010)
- I Am Malala: Girl Who Stood Up for Education by Malala Yousafzai (1000)
- Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson (990)
- Spaceman: The True Story of a Young Boy's Journey To Becoming an Astronaut by Mike Massimino (920)
- Born To Fly: The First Women's Air Race Across America by Steve Sheinkin (930)
- The Undefeated by Kwame Alexander
- Race to the Bottom of the Earth: Surviving Antarctica by Rebecca E.F Barone (940)

- Mysterious Bones: The Story of Kennewick Man by Katherine Kirkpatrick (1150)
- Wheels of Change: How Women Rode the Bicycle to Freedom by Sue Macy (1280)
- Into the Unknown: How Great Explorers Found Their Way by Land, Sea and Air by Stewart Ross (1120)

### **Poetry**

- Hidden by Helen Frost (670)
- Planet Middle School by Nikki Grimes (680)
- Under the Mesquite by Guadalupe Garcia McCall (990)
- Orchards by Holly Thompson
- Unlocked by Ryan G. Van Cleave (960)
- The Watch That Ends the Night: Voices from the Titanic by Allan Wolf (760)