

**EASTCHESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**SUMMER READING: GRADE 6**  
**2021**

<b>Author</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Genre</b>	<b>Summary</b>
Applegate, Katharine	<i>The One and Only Ivan</i>	Realistic Fiction	When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life. “In the tradition of timeless stories like <i>Charlotte’s Web</i> and <i>Stuart Little</i> , Katherine Applegate blends humor and poignancy to create Ivan’s unforgettable first-person narration in a story of friendship, art, and hope”(from the publisher).
Avi & Vail, Rachel	<i>Nevermind</i>	Realistic Fiction	Edward and Meg are twins but like night and day. For seventh grade, brainy Meg is attending ultra-competitive Fischer, while freewheeling Edward goes to an alternative school downtown. But it’s just when they’re finally out of each other’s shadows that the trouble begins. Meg’s aspirations for popularity and a boyfriend collide with Edward’s devious planning and lack of singing talent to set off a true showdown---one that twindom has never before witnessed!
Burnett, Frances Hodgson	<i>The Secret Garden</i>	Realistic Fiction	Mary Lennox is an orphan and is sent to live at her uncle’s mansion. The mansion and her uncle contain many secrets. Mary finds a garden hidden away on the surrounding property and breaks in, determined to bring the garden back to its former splendor.
Cartaya, Pablo	<i>The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora</i>	Realistic Fiction	13-year-old Arturo is a Cuban-American living in Miami. His summers follow a predictable pattern until a land developer moves to town, threatening to shut down his grandma’s restaurant. With the help of the girl next door, Arturo discovers – and uses – his voice through community activism.
Clements, Andrew	<i>The Report Card</i>	Realistic Fiction	Fifth-grader Nora Rowley has always hidden the fact that she is a genius. All she wants is to be normal. When she comes up with a plan to prove that grades are not important, things begin to get out of control. Also try <i>Frindle</i> , <i>Lunch Money</i> , and <i>The Landry News</i> .
Creech, Sharon	<i>Absolutely Normal Chaos</i>	Realistic Fiction	A prequel to the Newbery Medal-winning <i>Walk Two Moons</i> , Mary Lou’s summer journal -- which she begins grudgingly as a dreaded assignment for school, becomes a hilarious chronicle of the circle of people and events that make her summer a time filled with lessons and observations on love, death, friendship, and family. Also try <i>The Wanderer</i> , <i>Replay</i> , and <i>Love That Dog!</i>
Giff, Patricia Reilly	<i>Pictures of Hollis Wood</i>	Realistic Fiction	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. Other stories by this author include: <i>Lilly’s Crossing</i> , <i>Gift of the Pirate Queen</i> , <i>House of Tailors</i> , and <i>Water Street</i> .

Korman, Gordon	<i>Ungifted</i>	Realistic Fiction	From #1 <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author Gordon Korman comes a hilarious and heartfelt novel in which one middle-school troublemaker accidentally moves into the gifted and talented program—and changes everything. For fans of Louis Sachar and Jack Gantos, this funny and touching underdog story is a lovable and goofy adventure with robot fights, middle-school dances, live experiments, and statue-toppling pranks!
Palacio, R.J.	<i>Wonder</i>	Realistic Fiction	August (Auggie) Pullman has been homeschooled his entire life because he has a severe facial deformity and his parents want to protect him from the stares of other children. But, when fifth grade rolls around, Auggie is determined to give school a shot. The stares and mean kids, teasing and bullying are inevitable, but Auggie is such a force of nature that it all turns out right in the end.
Sloan, Holly Goldberg	<i>Counting by 7s</i>	Realistic Fiction	Willow Chance is a twelve-year-old genius, obsessed with nature and diagnosing medical conditions, who finds it comforting to count by 7s. It has never been easy for her to connect with anyone other than her adoptive parents, but that hasn't kept her from leading a quietly happy life . . . until now. Suddenly Willow's world is tragically altered when her parents both die in a devastating car crash. This results in Willow's feelings of isolation in a baffling world. The triumph of this book is that it is <i>not</i> a tragedy. This extraordinarily odd, but tremendously endearing girl, manages to surpass her grief. Her journey to find a fascinatingly diverse and fully believable surrogate family is a joy and a revelation to experience.
Sonnenblick, Jordan	<i>The Secret Sheriff of Sixth Grade</i>	Realistic Fiction	In this powerful story, the main character Maverick keeps a toy sheriff's badge with him to remind him of his father. This badge serves as more than just a representation of his respect for the law; it also inspires Maverick to help others when he recognizes the small injustices that exist throughout his sixth-grade life.
Spinelli, Jerry	<i>Stargirl</i>	Realistic Fiction	"Did you see her? You see her?" This is all Leo hears as he walks the halls, and he soon meets the infamous new girl, Stargirl. With her ukulele in the cafeteria, flowers on her desk, strange pets and even stranger ideas about happiness she certainly gets their attention, and yours too! Also try <i>Loser, Maniac Magee, Crash, Wringer, Eggs</i> , and the latest <i>Love, Stargirl!!</i>
Vail, Rachel	<i>Lucky</i>	Realistic Fiction	As Phoebe and her clique of privileged girlfriends get ready to graduate from eighth grade, a financial scandal threatens her family's security--as well as Phoebe's social status--but ultimately it teaches her the real meaning of friendship. Next in the series, <i>Gorgeous</i> and <i>Brilliant</i> .
Avi	<i>Sophia's War</i>	Historical Fiction	During 1776, young Sophia Calderwood witnesses the execution of Nathan Hale in New York City. This area is newly occupied by the British army, and through Sophia's horror, she resolves to do all she can to support and expedite the American cause. Shortly after, she is recruited as a spy, and works as a maid in the home of General Clinton, the supreme commander of the British forces in

			America. Sophia learns that someone in the American army might be switching sides, and she unearths an incredible plot that will cause irreparable damage to the Americans if it is successful. As a young girl, Sophia is at a major disadvantage, and she is quickly running out of time.
Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker	<i>The War That Saved My Life</i>	Historical Fiction	Ten-year-old Ada has been bound to her apartment for her entire life. Her mother is too embarrassed by her daughter's twisted foot to allow her outside. When Ada's little brother Jamie is shipped out of London to escape the war, she doesn't waste a second and rushes out in secret to join him. Susan Smith, the woman who is forced to take the two kids in, becomes part of Ada and Jamie's adventure. Ada learns to ride a pony, read, and watch out for German spies. In the end, Susan, Jamie, and Ada develop what they consider to be an unbreakable bond, but they worry that it may not be enough to hold them together through this devastating war.
Cowley, Marjorie	<i>The Golden Bull</i>	Historical Fiction	Brother and sister, Jomar and Zefa, must learn to respect each others' strengths and build a new relationship when they are sent from their home by their father to the city of Ut in ancient Mesopotamia, where Jomar becomes an apprentice to a master goldsmith who is embellishing a magnificent lyre to be used in the temple.
Park, Linda Su	<i>A Long Walk to Water</i>	Historical Fiction	This novel begins as two enthralling stories from Sudan, one about a girl in 2008 and a boy in 1985. With alternating sections, readers are immediately drawn to the history of the Sudan refugees and lack of fresh water provided to this part of the world. Nya, the girl, is retrieving water from a pond that is two hours away from her home and she has to make double trips to the pond each day. Salva, the boy, becomes one of the "lost boys" of Sudan, and travels the African continent on foot searching for a safe place to stay. From loneliness to armed rebel attacks, readers learn that Salva is a survivor, and his story progresses to overlap with Nya's in a memorable and very intense way.
Lunge-Larsen, Lise	<i>Gifts from the Gods</i>	Mythology	Ancient words and wisdom from Greek and Roman Mythology. Ancient names come to rich and fascinating life in this lavishly illustrated book for mythology fans and word lovers.
Avi	<i>Crispin: the Cross of Lead</i>	Mystery	Set in 14th century England, a boy known as "Asta's son" is fingered for the village priest's murder and is wanted dead or alive. A real page-turner.
Feinstein, John	<i>The Last Shot: A Final Four Mystery</i>	Mystery	Two teenage sportswriters try to uncover a blackmail scheme at the NCAA Final Four. "Young basketball fans will most appreciate the caper, but mystery buffs will also turn these pages eagerly," (Publisher's Weekly).
Riordan, Rick	<i>39 Clues: the Maze of Bones</i>	Mystery	Orphans Amy and Dan belong to a rich and powerful family related to nearly everyone important in history. When their grandmother dies, she leaves 39 clues, spread across the planet, to a treasure that will make the finder immensely powerful. So all the relatives, none of them decent or honest (except Amy and Dan, of course), compete to find and solve the clues while trying to eliminate their competition.

Korman, Gordon	<i>Swindle</i>	Mystery	Griffin Bing's family needs money and he discovers the solution to all of their problems - a 1920 Babe Ruth baseball card found in an abandoned home. Unfortunately, the local pawn shop swindles him out of the card, and he and his friends set out to right the wrong.
Colfer, Eoin	<i>Artemis Fowl</i>	Science Fiction/Fantasy	When a twelve-year old evil genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology and a particularly nasty troll. (Available on CD in the school library.) Read what follows: <i>Artemis Fowl: The Arctic Incident</i> , <i>Artemis Fowl: Eternity Code</i> , and <i>Artemis Fowl: The Opal Deception</i> . Also try <i>Wish List</i> and <i>Supernaturalist</i> .
DuPrau, Jeanne	<i>City of Ember</i>	Science Fiction/Fantasy	In the year 241, twelve-year-old Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a Messenger to run to new places in her decaying but beloved city, perhaps even to glimpse Unknown Regions and to try to save her world. Then catch the sequel <i>People of Sparks</i> or the prequel <i>Prophet of Yonwood</i> .
Funke, Cornelia	<i>Thief Lord</i>	Science Fiction/Fantasy	Welcome to the magical underworld of Venice, Italy, where hidden canals and crumbling rooftops shelter runaways and children with incredible secrets. Don't forget <i>Inkheart</i> , <i>Inkspell</i> , <i>Inkdeath</i> , and <i>Dragon Rider!</i>
MacHale, D.J.	<i>Merchant of Death: Book 1 in the Pendragon Series</i>	Science Fiction/Fantasy	Fourteen-year-old Bobby Pendragon, having learned he is a Traveler---someone who can ride "flumes" through time and space--- is soon off to the alternative dimension of Denduron where he teams up with Loor, a girl his age from the warrior-territory of Zadaa, in an attempt to save the gentle Milago people from slavery. Lots of adventure ensues, and the series continues. Be sure to read each available novel and enjoy this series with all of its intensity!
Paterson, Katherine	<i>The Bridge to Terabithia</i>	Science Fiction/Fantasy	The two fastest kids in the fifth grade, Jess Aarons and Leslie Burke, bond over their love of running as a hobby. They develop a friendship and spend tons of time imagining a magical land called Terabithia. Little do they know that their friendship is about to be drastically tested by fate; readers will be deeply impacted as this story takes an intensely unexpected turn.
Riordan, Rick	<i>The Lightning Thief</i>	Science Fiction/Fantasy	What if the gods of Olympus were alive in the 21 <sup>st</sup> century? What if they fell in love with mortals and had children who might become great heroes - like Theseus, Jason, and Hercules. What if you were one of those children? Such is the discovery that launches 12 year old Percy Jackson on the most dangerous quest of his life. More books follow in the <i>Percy Jackson and the Olympians</i> series.
Kinney, Jeff	<i>Diary of a Wimpy Kid</i>	Graphic Novel	Even though Greg Heffley would rather play video games with his friend Rowley than write in the journal that his mother gives him, he uses it to record, in pictures and in text, the harrowing and clever ways in which he navigates the middle school social scene. Undersized and skinny, Greg has adventures that center on how he manages to separate himself from the geeks and how he evades bigger bullies by employing quick wit and harebrained ideas.

Maihack, Mike	<i>Cleopatra in Space: Target Practice</i>	Graphic Novel	Cleopatra, Princess of the Nile, is fifteen years old in this entertaining graphic novel. She locates a mysterious tablet that transports her into the future. Here, she becomes aware of an ancient prophecy involving more than the country she is ready to rule. Cleopatra has a new agenda: to save the galaxy before it is too late!
Runton, Andy	<i>Owly, Volume 1: The Way Home and the Bittersweet Summer</i>	Graphic Novel	Owly is a kind, yet lonely, little owl who's always on the lookout for new friends and adventure. In this comic Owly discovers the meaning of friendship, and that saying goodbye doesn't always mean forever.
Siegel, Siena Cherso	<i>To Dance: A Memoir</i>	Graphic Novel	Dancers are young when they first dream of dance. Siena was six -- and her dreams kept skipping and leaping, circling and spinning, from airy runs along a beach near her home in Puerto Rico, to dance class in Boston, to her debut performance on stage with the New York City Ballet.
Smith, Jeff	<i>Bone: Out from Boneville</i>	Graphic Novel	Meet Fone Bone, Phoney Bone, and Smiley Bone, three cousins who are run out of their home, Boneville, and become separated in the wilds, but reunite at a farmstead in a deep forested valley, where Fone meets a young girl named Thorn.
Sutherland, Tui T.	<i>The Dragonet Prophecy</i>	Graphic Novel	This graphic novel encompasses the first in a series called Wings of Fire, a <i>New York Times</i> bestseller. As the story progresses, readers learn of a mysterious prophecy with the potential to end the war between the relentless dragon tribes of Pyrrhia.
Telgemeier, Raina	<i>The Babysitters Club Graphix: Kristy's Great Idea</i>	Graphic Novel	With her unique style of writing, Raina Telgemeier captures all the drama of the original Baby-Sitters Club series, through her use of spunky illustrations and relatable dialogue. Friendships and the challenges that they often include, are identified as this group of determined babysitters learn and grow together.
Bloor, Edward	<i>Tangerine</i>	Sports Fiction	Paul Fisher views the world from behind thick glasses and looks like a bug-eyed alien to others! However, he's not so blind that he doesn't realize there are some <i>very</i> unusual things about his family's new home in Tangerine County, Florida. In this location, a sinkhole swallows the local school, fires burn underground for years, and lightning strikes, oddly at the same time every day. The chaos is complicated by regular harassment from his football-star brother, and adjusting to life in Tangerine is everything but easy for Paul. Finally, he joins the soccer team at his middle school and with the help of his new teammates, Paul begins to discover more about the foundation of his odd new hometown. He also gains the courage to face up to some secrets his family has been keeping from him for way too long.
Gutman, Dan	<i>Jackie &amp; Me</i>	Sports Fiction	Joe Stoshack is just like every other kid in his class; he has to write a report on an African American who has positively impacted their society. Unlike every other kid in his class, Joe has

			a special talent: he can travel through time through his baseball card collection! With this amazing opportunity, Joe decides to go back in time to meet one of the greatest baseball players ever, Jackie Robinson. He plans to find out what it was like to be the man who broke through the color barrier within the sport of baseball. Joe plans on writing a prize-winning report, but he is in no way prepared for this trip that will for a short time change the color of his skin. As he learns more, his view of history and understanding of courage is forever impacted.
Jamieson, Victoria	<i>Roller Girl</i>	Sports Fiction	Astrid has done everything with her best friend Nicole for the majority of her life. But after Astrid takes a solid interest in roller derby and signs up for derby camp that summer, Nicole decides that dance camp is her personal preference. This sets into motion the most difficult summer of Astrid's life; she struggles to keep up with the older girls at camp, maintain a strong connection with her former best friend, and cautiously begin a new friendship as well. As summer comes to a close, and her first roller derby experience (along with junior high!) draws closer, Astrid realizes more about her own personal strength and sincerity. She is tough enough to handle a lost friendship, and middle school... in summary, she is a roller girl!
Lupica, Mike	<i>Travel Team</i>	Sports Fiction	Danny is crushed when he is cut from the travel basketball team because he is too short, but he suspects that it is really because of bad blood between his father and the coach. So, he and the others who were cut from their own squad, coached by Danny's father, but really under Danny's leadership, head to the climactic game against their arch rivals. <i>Summerball</i> is the sequel. He's also written <i>Heat, Wild Pitch, Miracle on 49th Street</i> .
Myers, Walter Dean	<i>Hoops</i>	Sports Fiction	Seventeen-year-old Lonnie Jackson practices with his team for a city-wide basketball Tournament of Champion. During this time, all of the attention is on him. Lonnie's coach, Cal, knows he has what it takes to be a pro-basketball player, but tries to warn him about giving in to surrounding peer pressure. Cal knows plenty about this because he, too, once had the chance---and unfortunately sold out. As the Tournament draws near, Lonnie learns that some heavy bettors want Cal to keep him on the bench so that the team will actually lose the championship! As the last seconds of the game dissipate, Lonnie and Cal must make an intense decision that will impact their futures.
Reynolds, Jason	<i>Track Series</i> ( <i>Ghost, Patina, Sunny, Lu</i> )	Sports Fiction	(Book Series Review From Amazon) <i>Ghost. Patina. Sunny. Lu</i> . These stories detail the lives of a fast but fiery group of kids from wildly unique backgrounds. Their bond is built on their individual selection to compete on an elite track team. They all have plenty to lose here, but they also have a lot to prove. They are working to be the best versions of themselves, and maintain the strong bond that they have. Discover each of their stories in this full collection of Jason Reynolds's outstanding <i>New York Times</i> bestselling Track series. **Select any one of these four books, or read them all!**