

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List

Directions: You are to read **two** of the selected books below. Some of these books may be part of a series. If you have already read a particular book on this list, and know of its sequel, please feel free to read it.

As a project for each book, you have some choices as to how you can approach this assignment. The three choices are below:

1. Typed book review which is 1 – 1.5 pages in length, Times New Roman, 12 font, double-spaced.
2. Type the “next chapter” following the last chapter in the book. This could be considered a prologue if you wish, but these events must occur after the last chapter in the book.
3. Research the author of the book. Please make sure it contains early life (growing up), family, and his/her career as an author. This should be about 1.5 pages, Times New Roman, 12 font, double-spaced.

Code Orange, by Caroline Cooney (Fiction)

While conducting research for a school paper on smallpox, Mitty finds an envelope containing 1—year-old smallpox scabs and fears that he has infected himself and all of New York City.

Things Not Seen, by Andrew Clements (Fiction)

Bobby wakes up invisible. His parents and his new blind friend, Alicia, try to reverse his condition.

House of the Scorpion, by Nancy Farmer (Fiction) -> **Mr. Mayo’s stamp of approval**

Matt is the young clone of El Patron, the leader of a corrupt drug empire located between Mexico and the United States. El Patron has lived 140 years with the help of transplants from a series of clones. Gradually, Matt realizes his fate, but can he escape in time?

The Great and Only Barnum: The Tremendous, Stupendous Life of Showman P.T. Barnum, by Candace Fleming (Non-fiction)

This biography takes a look at the life of the entrepreneur and showman P.T. Barnum, the man behind The Greatest Show on Earth. From jumbo elephants to three-ring circuses, the story follows Barnum from childhood to his amazing success to financial disaster and back again.

Middle School is Worse than Meatloaf: A Year Told Through Stuff, by Jennifer Holm (Fiction)

Ginny uses “stuff” to share the ups and downs of her 7<sup>th</sup> grade year. Her stuff includes unique items such as to do lists, email, notes, receipts, diary entries, and more.

Travel Team, by Mike Lupica (Fiction)

After he is cut from his travel basketball team – the very same team his father once led to national prominence – Danny Walker forms his own team of cast-offs who might have a shot of victory.

Inquisitor’s Apprentice, by Chris Moriarty (Fiction)

Sacha Kessler lives in New York in 1896, but this New York is filled with magic. When police learn that Sacha can see witches, he’s apprenticed to the department’s Inquisitor. With their mission to stop magical crime, Sacha and his fellow apprentice Lily Astral must use their wits and power to stop the murder of Thomas Edison.

All Shook Up, by Shelley Pearsall (Fiction)

Josh is mortified when he has to relocate and live with his father who has a new profession – Elvis impersonator.

Life as We Knew It, by Susan Beth Pfeffer (Fiction)

When a meteor hits the moon and knocks it off its axis, life on earth is altered forever. High-school student Miranda keeps a diary about how her family copes without electricity, food and gas shortages, and extreme weather changes.

Secret Subway: The Fascinating Tale of an Amazing Feat of Engineering, by Martin W. Sandler (Non-fiction)

It’s the 1860’s and New York City’s streets are swarming with immigrants and made deadly by hundreds of horse-drawn carriages leaving the streets with tons of manure. A brilliant engineer, Alfred Beach, tackles the problem by working secretly at night more than twenty feet underground, with dim lighting and in claustrophobic conditions, storing the dirt in a basement, and carting it away in the dark. What happens when his secret plan is discovered?

Drawing from Memory, by Allen Say (Non-fiction)

This graphic novel chronicles Allen Say’s journey as an artist, from his childhood in World War II Japan to his apprenticeship under Noro Shinpei, Japan’s leading cartoonist. Using watercolor paintings, original cartoons, photographs and maps, the memoir looks at Say’s strained relationship with father who did not understand his son’s art and the difficult path that led to Say’s success.

Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared To Dream, by Tanya Lee Stone (Non-fiction)

In the early 1960's, thirteen women, all pilots, sought admission into NASA's first astronaut training program. The efforts of the Mercury 13 were crushed from many angles including the media, male astronauts, and the Vice President of the United States.