

TIPS FOR SUMMER READING- MIDDLE YEARS EDITION 2019

BUILDING READING INTO YOUR FAMILY'S DAILY ROUTINES KEEPS IT FUN FOR EVERYONE! TRY THESE TIPS TO MAKE READING AN EXCITING PART OF YOUR SUMMER ADVENTURES!

1. **CHECK OUT ALL TYPES OF BOOKS.** DEPENDING ON YOUR CHILD'S AGE, HE OR SHE MAY HAVE FOCUSED MAINLY ON A CERTAIN TYPE OR LENGTH OF BOOK DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR. BUT, BOOKS OF ALL LENGTHS, GENRES AND TOPICS ARE BENEFICIAL FOR GROWING READING SKILLS AND EXPANDING THE MIND. DON'T OVERLOOK THE GRAPHIC NOVEL SECTION- WORDLESS BOOKS STIMULATE THE IMAGINATION OF ALL AGES, AND POETRY IS AN OFTEN OVER-LOOKED GENRE THAT CAN BE LOTS OF FUN!
2. **ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILDREN TO BRING BOOKS ALONG ON CAR, TRAIN AND BUS RIDES, EVEN SHORT ONES.** KIDS CAN PACK IN A LOT OF READING SIMPLY BY CRACKING OPEN A BOOK EACH TIME THEY GO FOR EVEN A SHORT TRIP. READING A FEW PAGES ON EACH TRIP TO CAMP, PRACTICE OR THE GROCERY STORE REALLY ADDS UP! AND, OF COURSE IF YOU'RE TRAVELING A LONG DISTANCE, BOOKS CAN HELP PASS THE TIME IN A PRODUCTIVE (AND AND PEACEFUL!) WAY.
3. **ADD BOOKS TO YOUR MEALTIMES.** TRY HAVING A 'READING BREAKFAST' OR LUNCH OR DINNER. EACH FAMILY MEMBER BRINGS THEIR OWN BOOK OR MAGAZINE TO READ QUIETLY WHILE THEY EAT. OR FIND A BOOK THAT THE ENTIRE FAMILY WOULD ENJOY AND READ A CHAPTER ALOUD AFTER EACH MEAL. EACH OF THESE STRATEGIES IS EXTRA FUN ON A PICNIC!
4. **TRY AUDIO BOOKS.** AUDIO BOOKS ARE FANTASTIC FOR CAR RIDES, BUT THEY CAN ALSO BE A FUN ADDITION TO MEALTIMES, BEDTIME OR AFTERNOON QUIET TIME. AUDIO BOOKS ARE A GREAT WAY FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY TO ENJOY A STORY TOGETHER OR FOR AN INDIVIDUAL TO SPEND SOME TIME ALONE.
5. **SHARE THE LOAD.** SHARED READING IS SIMPLY TAKING TURNS. YOU READ A PAGE OR A CHAPTER ALOUD AND THEN YOUR CHILD READS THE NEXT PAGE OR CHAPTER ALOUD. THIS IS A GREAT WAY TO ENCOURAGE NEW OR RELUCTANT READERS.
6. **WATCH THE MOVIE.** AFTER READING A BOOK, WATCHING THE MOVIE CAN BE A FUN TREAT. IT CAN ALSO SPARK CONVERSATION ABOUT SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO.
7. **PRIORITIZE READING OVER SCREEN TIME.** STUDENTS MAY BE LOOKING FORWARD TO EXTRA SCREEN TIME DURING SUMMER VACATION. CONSIDER A POLICY WHERE SCREEN TIME IS ONLY ALLOWED AFTER YOUR STUDENT HAS READ A CERTAIN AMOUNT EACH DAY.

PLEASE FIND A LIST OF RECOMMENDED NOVELS FOR YOUR MIDDLE YEARS STUDENT BELOW. STUDENTS SHOULD READ TO ENJOY AND COME TO SCHOOL IN THE FALL READY TO DISCUSS AT LEAST ONE OF THEM WITH A FRIEND!

BEST-

MRS. WIRSHUP AND MRS. RAUP
MIDDLE GRADES ELA

🌟 GHOST BY JASON REYNOLDS

CASTLE "GHOST" CRENSHAW LIVES WITH HIS SINGLE MOTHER; HIS FATHER IS SERVING TIME IN PRISON AFTER FIRING A GUN AT GHOST AND HIS MOM THREE YEARS AGO—AND GHOST HAS BEEN RUNNING EVER SINCE. WHILE RUNNING ONE DAY, HE STOPS TO WATCH A TRACK PRACTICE AND DECIDES TO CRASH THE RACE. IMPRESSED, THE COACH OFFERS HIM A POSITION ON THE TEAM, BUT MA DOESN'T HAVE MONEY TO SPARE ON THINGS LIKE FANCY RUNNING SHOES, SO GHOST SHOPLIFTS A PAIR THAT MAKE HIS FEET FEEL IMPOSSIBLY LIGHT—AND HIS CONSCIENCE CORRESPONDINGLY HEAVY.

🌟 STARGIRL BY JERRY SPINELLI

STARGIRL. FROM THE DAY SHE ARRIVES AT QUIET MICA HIGH IN A BURST OF COLOR AND SOUND, THE HALLWAYS HUM WITH THE MURMUR OF 'STARGIRL, STARGIRL.' SHE CAPTURES LEO BORLOCK'S HEART WITH JUST ONE SMILE. SHE SPARKS A SCHOOL-SPIRIT REVOLUTION WITH JUST ONE CHEER. THE STUDENTS OF MICA HIGH ARE ENCHANTED. AT FIRST, PART FAIRY GODMOTHER, PART OUTCAST, PART DREAM-COME-TRUE, THE STAR OF SPINELLI'S NOVEL SHARES MANY OF THE MYTHICAL QUALITIES AS THE PROTAGONIST OF HIS MANIAC MAGEE. SPINELLI POSES SEARCHING QUESTIONS ABOUT LOYALTY TO ONE'S FRIENDS AND ONESELF AND LEAVES READERS TO FORM THEIR OWN ANSWERS.

🌟 CHAINS BY LAURIE HALSE ANDERSON

AS THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR BEGINS, THIRTEEN-YEAR-OLD ISABEL WAGES HER OWN FIGHT... FOR FREEDOM. PROMISED FREEDOM UPON THE DEATH OF THEIR OWNER, SHE AND HER SISTER, RUTH, IN A CRUEL TWIST OF FATE BECOME THE PROPERTY OF A MALICIOUS NEW YORK CITY COUPLE, THE LOCKTONS, WHO HAVE NO SYMPATHY FOR THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AND EVEN LESS FOR RUTH AND ISABEL. WHEN ISABEL MEETS CURZON, A SLAVE WITH TIES TO THE PATRIOTS, HE ENCOURAGES HER TO SPY ON HER OWNERS, WHO KNOW DETAILS OF BRITISH PLANS FOR INVASION. SHE IS RELUCTANT AT FIRST, BUT WHEN THE UNTHINKABLE HAPPENS TO RUTH, ISABEL REALIZES HER LOYALTY IS AVAILABLE TO THE BIDDER WHO CAN PROVIDE HER WITH FREEDOM.

🌟 THE NIGHT GARDENER BY JONATHAN AUXIER

A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER, *THE NIGHT GARDENER* IS A VICTORIAN GHOST STORY WITH SHADES OF WASHINGTON IRVING AND HENRY JAMES. MORE THAN JUST A SPOOKY TALE, IT'S ALSO A MORAL FABLE ABOUT HUMAN GREED AND THE POWER OF STORYTELLING. *THE NIGHT GARDENER* FOLLOWS TWO ABANDONED IRISH SIBLINGS WHO TRAVEL TO WORK AS SERVANTS AT A CREEPY, CRUMBLING ENGLISH MANOR HOUSE. BUT THE HOUSE AND ITS FAMILY ARE NOT QUITE WHAT THEY SEEM. SOON THE CHILDREN ARE CONFRONTED BY A MYSTERIOUS SPECTRE AND AN ANCIENT CURSE THAT THREATENS THEIR VERY LIVES.

🌟 RESTART BY GORDON KORMAN

CHASE'S MEMORY JUST WENT OUT THE WINDOW. CHASE DOESN'T REMEMBER FALLING OFF THE ROOF. HE DOESN'T REMEMBER HITTING HIS HEAD. HE DOESN'T, IN FACT, REMEMBER ANYTHING. HE WAKES UP IN A HOSPITAL ROOM AND SUDDENLY HAS TO LEARN HIS WHOLE LIFE ALL OVER AGAIN... STARTING WITH HIS OWN NAME.

HE KNOWS HE'S CHASE. BUT WHO IS CHASE? WHEN HE GETS BACK TO SCHOOL, HE SEES THAT DIFFERENT KIDS HAVE VERY DIFFERENT REACTIONS TO HIS RETURN. SOME KIDS TREAT HIM LIKE A HERO. SOME KIDS ARE CLEARLY AFRAID OF HIM. PRETTY SOON, IT'S NOT ONLY A QUESTION OF WHO CHASE IS--IT'S A QUESTION OF WHO HE WAS... AND WHO HE'S GOING TO BE.

🌟 MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN BY JASON REYNOLD

MILES MORALES IS JUST YOUR AVERAGE TEENAGER. DINNER EVERY SUNDAY WITH HIS PARENTS, CHILLING OUT PLAYING OLD-SCHOOL VIDEO GAMES WITH HIS BEST FRIEND, GANKE, CRUSHING ON BRAINY, BEAUTIFUL POET ALICIA. HE'S EVEN GOT A SCHOLARSHIP SPOT AT THE PRESTIGIOUS BROOKLYN VISIONS ACADEMY. OH YEAH, AND HE'S SPIDER MAN.

BUT LATELY, MILES'S SPIDEY-SENSE HAS BEEN ON THE FRITZ. WHEN A MISUNDERSTANDING LEADS TO HIS SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL, MILES BEGINS TO QUESTION HIS ABILITIES. AFTER ALL, HIS DAD AND UNCLE WERE BROOKLYN JACK-BOYS WITH CRIMINAL RECORDS. MAYBE KIDS LIKE MILES AREN'T MEANT TO BE SUPERHEROES. MAYBE MILES SHOULD TAKE HIS DAD'S ADVICE AND FOCUS ON SAVING HIMSELF.

🌟 THE CROSSOVER BY KWAME ALEXANDER

"WITH A BOLT OF LIGHTNING ON MY KICKS... THE COURT IS SIZZLING. MY SWEAT IS DRIZZLING. STOP ALL THAT QUIVERING. CUZ TONIGHT I'M DELIVERING." ANNOUNCES DREAD-LOCKED, 12-YEAR OLD JOSH BELL. HE AND HIS TWIN BROTHER JORDAN ARE AWESOME ON THE COURT. BUT JOSH HAS MORE THAN BASKETBALL IN HIS BLOOD, HE'S GOT MAD BEATS, TOO, THAT TELL HIS FAMILY'S STORY IN VERSE. IN THIS FAST AND FURIOUS NOVEL OF FAMILY AND BROTHERHOOD.

