

NCSA 7th Grade Summer Reading List

Required Books (choose one of these five)

1. **Bless the Beasts and Children**, Glendon Swarthout.

"Send Us a Boy -- We'll Send You a Cowboy!" is the slogan of the Box Canyon Boys Camp. But for the nail biters, thumb suckers, and teeth grinders - the cast-away offspring of parents who are busy travelling, being divorced, remarrying, and garnering fortunes - it's just another place to face rejection. Until Cotton. Cotton pulls them together. In a hot-wired pickup, he leads "the Bedwetters" on a fantastic mission to save a herd of buffalo -- and in the process, to save themselves. But as the raw red Arizona sun rises, they will discover the cost of their one grand moment of glory...(review from goodreads.com).

2. **Ender's Game**, Orson Scott Card.

Intense is the word for Ender's Game. Aliens have attacked Earth twice and almost destroyed the human species. To make sure humans win the next encounter, the world government has taken to breeding military geniuses -- and then training them in the arts of war... The early training, not surprisingly, takes the form of 'games'... Ender Wiggin is a genius among geniuses; he wins all the games... He is smart enough to know that time is running out. But is he smart enough to save the planet? (review from The New York Times).

3. **The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy**, Douglas Adams

In a hilarious science-fiction comedy, the first of a trilogy, Englishman Arthur Dent wakes up to find he's hitchhiking through space with an intergalactic crew.

4. **Holes**, Lois Sachar

As further evidence of his family's bad fortune which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.

5. **White Fang**, Jack London.

White Fang is part dog, part wolf, and the lone survivor of his family. In his lonely world, he soon learns to follow the law of the North--kill or be killed.

Choice Books (choose one or more and read for fun)

(descriptions available online at Amazon.com and goodreads.com)

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Mark Twain

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, Lewis Carroll

All Quiet on the Western Front, Erich Remarque

Animal Farm, George Orwell

Anne of Green Gables, L.M. Montgomery

Anne of Avonlea, L.M. Montgomery
Bless the Beasts & Children, Glendon Swarthout
The Call of the Wild, Jack London
Ender's Game, Orson Scott Card
Ender's Shadow, Orson Scott Card
The Good Earth, Buck, Pearl S. Buck
Gulliver's Travels, Jonathan Swift
The Hobbit, J.R.R. Tolkien
The Hound of the Baskervilles, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, Maya Angelou
The Incredible Journey, Sheila Burnford
Jane Eyre, Charlotte Bronte
Little Women, Louisa May Alcott
Of Mice and Men Steinbeck, John Steinbeck
The Secret Garden, Frances Hodgson Burnett
White Fang , Jack London
Holes, Lois Sacher
The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, Douglas Adams
Wrinkle in Time, Madeleine L'Engle

Happy Reading!

Sara