



Mount Madonna Middle School Supply List 2023-2024

Middle School List of Recommended Readings

NOTE: The below list includes books either read or recommended. Some books contain mature themes and colorful language and may not be appropriate for all readers. Check for information within (parenthesis). 7-8th Grade will engage in an independent novel project for English Class soon after the school year begins. Be searching for a book you love!

Abelove, Joan, GO AND COME BACK (Racial Stereotypes, Recommended)
Adams, Alice, AFTER THE WAR (Racial/Ethnic Stereotypes)
Adams, Douglas, HITCHHIKERS' GUIDE TO GALAXY (Humor. See sequels)
Adams, Richard, WATERSHIP DOWN
Alcott, Louisa, LITTLE WOMEN (Gender Differences)
Alexie, Sherman, THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE DIARY OF A PART TIME INDIAN (well-known book, some language and mature situations)
Anderson, Laurie Halse, SPEAK (Strong Female Character, mature language)
Angelou, Maya, I KNOW WHY CAGED BIRD SINGS. (Powerful Personal Memoir)
Avi, TRUE CONFESSIONS OF CHARLOTTE DOYLE; or WINDCATCHER; or NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH (set in High School)
Banks, Russell, RULE OF THE BONE
Bauer, Joan, RULES OF THE ROAD; or HOPE WAS HERE (Strong Female Characters); or THWONK (Humorous love story)
Bauer, Marion Dane, ON MY HONOR (Dealing with Grief-Loss of best friend)
Beah, A LONG WAY GONE, (coming of Age Novel)
Beals, Melba, WARRIORS DON'T CRY (Racial Issues-Integration, Autobiography)
Blais, Madeline, IN THESE GIRLS HOPE IS A MUSCLE (High Sch.Girls btball team, non-fiction)
Block, Francesca, I WAS A TEENAGE FAIRY
Blume, Judy, BLUBBER, (Dealing with obesity); or TIGER EYES (Girl becomes mainstay of family after father dies); or THEN AGAIN, MAYBE I WON'T or ARE YOU THERE, GOD?
Bombeck, Erma, I WANT TO GROW HAIR, I WANT TO GROW UP, I WANT TO GO TO BOISE (Dealing w/Illness)
Borland, Hal, WHEN THE LEGENDS DIE (Dealing with Ethnic Stereotypes)
Brady, Mari, PLEASE REMEMBER ME (Dealing with Illness)
Brashares, Ann, THE SISTERHOOD OF THE TRAVELING PANTS or Sequels
Braithwaite, Edward, TO SIR WITH LOVE (Dealing with Racial Stereotypes)
Bridgers, Sue Ellen, ALL TOGETHER NOW; or HOME BEFORE DARK (Life Challenges); or NOTES FOR ANOTHER LIFE; or PERMANENT CONNECTIONS
Bronte, JANE EYRE- one of the "classics" of Romantic Fiction
Brooks, Bruce, BOYS WILL BE (Essays); or MOVES MAKE THE MAN, (Basketball); or WHAT HEARTS
Bruchac, Joseph, CODE TALKER (World War II)
Burnet, THE SECRET GARDEN (Coming of Age Story)

Burns, Olive, COLD SASSY TREE (Age Differences)
 Cadnum, Michael, HEAT (Sports, Female Protagonist)
 Calvert, Patricia, GLENNIS, BEFORE AND AFTER (Dealing with Life Challenges)
 Capps, Benjamin, A WOMAN OF THE PEOPLE (Dealing with Stereotypes)
 Card, Orson Scott, ENDER'S GAME or SPEAKER OF THE DEAD or sequels (Science Fiction)
 Carter, EDUCATION OF LITTLE TREE (Native American Protagonist)
 Cather, MY ANTONIA
 Chambers, Aidan, TOLL BRIDGE
 Chbosky, Stephen, THE PERKS OF BEING A WALL FLOWER (Humorous, self-discovery)
 Childress, HERO AIN'T NOTHING BUT A SANDWICH (Serious, Mature-Heroin Addict's story)
 Christie, Agatha, AND THEN THERE WERE NONE (Famous Mystery Writer)
 Clapp, Patricia, WITCHES' CHILDREN
 Cleaver, HAZEL RYE; or WHERE LILIES BLOOM
 Cochran, ROUGHNECKS (High School Football story)
 Cole, Brock, CELINE; or GOATS (Wonderful story about outcasts)
 Colfer, Eoin, ARTEMIS FOWL
 Collier, MY BROTHER SAM IS DEAD (Revolutionary War)
 Collins, Suzanne, HUNGER GAMES Trilogy (Futuristic, gripping and violent tale)
 Only, Jane Leslie, CRAZY LADY (About Personal Values)
 Conrad, HEART OF DARKNESS (considered a literary classic)
 Cooney, Caroline, DRIVER'S ED (Dealing with Life Challenges)
 Cooper, Susan, GREENWITCH or GREY KING or OVERSEA, UNDER STONE (Fantasy Writer)
 Cormier, Robert, AFTER THE FIRST DEATH; or BUMBLEBEE FLIES AWAY; or CHOCOLATE WARS
 (Mature language, situations) BEYOND CHOCOLATE WARS, I AM THE CHEESE (Government
 Conspiracies- Mature Themes); or WE ALL FALL DOWN (Struggles of intimacy) or HEROES, or
 RAG AND BONE SHOP or FRENCHTOWN SUMMER
 Crane, RED BADGE OF COURAGE (Civil War Story)
 Craven, I HEARD THE OWL CALL MY NAME
 Creech, Sharon, WALK TWO MOONS, (Issues of Family) or LOVE THAT DOG or BOY ON PORCH
 Crew, Linda, CHILDREN OF THE RIVER (Dealing with Racial/Ethnic Stereotypes)
 Crutcher, Chris, (his books often contain mature themes and obscenities but he's a great writer)
 IRONMAN (Bo, an athlete, struggles with his anger); or RUNNING LOOSE (Growing up in the
 face of obstacles); STAYING FIT FOR SARAH BYRNES, (Dealing with Life Challenges and
 Differences) STOTAN, (Sports Novel. Excellent), WHALE TALK; or BEGINNINGS; or CHINESE
 HANDCUFFS
 Culin, Charlotte, CAGES OF GLASS, FLOWERS OF TIME (Dealing with Life Challenges)
 Curtis, Christopher, THE WATSONS GO TO BIRMINGHAM-1963 (Dealing with Racial/Ethnic
 Stereotypes) or BUD NOT BUDDY (young orphan searching for his father, humorous)
 Cushman, Karen, CATHERINE, CALLED BIRDY; or MIDWIFE'S APPRENTICE (Medieval Setting;
 excellent story)
 Dashner, THE MAZE RUNNER (Post-apocalyptic science fiction)
 Davidson, Mary, HELEN KELLER: THE STORY OF MY LIFE (Physical Challenges, Autobiography.)
 Dessen, Sarah, JUST LISTEN (Some mature themes), TRUTH ABOUT FOREVER
 Deukurs, Carl, HEART OF A CHAMPION (Sports and Friendship Story, recommended)

Dickens, GREAT EXPECTATIONS, (Historical Fiction Classic!)

Dillard, Annie, TEACHING A STONE TO TALK (Writer of AMERICAN CHILDHOOD)

Dorris, Michael, A YELLOW RAFT ON BLUE WATER; or GUESTS; or MORNING GIRL (Mature Subject material and language; Dealing with Stereotypes)

Draper, Sharon, FORGED BY FIRE; or TEARS OF A TIGER or ROMIETTE AND JULIO or DOUBLE DUTCH or DARKNESS BEFORE DAWN (strong female protagonist)

Duncan, Lois, RANSOM, (Suspense, Intrigue, excellent characters); KILLING MR GRIFFIN

DuPrau, Jeanne, CITY OF EMBER

Farmer, Nancy, A GIRL NAMED DISASTER (Strong Female) THE HOUSE OF THE SCORPION

Fast, Howard, APRIL MORNING (Revolutionary War); or MY GLORIOUS BROTHERS (Historical Fiction)

Fisch, Robert, LIGHT FROM THE YELLOW STAR (Holocaust/Memoir)

Flagg, Fannie, FRIED GREEN TOMATOES (Gender Differences)

Fleischman, Paul, SEEDFOLKS; (Urban Garden brings community together- 13 different narrators); or WHIRLIGIG

Forbes, JOHNNY TREMAIN (Historical Fiction A Classic!)

Fox, Paula, SLAVE DANCER (Historical Fiction. Boy on Slave Ship)

Franklin, Miles, MY BRILLIANT CAREER (Gender Differences)

Funke, Cornelia, THE THIEF LORD, (lots of my students love INKHEART)

Gaines, Ernest, THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MISS JANE PITTMAN (Dealing with Racial/Ethnic Stereotypes)

Gaiman, THE GRAVEYARD BOOK

George, JULIE OF THE WOLVES (Strong Female Protagonist)

Giles, Gail, SHATTERING GLASS

Golding, William, LORD OF THE FLIES (Mature situations- thought provoking)

Goldman, William, THE PRINCESS BRIDE (Medieval Humorous Adventure)

Grant, Cynthia, THE WHITE HORSE

Green, John, LOOKING FOR ALASKA, FAULT IN OUR STARS, PAPER TOWNS

Greene, Hanna, I NEVER PROMISED YOU A ROSE GARDEN

Greene, Bette, DROWNING OF STEPHEN JONES; or SUMMER OF GERMAN SOLDIER (Historical Fiction); or PHILLIP HALL LIKE ME

Grisham, John A TIME TO KILL or TESTIMONY or PARTNER or THE STREET LAWYER (or any other others; Popular Fiction Writer. Some sexual situations)

Hamilton, Virginia, HOUSE OF DIES DREAR, COUSINS or SEELY

Hanff, 84, CHARRING CROSS ROAD

Hawthorne, Nathaniel, SCARLET LETTER (Classic dealing with reputation)

Haynes, David, RIGHT BY MY SIDE (African American Experience)

Hemingway, OLD MAN AND THE SEA (More to story than the title hints at)

Henriquez, THE BOOK OF UNKNOWN AMERICANS

Hesse, Karen, OUT OF THE DUST (Historical Fiction; Life Challenges)

Hesser, Terry, KISSING DOORKNOBS (Dealing w/Obsessive Compulsive Disorder)

Hiassen, Carl, HOOT, FLUSH, CHOMP

Hickam, ROCKET BOYS

Hinton, SE, (writer of OUTSIDERS)

RUMBLE FISH or TAMING THE STAR RUNNER; or THAT WAS THEN, THIS IS NOW
 Hobbs, Will, DOWNRIVER; or JASON'S GOLD (Historical Fiction); or THE MAZE
 Hocken, Sheila, EMMA AND I (Dealing with Illness/Physical Challenges)
 Hornbacher, Marya, WASTED (eating disorders, nonfiction, excellent)
 Horwood, DUNCTON WOOD (Fantasy Series)
 Houston, Jeanne Wakatsuki, FAREWELL TO MANZANAR (Historical; Japanese Internment Camps during WW2; highly acclaimed book)
 Hunt, ACROSS FIVE APRILS (Historical Fiction, CIVIL WAR)
 Hunter, DIARY OF LATOYA HUNTER (Memoir of a Middle School Aged Girl)
 Hurwin, Davida, A TIME FOR DANCING (Dealing with Illness/Physical Challenges)
 Hyde, Catherine Ryan, WHEN I FOUND YOU, DON'T LET ME GO
 Jacques, Brian, REDWALL; or MOSSFLOWER (Fantasy Adventures. Very popular author)
 Jiang, Ji-Li, RED SCARF GIRL (Dealing with Illness/Physical Challenges)
 Johnson, Angela, TONING THE SWEEP (African American experience. Very moving)
 Jones, Ron, THE ACORN PEOPLE (Mature; inspirational, deals w/illness)
 Kamkwamba and Mealer, The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind: Creating Currents of Electricity and Hope
 Kata, PATCH OF BLUE
 Keller, Helen, MY RELIGION (Autobiography-Personal Memoir)
 Kerr, M.E., GENTLEHANDS; or IS THAT YOU MISS BLUE, (Girls growing up among religious mysticism) or NIGHT KITES
 Keyes, Daniel, FLOWERS FOR ALGERNON
 Kim, THE LONG SEASON OF RAIN
 Kingsolver, Barbara, THE BEAN TREES (Highly acclaimed; mature subject)
 Kirkpatrick, KEEPING THE GOOD LIGHT (Female Protagonist)
 Klass, David, DANGER ZONE (Racism, prejudice, politics!)
 Klaus, Curtis, BLOOD AND CHOCOLATE (Strong Female Character)
 Knowles, SEPARATE PEACE (Classic tale of friendship)
 Krakauer, Jon, INTO THIN AIR (Autobiography of a tragic experience. Mature)
 Lawrence, Iain, THE WRECKERS
 L'Engle, Madeleine, (Writer of WRINKLE IN TIME) A RING OF ENDLESS LIGHT; or A SEVERED WASP; or A SWIFTLY TILTING PLANET; or YOUNG UNICORNS
 Lee, Harper, TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD (Classic bout fight against prejudice; Historical Fiction)
 LeGuin, Ursula, A WIZARD OF EARTH SEA; or VERY FAR AWAY FROM ANYWHERE ELSE (Dealing with Differences), or ONES WHO WALK AWAY FROM OMELAS, (Utopian, young protagonists)
 Leslie, IN SHADOW OF A RAINBOW
 Levin, Gail Carson, ELLA ENCHANTED
 Levitin, THE RETURN
 Lewis, C.S., LION, WITCH, WARDROBE (Any of NARNIA series acceptable)
 Lipsyte, Robert, JOE LOUIS: A CHAMPION FOR ALL AMERICA (Biography of Boxer); or ONE FAT SUMMER (Humorous + Inspirational); or THE CHEMO KID (Dealing with Illness); or THE CONTENDER Boxing story

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Boxing story

London, Jack, CALL OF THE WILD

Lopez, Charlotte, LOST IN THE SYSTEM (Dealing with Life Challenges)

Lowry, Lois, (Author of GIVER) A SUMMER TO DIE or GATHERING BLUE or MESSENGER or SON

Maclean, Norman, A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT

Magorian, Michelle, GOOD NIGHT, MR TOM (Age Differences)

Marshall, Catherine, CHRISTY (Life Challenges, Gender Difference)

Mazer, Norma, AFTER THE RAIN (Age Differences); or OUT OF CONTROL (Sexual Harassment) or WHEN SHE WAS GOOD

McCullers, Carson, MEMBER OF THE WEDDING (Gender Differences; excellent)

McDonald, Joyce, SWALLOWING STONES

McGuigan, Mary, WHERE YOU BELONG (Racial/Ethnic Stereotypes)

McKinley, Robin, BEAUTY (Strong Female Character); or THE BLUE SWORD, (Kidnapped Girl becomes Warrior)

Mead, Alice, ADEM 'S CROSS (Albanian Boy in Kosovo)

Meigs, Cornelia, INVINCIBLE LOUISA (Gender Differences)

Merrill, Jean, THE PUSHCAR WARS (Satire, Funny)

Meyer, Marissa, CINDER (Lunar Chronicles)

Mikaelsen, Ben, PETEY (Dealing with Cerebral Palsy); or RESCUE JOSH McGUIRE

Momaday, N. Scott, THE WAY TO RAINY MOUNTAIN (Native American experience)

Myers, Walter Dean, (His books contain colorful language and sometimes disturbing material, but an excellent writer) FALLEN ANGELS, (Vietnam Story); or HARLEM; or HOOPS (Sports Story); or IT AIN'T ALL FOR NOTHIN; or MONSTER; or SCORPIONS (Youth Gangs); or SLAM!; or THE GLORY FIELD (Civil War. Highly recommended)

Namioka, Lensey, DEN OF THE WHITE FOX (Historical, action, suspense!)

Naylor, Phyllis, WALKING THROUGH THE DARK (Dealing with Life Challenges)

Nolan, Han, DANCING ON THE EDGE

Nuwer, Hank, THE LEGEND OF JESSE OWENS (Biography)

O'Neal, Zibby, THE LANGUAGE OF GOLDFISH (Dealing with Differences)

O'Dell, Scot, ISLAND OF THE BLUE DOLPHINS

Orenstein, Peggy, SCHOOL GIRLS

Orr, Wendy, PEELING THE ONION, (Dealing with Women's issues)

Ortiz, Victoria, SOJOURNER TRUTH (Dealing with Racial/Ethnic Stereotypes)

Orwell, George, 1984 (Futuristic Novel); or ANIMAL FARM (Politics and Human nature couched within Animal story. Often a High School reading book)

Paterson, Katherine, BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA (Boy learns about friendship); or COME SING JIMMY JO; JACOB I HAVE LOVED (Family Issues between twins); or JIP, HIS STORY (Historical Fiction); or MASTER PUPPETEER; or THE GREAT GILLY HOPKINS (Strong Female)

Paulsen, Gary, HARRIS AND ME, (Boy 's Adventures); or HATCHET (Survival Story!); or NIGHTJOHN + (Slavery); or POPCORN DAYS AND BUTTERMILK NIGHTS; or SARNY (Sequel to NIGHTJOHN); or SOLDIER'S HEART; or THE FOXMAN; or TRACKER or ROAD TRIP

Peck, Richard, THE LAST SAFE PLACE ON EARTH (about the impact a group in the community can have on its members); or A DAY NO PIGS WOULD DIE (A rural Vermont boy has to grow up quickly due to his father's early death and the raising of a "pet" pig which ultimately needs to be the winter food)

Peck, Robert SOUP ON FIRE (Comical Novel)

Pelzer, Dave, A CHILD CALLED IT (mature subject, well written)

Pfeffer, Susan Beth, FAMILY OF STRANGERS; or YEAR WITHOUT MICHAEL, acclaimed author

Philbrick, Rodman, FREAK THE MIGHTY (Humorous, inspirational)

Plummer, Louise, UNLIKELY ROMANCE OF KATE BJORKMAN

Potok, MY NAME IS ASHER LEV; or THE CHOSEN (Wonderful books about friendship)

Pullman, Phillip, RUBY IN THE SMOKE; or THE GOLDEN COMPASS; or THE SUBTLE KNIFE, (great dark mysteries)

Quackenbush, Robert, CLARA BARTON (Dealing with Gender Issues, Biography)

Raskin, THE WESTING GAME (Strong Female Character)

Rawlings, THE YEARLING (Animal Story)

Rawls, WHERE THE RED FERN GROWS

Rhodes, Atwater, IN THE FOREST OF THE NIGHT

Richter, Conrad, THE LIGHT IN THE FOREST (Dealing with Racial/Ethnic Stereotypes)

Riordan, Rick, THE LIGHTNING THIEF. Percy Jackson Series is a class favorite

Rodowsky, Colby, REMEMBERING MOG (Dealing with Life Challenges)

Roop, Peter, SUSAN B ANTHONY (Biography, Gender Differences)

Roth, Veronica, DIVERGENT SERIES

Rowling, HARRY POTTER Series (ANY acceptable)

Rylant, EVERY LIVING THING; or SING MAY (Very moving remembrance)

Sachar, Louis, HOLES (Wrongly accused, Stanley is sent to a boot camp for young offenders, where he discovers both corruption and a connection to his past)

Saldana, Rene, JUMPING TREE (Coming of Age, Mexican American)

Salinger, JD, CATCHER IN THE RYE (High School Classic. Mature language and situations)

Salisbury, Graham, BLUE SKIN OF THE SEA or UNDER THE BLOOD RED SUN (WW II)

Sanders, Dori, CLOVER (Dealing with Racial/Ethnic Stereotypes)

Schaefer, SHANE (Western)

Serraillier, Ian, ESCAPE FROM WARSAW (World War II Story)

Sheinkin, BOMB: THE RACE TO BUILD AND STEAL THE WORLD'S MOST DANGEROUS WEAPON

Shusterman, Neal, WHAT DADDY DID (Dealing with Life Challenges. Mature Themes)

Sleator, William, ODDBALLS (Humor. Personal Memories)

Slepian, Jan, THE ALFRED SUMMER, (4 outcasts face limitations. Very inspirational)

Sloan, Holly Goldberg, (COUNTING BY SEVENS), I'LL BE THERE, JUST CALL MY NAME

Soto, Gary, A SUMMER LIFE; or FIRE IN MY HANDS; or LIVING UP THE STREET; or TAKING SIDES (In his books, this excellent author shares his own Hispanic experience)

Sparks, Beatrice, JAY'S JOURNAL; or IT HAPPENED TO NANCY

Speare, THE SIGN OF THE BEAVER; or THE WITCH OF BLACKBIRD POND

Spinelli, Jerry, author of MANIAC MAGEE

STARGIRL (Strong Female Character); or THERE'S A GIRL IN MY HAMMERLOCK (Gender Differences); or WHO PUT THAT HAIR IN MY TOOTHBRUSH (Humor. Boy's Romantic escapades); or WRINGER.

Stanley, CHILDREN OF DUSTBOWL (Historical Fiction)

Staples, Suzanne, SHABANU: DAUGHTER OF THE WIND (Young woman struggles with growing up in the desert of Pakistan. Very well written. Some mature subject material)

Steinbeck, John, EAST OF EDEN; or LONG VALLEY; or TRAVELS WITH CHARLEY; or THE PEARL; or THE RED PONY,

Stewart, Trenton Lee, THE MYSTERIOUS BENEDICT SOCIETY (Another class favorite)

Taylor, Mildred, ROLL OF THUNDER, HEAR MY CRY (Historical, Excellent-racial issues); or SONG OF THE TREES (prequel)

Temple, TASTE OF SALT (Moving Haitian experience. Mature reading)

TenBoom, Corrie, THE HIDING PLACE (Dealing with Racial/Ethnic Stereotypes)

Thomas, Rob, DOING TIME (Provocative. Serious subject material)

Tolan, S, THE PLAGUE

Townsend, Sue, THE SECRET DIARY OF ADRIAN MOLE (humorous, Boy living in England)

Trueman, Terry, STUCK IN NEUTRAL

Twain, Mark, ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER (A classic!)

Uchida, Yoshiko, A JAR OF DREAMS; or THE INVISIBLE THREAD (Autobiography of Japanese American Girl in internment camp during WW II)

Valens, E G, THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN (Physical Illness/Challenge)

Verne, AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS

Voigt, Cynthia, COME A STRANGER; or DICEY'S SONG (Kids on own); or HOMECOMING; or IZZY, WILLY-NILLY (Dealing w/Illness); or JACKAROO (Most of her Novels feature Strong Female Protagonists)

Wallace, Rich, PLAYING WITHOUT THE BALL (Sports story)

Wangerin, Wlater, THE BOOK OF THE DUN COW (Animal Fantasy, battle of good and evil)

Wells, H.G., THE INVISIBLE MAN

Werlin, Nancy, LOCKED INSIDE; or THE KILLER'S COUSIN (Mystery/Suspense Novels)

Wersba, Barbara, RUN SOFTLY, GO FAST; or WHISTLE ME HOME

Westall, Robert, DEMONS AND SHADOWS (Ghost Stories); or KINGDOM BY THE SEA, (WW II Boy/Dog journey)

Wheeler, Leslie, JANE ADDAMS (Gender Differences)

White, BELLE PRATER'S BOY

White, Robb, DEATHWATCH (Survival Story)

White, Ryan, RYAN WHITE: MY OWN STORY (Dealing with Illness/Physical Challenges)

Wiesel, Elie, NIGHT (Holocaust Memoir. Powerful. Mature subject)

Wittlinger, Ellen, HARD LOVE

Wolff, Virginia, BAT 6 (Ethnic Stereotypes); or MAKE LEMONADE (Dealing with Life Challenges); or PROBABLY STILL NICK SWANSON (Dealing with Differences)

Woodson, Jacqueline, I HADN'T MEANT TO TELL YOU THIS (Racial Stereotypes-Marie, a popular black girl, befriends Lena, a poor, white girl living with a secret of abuse) or If You Come Softly, great book alternating between the point of view of the young woman and the young man in the relationship.

Yep, Laurence, CHILD OF THE OWL; or THE STAR FISHER (Chinese American Experience)

Zindel, Paul, Author of PIGMAN, DAVID AND DELLA; or MY DARLING, MY HAMBURGER, (Love, Sex, betrayal come to a young girl) PIGMAN AND ME\ (Age Differences)

Zusak, Markus, THE BOOK THIEF (serious work, but well written)