

Friends Academy  
2019 Middle School Summer Reading List  
for students entering  
**7th Grade**

**Challenge One: Community Read**

Students entering seventh grade are required to read the following:

Gratz, Alan. *Refugee*.

ISBN # 978-1407184326

JOSEF is a Jewish boy living in 1930s Nazi Germany. With the threat of concentration camps looming, he and his family board a ship bound for the other side of the world . . .

ISABEL is a Cuban girl in 1994. With riots and unrest plaguing her country, she and her family set out on a raft, hoping to find safety in America . . .

MAHMOUD is a Syrian boy in 2015. With his homeland torn apart by violence and destruction, he and his family begin a long trek toward Europe . . .

All three kids go on harrowing journeys in search of refuge. All will face unimaginable dangers -- from drownings to bombings to betrayals. But there is always the hope of *tomorrow*. And although Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud are separated by continents and decades, shocking connections will tie their stories together in the end. This action-packed novel tackles topics both timely and timeless: courage, survival, and the quest for home.

**Challenge Two**

Students entering seventh grade are also required to read one book from the following list:

Balliett, Blue. *Hold Fast*.

**ISBN-13:** 978-0545299893

Mystery

Where is Early's father? He's not the kind of father who would disappear. But he's gone and he's left a whole lot of trouble behind. As danger closes in, Early, her mom, and her brother have to flee their apartment. With nowhere else to go, they are forced to move into a city shelter. Once there, Early starts asking questions and looking for answers. Because her father hasn't disappeared without a trace. There are patterns and rhythms to what's happened, and Early might be the only one who can use them to track him down and make her way out of a very tough place.

Barnhill, Kelly. *The Girl Who Drank the Moon*.  
2017 Newbery Medal winner

**ISBN-13:** 978-1616207465

Fantasy

Every year, the people of the Protectorate leave a baby as an offering to the witch who lives in the forest. They hope this sacrifice will keep her from terrorizing their town. But the witch in the Forest, Xan, is kind. She shares her home with a wise Swamp Monster

and a Perfectly Tiny Dragon. Xan rescues the children and delivers them to welcoming families on the other side of the forest, nourishing the babies with starlight on the journey. One year, Xan accidentally feeds a baby moonlight instead of starlight, filling the ordinary child with extraordinary magic. Xan decides she must raise this girl, whom she calls Luna, as her own. As Luna's thirteenth birthday approaches, her magic begins to emerge – with dangerous consequences. Meanwhile, a young man from the Protectorate is determined to free his people by killing the witch. Deadly birds with uncertain intentions flock nearby. A volcano, quiet for centuries, rumbles just beneath the earth's surface. And the woman with the Tiger's heart is on the prowl . . .

Card, Orson Scott. *Ender's Game*. **ISBN-13:** 978-0812550702 Science Fiction  
Ender Wiggin is the hero of this science fiction novel in which military geniuses are bred to save the world against alien attacks.

Choldenko, Gennifer. *Al Capone Does My Shirts*. **ISBN-13:** 978-0142403709 Historical Fiction  
2005 Newbery Honor Book.

In 1935, Moose Flanagan moves with his family to Alcatraz so his father can work as a prison guard and his autistic sister can attend a special school in San Francisco. Moose befriends the warden's daughter and learns to cope with this awkward situation.

Feinstein, John. Sports mysteries series. Mystery (Sports)

In John Feinstein's series, sports and mystery are intertwined. Follow reporters Steve Thomas and Susan Carol Anderson as they go behind the scenes and cover stories about baseball, football, basketball, tennis, and swimming.

*Last Shot: A Final Four Mystery* **ISBN-13:** 978-0553494600

*Vanishing Act: Mystery at the U.S. Open* **ISBN-13:** 978-0440421252

*Cover Up: Mystery at the Super Bowl* **ISBN-13:** 978-0440422051

*Change Up: Mystery at the World Series* **ISBN-13:** 978-0375847592

*The Rivalry: Mystery at the Army-Navy Game* **ISBN-13:** 978-0375858161

*Rush for the Gold: Mystery at the Olympics* **ISBN-13:** 978-0375871689

Gibbs, Stuart. *FunJungle*. Mystery

When Teddy Fitzroy moved into FunJungle, the nation's largest zoo, with his scientist parents, he expected things to be kind of quiet. There'd be the occasional elephant stampede and water balloon fight with the chimpanzees, of course, but when Henry the Hippo dies from not-so-natural causes, Teddy suspects foul play. And that was just the beginning. He begins to realize that the zoo is far more exciting than he thought it was, and soon the mysteries at FunJungle are piling up...

Book 1: *Belly Up* **ISBN-13:** 978-1416987321

Book 2: *Poached* **ISBN-13:** 978-1442467781

Book 3: *Big Game* **ISBN-13:** 978-1481423342

Book 4: *Panda-monium* **ISBN-13:** 978-1481445689

Book 5: *Lion Down* **ISBN-13:** 978-1534424739

Graff, Lisa. *Lost in the Sun*. ISBN-13: 978-0147508584 Realistic Fiction  
Everyone says that middle school is awful, but Trent knows nothing could be worse than the year he had in fifth grade when a freak accident on Cedar Lake left one kid dead, and Trent with a brain full of terrible thoughts he can't get rid of. Trent's pretty positive the entire disaster was his fault, so for him, middle school feels like a fresh start, a chance to prove to everyone that he's not the horrible screw-up they seem to think he is.

Lai, Thanhha. *Listen, Slowly*. ISBN-13: 978-0062229199 Realistic Fiction  
A California girl born and raised, Mai can't wait to spend her vacation at the beach. Instead, she has to travel to Vietnam with her grandmother, who is going back to find out what really happened to her husband during the Vietnam War. Mai's parents think this trip will be a great opportunity for their out-of-touch daughter to learn more about her culture. But to Mai, those are their roots, not her own. Vietnam is hot, smelly, and the last place she wants to be. Besides barely speaking the language, she doesn't know the geography, the local customs, or even her distant relatives. To survive her trip, Mai must find a balance between her two completely different worlds.

Lupica, Mike. *The Big Field*. ISBN-13: 978-0142419106 Sports  
Playing shortstop is a way of life for Hutch --- not only is his hero, Derek Jeter, a shortstop but so was his father, a former local legend turned pro. Which is why having to play second base feels like a demotion to the second team. Yet that's where Hutch ends up after Darryl "D-Will" Williams, the best shortstop prospect since A-Rod joins the team. But Hutch is nothing if not a team player, and he's cool with playing in D-Will's shadow --- until, that is, the two shortstops in Hutch's life betray him in a way he never could have imagined.

Sperry, Armstrong. *Call it Courage*. ISBN-13: 978-0689713910 Classic  
Newbery Medal  
Mafatu's name means "Stout Heart," but his people call him a coward. Ever since the sea took his mother's life and spared his own, he has lived with deep fear. And even though his father is the Great Chief of Hikueru--an island whose seafaring people worship courage--he is terrified, and consequently, he is severely scorned. By the time he is twelve years old, Mafatu can bear it no longer. He must conquer his fear alone...even if it means certain death.

Wolk, Lauren. *Wolf Hollow*. ISBN-13: 978-1101994849 Historical Fiction  
**A 2017 Newbery Honor Book**  
Growing up in the shadows cast by two world wars, Annabelle has lived a mostly quiet, steady life in her small Pennsylvania town. Until the day new student Betty Glengarry walks into her class. Betty quickly reveals herself to be cruel and manipulative, and while her bullying seems isolated at first, things quickly escalate, and reclusive World War I

veteran Toby becomes a target of her attacks. While others have always seen Toby's strangeness, Annabelle knows only kindness. She will soon need to find the courage to stand as a lone voice of justice as tensions mount.