

2016 Summer Reading List

Grade 8

Hello, I am Kells' Librarian, **Ms. Elaina** and welcome to your **Summer Reading List!** Did you know that there a TON of research out there showing that students who don't read over the summer break can lose up to **3 months of reading progress** which can affect their **overall achievement** in the classroom come fall?

Translation: Reading over the summer will make the starting school next year MUCH easier!



With this in mind...and because I think reading is one of the true pleasures in life...I have prepared a list of **suggestions** for some great summer reads! Take a peek and see if anything captures your interest. Or, head to your local library or bookstore and discover a new title or author yourself!

Note: students are not required to read the titles recommended here, however, I strongly suggest that they do read over the summer be it a novel, a graphic novel/comic book or magazines.

Happy reading,
Ms. Elaina, MLIS
Librarian

A note to parents/guardians: I have included in this list books that discuss many different points of view.

If you are concerned about what your child reads (ex.: you don't want them reading anything too violent) please read the synopsis and review the book before you allow them to proceed. Though I believe that students should read about a wide variety of topics, perspectives, worldviews, etc., I leave it up to the parents'/guardians' discretion.

Want some more suggestions? Check out these sites:

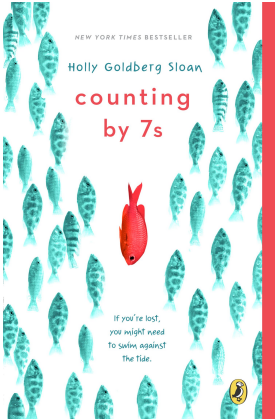
[Good Reads: Listopia - Young Adult Book Lists](#)

[NPR Books: Young Adults](#)

[Toronto Public Library: Recommended Books for Teens](#)

[Vancouver Public Library: Teen Booklists](#)

[Babelio: Listes sur le thème littérature jeunesse](#)



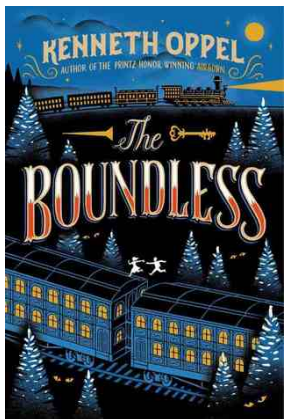
Counting by 7s (Realistic Fiction)

Holly Goldberg Sloan

Willow Chance is a twelve-year-old genius, obsessed with nature and diagnosing medical conditions, who finds it comforting to count by 7s. It has never been easy for her to connect with anyone other than her adoptive parents, but that hasn't kept her from leading a quietly happy life . . . until now.

Suddenly Willow's world is tragically changed when her parents both die in a car crash, leaving her alone in a baffling world. The triumph of this book is that it is not a tragedy. This extraordinarily odd, but extraordinarily endearing, girl manages to push through her grief. Her journey to find a fascinatingly diverse and fully believable surrogate family is a joy and a revelation to read.

***Top choice for ESL students**



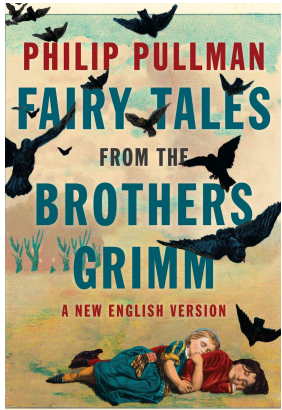
The Boundless (Adventure Fiction)

Kenneth Oppel

The Boundless, the greatest train ever built, is on its maiden voyage across the country, and first-class passenger Will Everett is about to embark on the adventure of his life!

When Will ends up in possession of the key to a train car containing priceless treasures, he becomes the target of sinister figures from his past. In order to survive, Will must join a traveling circus, enlisting the aid of Mr. Dorian, the ringmaster and leader of the troupe, and Maren, a girl his age who is an expert escape artist. With villains fast on their heels, can Will and Maren reach Will's father and save The Boundless before someone winds up dead?

***Top choice for reluctant readers**



Fairy Tales from the Brothers Grimm (Classic Fiction)

Philip Pullman

Two centuries ago, Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm published their first volume of fairy tales. Since then, such stories as “Cinderella,” “Snow White,” “Rapunzel,” and “Hansel and Gretel” have become deeply woven into the Western imagination. Now Philip Pullman, the New York Times–bestselling author of the His Dark Materials trilogy, makes us fall in love all over again with the immortal tales of the Brothers Grimm.

Here are Pullman’s fifty favorites—a wide-ranging selection that includes the most popular stories as well as lesser-known treasures like “The Three Snake Leaves,” “Godfather Death,” and “The Girl with No Hands”—alongside his personal commentaries on each story’s sources, variations, and everlasting appeal. Suffused with romance and villainy, danger and wit, Pullman’s beguiling retellings will cast a spell on readers of all ages.



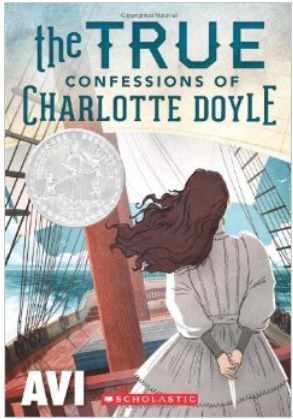
The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy (Science Fiction)

Douglas Adams

Seconds before the Earth is demolished to make way for a galactic freeway, Arthur Dent is plucked off the planet by his friend Ford Prefect, a researcher for the revised edition of The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy who, for the last fifteen years, has been posing as an out-of-work actor.

Together this dynamic pair begin a journey through space aided by quotes from The Hitchhiker's Guide ("A towel is about the most massively useful thing an interstellar hitchhiker can have") and a galaxy-full of fellow travelers: Zaphod Beeblebrox--the two-headed, three-armed ex-hippie and totally out-to-lunch president of the galaxy; Trillian, Zaphod's girlfriend (formally Tricia McMillan), whom Arthur tried to pick up at a cocktail party once upon a time zone; Marvin, a paranoid, brilliant, and chronically depressed robot; Veet Voojagig, a former graduate student who is obsessed with the disappearance of all the ballpoint pens he bought over the years.

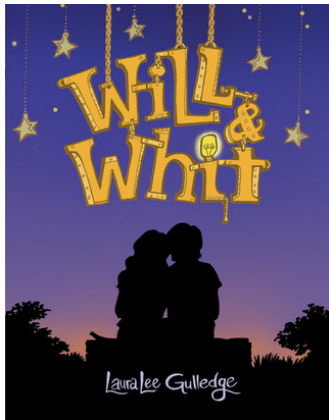
Where are these pens? Why are we born? Why do we die? Why do we spend so much time between wearing digital watches? For all the answers stick your thumb to the stars. And don't forget to bring a towel!



The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle (Historical Fiction)

Avi

Thirteen-year-old Charlotte Doyle is excited to return home from her school in England to her family in Rhode Island in the summer of 1832. But when the two families she was supposed to travel with mysteriously cancel their trips, Charlotte finds herself the lone passenger on a long sea voyage with a cruel captain and a mutinous crew. Worse yet, soon after stepping aboard the ship, she becomes enmeshed in a conflict between them! What begins as an eagerly anticipated ocean crossing turns into a harrowing journey, where Charlotte gains a villainous enemy . . . and is put on trial for murder!

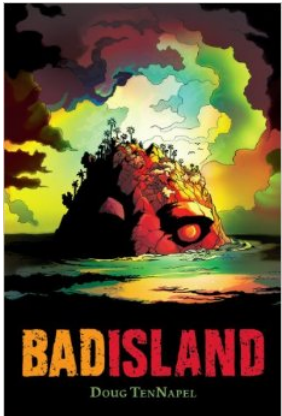


Will & Whit (Graphic Novel)

Laura Lee Gulledge

Wilhelmina “Will” Huxstep is a creative soul struggling to come to terms with a family tragedy. She crafts whimsical lamps, in part to deal with her fear of the dark. As she wraps up another summer in her mountain town, she longs for unplugged adventures with her fellow creative friends, Autumn, Noel, and Reese. Little does she know that she will get her wish in the form of an arts carnival and a blackout, courtesy of a hurricane named Whitney, which forces Will to face her fear of darkness.

Laura Lee Gulledge’s signature visual metaphors will be on full display in this all-new graphic novel, a moving look at shedding light on the dark corners of life.

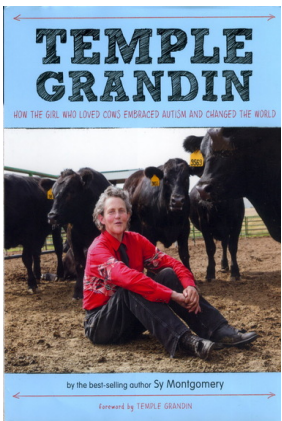


Bad Island (Graphic Novel)

Doug TenNapel

Something on this island is up to no good . . .

When Reese is forced to go on a boating trip with his family, the last thing he expects is to be shipwrecked on an island-especially one teeming with weird plants and animals. But what starts out as simply a bad vacation turns into a terrible one, as the castaways must find a way to escape while dodging the island's dangerous inhabitants. With few resources and a mysterious entity on the hunt, each secret unlocked could save them . . . or spell their doom. One thing Reese knows for sure: This is one Bad Island.

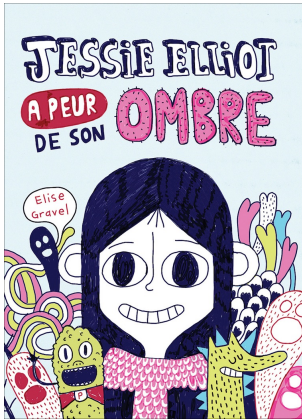


Temple Grandin: How the Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced Autism and Changed the World (Biography)

Sy Montgomery, Temple Grandin

When Temple Grandin was born, her parents knew that she was different. Years later she was diagnosed with autism. While Temple's doctor recommended a hospital, her mother believed in her. Temple went to school instead.

Today, Dr. Temple Grandin is a scientist and professor of animal science at Colorado State University. Her world-changing career revolutionized the livestock industry. As an advocate for autism, Temple uses her experience as an example of the unique contributions that autistic people can make.



Jessie Elliot à peur de son ombre (French Fiction)

Élise Gravel

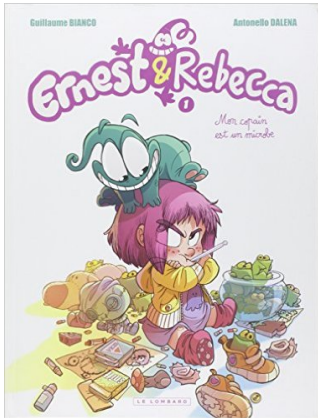
« Mon nom est Jessie Elliot. Je suis une nerd et je suis toujours en train de lire, surtout des bandes dessinées d'Archie. C'est mon dernier été en tant qu'enfant. À l'automne, j'entrerai à l'école secondaire, à la polyvalente Maisonneuve. Là-bas, les jeunes se donnent tous des airs de je-m'en-foutistes. Ils traînent avec leur face suintante et leurs yeux maquillés comme des rats laveurs en se lançant des insultes. Ils fument des cigarettes, s'imaginant sans doute qu'ils ressemblent à des vedettes de hip-hop. Peut-être qu'il y a une réaction chimique dans le cerveau humain qui se déclenche quand on a 13 ans et qui nous rend instantanément bêtes? »



La Nuit des pantins (French Fiction)

R. L. Stine

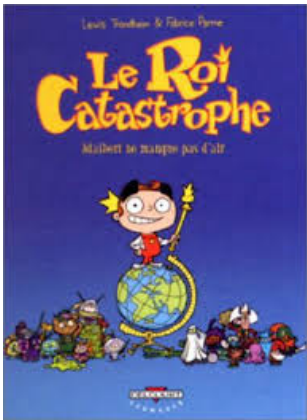
Caro s'amuse beaucoup avec son nouveau pantin ventriloque. Jalouse, sa soeur jumelle s'en procure un et le nomme monsieur Méchant-Garçon. C'est alors que des événements étranges se produisent dans la maison des Lafaye. Monsieur Méchant-Garçon est-il aussi inanimé qu'il en a l'air?



Ernest & Rebecca: Mon copain est un microbe (French Comic Book)

Guillaume Bianco

Rebecca, 6 ans, a des défenses immunitaires un peu faibles mais ne compte pas se laisser faire. Partie chasser la grenouille par temps de pluie, elle attrape Ernest, un drôle de microbe qui n'a pas la langue dans sa poche. Le genre d'ami bien utile à l'heure où ses parents se perdent dans leurs disputes de grands. Un album traitant avec humour de sujets graves comme la maladie et le divorce.



Le Roi Catastrophe: Adalbert ne manque pas d'air (French Comic Book)

Trondheim

Les caprices d'un enfant roi font de la cour du royaume un véritable jardin d'enfants.

***Top choice for students who have difficulty with French**