

FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Summer 2011 Suggested Reading List

for

Rising Seventh and Eighth Graders

This list includes a wide variety of books to appeal to the interests and reading levels of many students. Parents are encouraged to review book selections with their children in order to help them make appropriate choices. Students may select books from this list, or they may read a comparable book that is approved by their parents.

Additional suggestions can also be found in reading lists developed by Fairfax County Public Library at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library and Virginia Readers' Choice at <http://vsra.org/VRC.html>

Abbott, Tony. **FIREGIRL**. Tom befriends a new girl, Jessica, at his private school. His classmates are astonished at this friendship because Jessica's appearance has been tragically altered due to major burns. (F)

Abdel-Fattah, Randa. **DOES MY HEAD LOOK BIG IN THIS?** 16-year-old Ama, an Australian-born Muslim Palestinian, decides she is ready to wear the hijab, or head covering, as a sign of her deep faith. Ama copes with misconceptions and discrimination in a humorous way as she defends her decision to herself and others. (F)

Abrahams, Peter. **DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE**. Ingrid lands the starring role in *Alice in Wonderland* while becoming caught up in the murder investigation of an eccentric neighbor. The first book in the series, **An Echo Falls Mystery**. (F)

Alcott, Louisa M. **LITTLE WOMEN**. The March family endures trials and tribulations while their father is involved in the Civil War. (F)

Alexander, Lloyd. **THE BOOK OF THREE**. In the magical realm of Prydain, Taran, a young and restless pig-keeper, gets more than he bargained for in this fantasy based on Welsh legends. The first of **The Chronicles of Prydain**. (F)

Allison, Jennifer. **GILDA JOYCE: PSYCHIC INVESTIGATOR**. Gilda visits a distant San Francisco cousin and his daughter where she uses her psychic powers to solve the mystery of a mansion's boarded-up tower. (F)

Ambrose, Stephen E. **THE GOOD FIGHT: HOW WORLD WAR II WAS WON**. Ambrose presents a concise, readable chronicle of World War II through amazing photographs and research. (NF)

Anderson, Laurie Halse. **CHAINS**. During the Revolutionary War, Isabel, a slave, and her sister are sold to rich loyalists in the North. The Rebels promise her freedom in exchange for spying on her owner and fellow Tories. The sequel is **Forge**. (F)

Anderson, Laurie Halse. **FEVER 1793**. Against the 1793 yellow fever outbreak in Philadelphia, a teenage Matilda struggles to keep herself and those she loves alive. (F)

Appelt, Kathi. **THE UNDERNEATH**. Set in the bayou, the Underneath is the place below the front porch where Gar-Face chains up Ranger, a hound dog who befriends a cat and her kittens. It's safe for this family in the Underneath, but when one kitten ventures out, it alters all their fates. (F)

Armstrong, Jennifer. **SHIPWRECK AT THE BOTTOM OF THE WORLD**. During a 1914 Antarctic expedition, the waters freeze and crush Shackleton's ship, the *Endurance*, forcing his crew to make a long, perilous journey across the ice to find rescue. (NF)

Aronson, Marc. **SUGAR CHANGED THE WORLD: A STORY OF MAGIC, SPICE, SLAVERY, FREEDOM, AND SCIENCE**. This book explores the history and impact of sugar on our world, from slavery to revolution to human rights. (NF)

Austen, Jane. **PRIDE AND PREJUDICE**. In this comedy of manners, Elizabeth Bennet, a spirited heroine, doesn't always agree with her opinionated beau, Mr. Darcy. (F)

Bachrach, Susan. **TELL THEM WE REMEMBER: THE STORY OF THE HOLOCAUST**. The U. S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's collection of artifacts and pictures tells the story of the Holocaust. (NF)

Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. **THE BOY WHO DARED**. Awaiting his execution in jail, a German teenager recalls Hitler's rise to power and the courage he found to stand up against the Nazi regime. (F)

Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. **HITLER YOUTH: GROWING UP IN HITLER'S SHADOW**. A look at the youth organizations Hitler founded and used to meet his social and military ends. (NF)

Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. **THEY CALLED THEMSELVES THE K.K.K.: THE BIRTH OF AN**

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AMERICAN TERRORIST GROUP. Examine how the Ku Klux Klan formed and grew out of the ashes of the Civil War. The selected stories of people on all sides of the violent conflicts provide a larger understanding of the conditions that promoted the Klan's terrorism. The story examines how the freed people and their sympathizers suffered and how the legacy of that fear, racism, and brutality runs through our own time. (NF)

Baskin, Nora Raleigh. **ANYTHING BUT TYPICAL.** Jason, an autistic teenager with a talent for creative writing, struggles to find acceptance in his middle school community. (F)

Bausum, Ann. **FREEDOM RIDERS: JOHN LEWIS AND JIM ZWERG ON THE FRONT LINES OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT.** The 1960s saw courageous young people risking great personal danger as they participated in the freedom rides during the Civil Rights Movement. (NF)

Berlin, Eric. **THE PUZZLING WORLD OF WINSTON BREEN.** Winston Breen loves puzzles, but when his sister uncovers mysterious strips of wood with words and letters on them, even Winston is stumped. Soon the whole family is caught up in the mystery and off on a wild scavenger hunt. (F)

Bingham, Kelly L. **SHARK GIRL.** After a shark attack causes the amputation of her right arm, fifteen-year-old Jane, an aspiring artist, struggles to come to terms with her loss and the changes it imposes on her day-to-day life and future plans. (F)

Bloor, Edward. **LONDON CALLING.** Seventh-grader Martin Conway believes that his life is monotonous and dull until the night the antique radio he uses as a night-light transports him to the bombing of London. (F)

Bodeen, S.A. **COMPOUND.** Fifteen-year-old Eli has spent the last six years with his family in a massive underground shelter his father built, knowing that nuclear war has destroyed the world he knows, including his grandmother and twin brother who couldn't reach the compound in time. With nine years to go before the air outside will be safe to breathe, Eli is starting to have doubts about his father's motives, explanations, and sanity. (F)

Borden, Louise. **THE JOURNEY THAT SAVED CURIOUS GEORGE.** This beautifully illustrated picture book tells the story of Margaret and H.A. Rey and their

escape from Paris during World War II. (NF)

Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker. **FOR FREEDOM: THE STORY OF A FRENCH SPY.** In this World War II setting, life changes dramatically for a teenage French girl who risks her life, family, and singing career in order to spy for the Resistance. (F)

Bridges, Ruby. **THROUGH MY EYES.** Ruby Bridges tells the moving story of her year in first grade at the all-white William Frantz Public School in New Orleans in 1960. (NF)

Brontë, Charlotte. **JANE EYRE.** In early 19th century England, an orphaned young woman accepts employment as a governess and soon finds herself in love with her employer, who has a terrible secret. (F)

Bruchac, Joseph. **CODE TALKERS: A NOVEL ABOUT THE NAVAJO MARINES OF WORLD WAR TWO.** After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay is recruited by the Marines to become a Code Talker, sending urgent messages during World War II in his native tongue. (F)

Bryant, Jen. **KALEIDOSCOPE EYES.** Lyza's grandfather dies, leaving her clues for finding the famous pirate Captain Kidd's buried treasure in her New Jersey hometown. She and her best friends go on this search, secretly and independently, digging at night throughout the summer. Lyza's kaleidoscope helps her see the world in new ways. (F)

Bryant, Jen. **THE TRIAL.** Living in Flemington, New Jersey, in 1935, a 12-year-old court observer describes, in a series of poems, the trial of Bruno Hauptmann for the kidnapping and murder of Charles Lindbergh's baby. (F)

Budhos, Marina Tamar. **TELL US WE'RE HOME.** Jaya is a shy, artistic girl from Trinidad. Lola is a bright-spirited young lady from Slovenia. Maria is a dedicated daughter from Mexico. Living with their immigrant families in a New Jersey suburb, the girls bond together to face the harsh realities of growing up and fitting in. (F)

Burns, Loree Griffin. **THE HIVE DETECTIVES: CHRONICLE OF A HONEY BEE CATASTROPHE.** In 2006, nearly 40 per cent of the honeybee population in the United States simply vanished. Bee scientists and

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beekeepers across the country have been working to understand “colony collapse disorder.” Photographs and scientific journals help tell the story. (NF)

Burns, Loree Griffin. **TRACKING TRASH: FLOTSAM, JETSAM, AND THE SCIENCE OF OCEAN MOTION.** This book describes the work of a man who tracks trash as it travels great distances by way of ocean currents. (NF)

Caputo, Philip. **10,000 DAYS OF THUNDER: A HISTORY OF THE VIETNAM WAR.** This is a straightforward overview with pictures of the Vietnam War. (NF)

Choldenko, Gennifer. **AL CAPONE DOES MY SHIRTS.** In 1935, Moose Flanagan and his family move to Alcatraz Island where his father has found work in the prison housing such notorious criminals as Al Capone. Moose must balance the responsibilities of caring for his autistic sister while coping with the free-spirited warden’s daughter. Also, **Al Capone Shines My Shoes.** (F)

Clements, Andrew. **THINGS NOT SEEN.** Bobby wakes up invisible. His parents and his new blind friend, Alicia, try to reverse his condition. Also, **Things Hoped For** and **Things That Are.** (F)

Cofer, Judith Ortiz. **CALL ME MARIA.** Maria leaves her mother and homeland of Puerto Rico to live with her father in New York City. Using poems, prose, and letters—written in English, Spanish, and Spanglish—Maria voices her emotions as she is torn between two cultures. (F)

Colfer, Eoin. **ARTEMIS FOWL.** When a twelve-year-old genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll. The first in the **Artemis Fowl** series. (F)

Collins, Suzanne. **THE HUNGER GAMES.** America, now Panem, requires each of its twelve territories to select two children between the ages of 12 and 18 to participate in the Hunger Games. On television, these twenty-four kids will fight to the death, and only one will survive. The first in the **Hunger Games** series. (F)

Compestine, Ying Chang. **REVOLUTION IS NOT A DINNER PARTY.** Ling, protected privileged daughter of doctors, struggles to understand the Communist’s Cultural Revolution in China. Job loss, hunger, and incarceration are all woven into this novel. (F)

Condie, Ally. **MATCHED.** Torn between loving her best friend Xander who was chosen by Society as her “match,” or defying the government and opening her heart to Ky Markem, Cassia Reyes is forced to make the hardest decisions of her life – believe in the government’s system or follow her heart. (F)

Connor, Leslie. **WAITING FOR NORMAL.** Wanting a “normal” life, Addie is forced to make it on her own when her mother neglects to live up to her responsibilities. (F)

Cooney, Caroline B. **CODE ORANGE.** While conducting research for a school paper on smallpox, Mitty finds an envelope containing 100-year-old smallpox scabs and fears that he has infected himself and all of New York City. (F)

Cooney, Caroline B. **DIAMONDS IN THE SHADOW.** An unusual family of African refugees immigrates to America with the hope of starting over, but the horrors and violence of their past continue to haunt them in their new life. (F)

Corbett, Sue. **FREE BASEBALL.** Felix becomes a batboy for a minor league baseball team, hoping to someday be like his father, a famous Cuban outfielder. (F)

Cummings, Priscilla. **RED KAYAK.** Brady knows that his friends are responsible for a mean prank that results in an accidental tragedy. Plagued by this guilty secret, Brady struggles with the truth and its consequences. (F)

Curtis, Christopher. **WATSONS GO TO BIRMINGHAM - 1963.** The Watsons live in Flint, Michigan. They fix up the “brown bomber” and drive to visit Grandmother in Alabama to leave their brother Byron to live with her. (F)

Curtis, Christopher. **BUD, NOT BUDDY.** During the Great Depression, motherless Bud sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father, renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway. (F)

Cushman, Karen. **THE LOUD SILENCE OF FRANCINE GREEN.** In 1949, thirteen-year-old Francine goes to Catholic school in Los Angeles where she becomes best friends with a girl who questions authority and is frequently punished by the nuns, causing Francine to question her own values. (F)

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Dasher, James. **THE MAZE RUNNER.** Fighting against a mysterious group named WICKED, Thomas and the other boys in the Glade must crack the secret code and find a way out of the moving maze before it's too late. The first book in the **Maze Runner** trilogy. (F)

Davis, Sampson; George Jenkins and Rameck Hunt. **WE BEAT THE STREET: HOW A FRIENDSHIP PACT LED TO SUCCESS.** The thoughts and stories are shared from the childhoods, teen years, and young adult lives of three men who made a high school pledge to each other to stay safe from drugs, gangs, and crime, and work to become doctors – a goal they have achieved. (NF)

Deem, James M. **BODIES FROM THE ICE: MELTING GLACIERS AND THE RECOVERY OF THE PAST.** In 1991, mountain climbers found the body of Otzi, the oldest mummy recovered and thought to be over 5000 years old. (NF)

DiCamillo, Kate. **BECAUSE OF WINN-DIXIE.** Because of Winn-Dixie, a big, ugly, happy dog, ten-year-old Opal learns things about her long-gone mother from her preacher father. (F)

DiCamillo, Kate. **MAGICIAN'S ELEPHANT.** In an effort to find his long-lost sister, Peter follows the instructions of a fortune teller, "Follow the elephant." Something goes horribly wrong, and determining what is or what isn't real in the world becomes very difficult. (F)

Dionne, Erin. **THE TOTAL TRAGEDY OF A GIRL NAMED HAMLET.** Hamlet Kennedy's eighth grade year is plagued by many things including: a genius seven-year-old sister who will attend Hamlet's middle school this year, geeky Shakespeare scholar parents, and now, a Shakespeare project for school. (F)

Dowd, Siobhan. **THE LONDON EYE MYSTERY.** Salim disappears from the London Eye Ferris wheel, and his cousins, Kat and Ted, become the unlikely investigators who must find him. (F)

Draper, Sharon. **DOUBLE DUTCH.** Three eighth grade friends cope with problems while preparing for the International Double Dutch jump rope competition. (F)
Draper, Sharon. **FIRE FROM THE ROCK.** In 1957, Sylvia Patterson is selected to be one of the first African-American students to integrate Little Rock Central High School. (F)

DuPrau, Jeanne. **CITY OF EMBER.** The year is 241. Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a Messenger and finds part of an ancient message she feels sure will help

save her decaying city. The first in **The Books of Ember** series. (F)

Elliott, Laura. **UNDER A WAR-TORN SKY.** Take a look at Nazi-occupied Europe through the eyes and experiences of Henry Forester, a young flier shot down during World War II. Also, **A Troubled Peace.** (F)

Ellis, Deborah. **THE BREADWINNER.** Parvana lives in Kabul, Afghanistan. When conditions grow desperate for her family, she poses as a boy so she can earn money to help them. (F)

Engle, Margarita. **THE SURRENDER TREE: POEMS OF CUBA'S STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM.** Follow Rosa, a healer, who nurses runaway slaves and Cuban deserters in caves and other secret hideaways. As her fame grows, Rosa's enemies relentlessly hunt her down, attempting to break the Cuban spirit of resistance. (NF)

Erskine, Kathryn. **MOCKINGBIRD.** Imagine having to go to the dictionary to understand emotions and always struggling to make friends. Caitlin's confusion and discomfort come from having Asperger's Syndrome and are made even worse when her brother is killed and her father is overwhelmed with grief. (F)

Evangelista, Beth. **GIFTED.** George Clark, gifted eighth grader, dreads the class camping trip and its inevitable bullying, but a hurricane and a loyal friend make him think about what is important in life. (F)

Farmer, Nancy. **HOUSE OF THE SCORPION.** Matt is the young clone of El Patron, the leader of a corrupt drug empire located between Mexico and the United States. El Patron has lived 140 years with the help of transplants from a series of clones. Gradually, Matt realizes his fate, but can he escape in time? (F)

Fehler, Gene. **BEANBALL.** In free-verse monologues, twenty-eight narrators provide different perspectives after Luke is blinded by a pitch during a baseball game. (F)

Feinstein, John. **LAST SHOT: A FINAL FOUR MYSTERY.** Stevie and Susan Carol win a sports writing contest and have a chance to cover the NCAA Final Four games. When these teenage journalists discover a scheme to fix the games, they go undercover to stop the plot. The first in Feinstein's sports mystery series. (F)

Ferguson, Alane. **THE CHRISTOPHER KILLER: A FORENSIC MYSTERY.** Interested in forensic science, seventeen-year-old Cameryn Mahoney assists her father in

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the autopsy of a local murder victim. Cameryn begins to further investigate the murder and becomes dangerously involved in finding the killer. This is the first book in the **Forensic Mystery** series. (F)

Flake, Sharon. **THE SKIN I'M IN**. Thirteen-year-old Maleeka, an excellent student who is choosing the wrong friends, meets a new teacher who helps her discover who she is and what she believes. (F)

Fleischman, John. **PHINEAS GAGE**. This is the gruesome, true account of an accident that happened to a railroad foreman in Vermont in 1848. A 13-pound iron rod shot through his brain. He survived but became a textbook case in brain science. (NF)

Fleming, Candace. **THE GREAT AND ONLY BARNUM: THE TREMENDOUS, STUPENDOUS LIFE OF SHOWMAN P.T. BARNUM**. This biography takes a look at the life of the entrepreneur and showman P.T. Barnum, the man behind The Greatest Show on Earth. From jumbo elephants to three-ring circuses, the story follows Barnum from his childhood to his amazing success to financial disaster and back again. (NF)

Freedman, Russell. **WHO WAS FIRST? DISCOVERING THE AMERICAS**. You mean Columbus wasn't the first? This book traces those who discovered Americas' lands, time and again. (NF)

Freedman, Russell. **FREEDOM WALKERS: THE STORY OF THE MONTGOMERY BUS BOYCOTT**. This is an account of the major persons, coordination, and sacrifices of the year-long struggle for equal rights on Montgomery's city buses. (NF)

French, Jackie. **HITLER'S DAUGHTER**. What if Hitler had a daughter and no one knew about her? Mark hears the story and wonders what it would be like to love and trust someone who turns out to be evil. (F)

French, Michael (adapted). **FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS**. This is the story behind the immortal photograph of Iwo Jima that has come to symbolize the courage and indomitable will of America. Based on the book by James Bradley. (NF)

Funke, Cornelia. **INKHEART**. Meggie lives alone with her father, a bookbinder, who has the "gift" of reading aloud and bringing the characters to life—literally. When Dustfinger comes to life on a dark and stormy night, their quiet lives change forever. The first in the **Inkheart Trilogy**. (F)

Gaiman, Neil. **THE GRAVEYARD BOOK**. After losing his family, a toddler wanders into a graveyard, where he will be raised by the groundskeeper and the ghosts that dwell there. As he grows up, he learns that his family's killer is still out there looking for him. (F)

George, Jean Craighead. **MY SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN**. A boy builds a tree house in the mountains and learns to survive on his own. (F)

Giblin, James Cross. **GOOD BROTHER, BAD BROTHER: THE STORY OF EDWIN BOOTH AND JOHN WILKES BOOTH**. From early childhood to the years beyond President Lincoln's assassination, this book explains the relationship between John Wilkes Booth and his brother Edwin Booth. (NF)

Gleitzman, Morris. **ONCE**. Determined to return to his hometown and find his Jewish parents, Felix runs away from the safety of a Catholic orphanage, only to be faced with the brutal violence and cruel truth of the Nazi regime. The first in the trilogy: **Once, Then, Now**. (F)

Goodall, Jane. **THE CHIMPANZEES I LOVE: SAVING THEIR WORLD AND OURS**. Imagine a curiosity and passion that compels you to live in a community of chimpanzees. Dr. Goodall tells of her discoveries about chimpanzees, her love for them, and her campaign for the protection of these amazing animals. (NF)

Gorman, Carol. **GAMES**. Mick and Boot are always fighting. A new principal arrives who arranges for them to play games instead of school suspension. They discover a secret tunnel in the school that leads to dangerous dares fueled by a girl they both like. (F)

Haddix, Margaret Peterson. **FOUND**. Thirteen years after a plane mysteriously lands in an airport with thirty-six baby passengers and no adults on board, the children from the flight begin to receive strange, unexplained letters. Jonah and Chip must work quickly to uncover the secrets of their past. The first in the series, **The Missing**. (F)

Haddix, Margaret Peterson. **UPRISING**. The lives of Bella, an Italian immigrant, Yetta, a Russian immigrant, and Jane, daughter of a wealthy American family, become intertwined. All three are caught up in the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire of 1911. (F)

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Hale, Shannon. **BOOK OF A THOUSAND DAYS.**

Magic, romance, a fairy tale, and a fantasy all are woven together in this novel. Lady Saren is locked up and sealed in a tower for seven years when she refuses to marry the man her father has chosen. Dashti, her maidservant, keeps a diary, writing in it day after day. She provides the future for both of them. (F)

Hale, Shannon. **RAPUNZEL'S REVENGE.** This graphic novel retells the famous fairy tale in a Wild West setting. Rapunzel escapes the home her mother has turned into a prison and vows to destroy the evil empire with the help of her hair! (F)

Han, Jenny. **SHUG.** A twelve-year-old girl learns about friendship, first loves, and self-worth in a small town in the South. (F)

Han, Jenny. **THE SUMMER I TURNED PRETTY.** Belly spends every summer at her mom's best friend's beach house. Susannah's sons, Conrad and Jeremiah, are always there and have been like brothers to her. But that all changes the summer Belly turns pretty. (F)

Hautman, Pete. **SNATCHED.** Roni, crime reporter for her high school paper, teams up with science geek Brian to investigate the kidnapping of a classmate. The first of the **Bloodwater Mysteries.** (F)

Heuvel, Eric. **A FAMILY SECRET.** Flashbacks are used to tell of a family living in Amsterdam during the Holocaust. The very serious subject matter is related through the family members; the father was a member of the Dutch Nazi Party, while the mother and son participated in the Dutch resistance. The graphic novel format reveals the family's secrets up to the present day. The companion is **The Search.** (F)

Hiaasen, Carl. **HOOT.** Roy, who is new to his small Florida community and the target of a bully, becomes involved in another's boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site. (F)

Hiaasen, Carl. **FLUSH.** Noah's father tries to stop the *Coral Queen* casino boat from illegally dumping waste into the Florida Keys. When his dad is caught and put in jail, Noah is determined to succeed where his father failed. (F)

Hobbs, Will. **CROSSING THE WIRE.** Fifteen-year-old Victor Flores travels north in a desperate attempt to cross the Arizona border and find work in the United States to support his family in central Mexico. (F)

Holm, Jennifer L. **MIDDLE SCHOOL IS WORSE THAN MEATLOAF: A YEAR TOLD THROUGH STUFF.** Ginny uses "stuff" to share the ups and downs of her seventh grade year. Her stuff includes unique items such as to do lists, email, notes, receipts, diary entries, and much more. (F)

Hoose, Phillip M. **CLAUDETTE COLVIN: TWICE TOWARD JUSTICE.** In 1955, Claudette Colvin refused to give up her seat to a white passenger in Montgomery, Alabama and played an important but little known role in the Civil Rights Movement. (NF)

Horowitz, Anthony. **STORMBREAKER.** After the death of his uncle who had been his guardian, fourteen-year-old Alex is coerced to continue his uncle's dangerous work for Britain's intelligence agency, M16. This is the first book in the **Alex Rider** spy thriller series. (F)

Jackson, Donna M. **ER VETS: LIFE IN AN ANIMAL EMERGENCY ROOM.** Pet lovers will enjoy this real-life look into the daily world of veterinarians. (NF)

Jacques, Brian. **REDWALL.** This medieval fantasy of feisty rodents and high adventure has good battling with evil. The first in the **Redwall** series. (F)

Janeczko, Paul B. **TOP SECRET: HANDBOOK OF CODES, CIPHERS, AND SECRET WRITING.** Included in this guide to secret writing are explanations of how different codes came to be and why they were needed, including historical examples. (NF)

Johnson, Angela. **BIRD.** Bird is a runaway. Ethan is adjusting to a heart transplant. Jay mourns his brother's death. The fate of these three characters intertwines as each works through life's difficulties. (F)

Kadohata, Cynthia. **WEEDFLOWER.** Sumika's family lives on a flower farm in southern California in 1941. After the United States enters the war, her family is sent to a Japanese-American relocation camp in Poston, Arizona, where they learn of survival of a different kind. She befriends a Mohave boy, whose tribal land houses the camp. This is a book of family, friendship, racial prejudice, and hope. (F)

Kelly, Jacqueline. **EVOLUTION OF CALPURNIA TATE.** As the only girl in a wealthy Texas family of seven children, Calpurnia is expected to enter a world of corsets and cooking. Unlike the other girls her age, Callie is happiest when observing nature and taking notes on what

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she sees. Her interest in nature creates a bond with her previously distant grandfather. (F)

Kostick, Conor. **EPIC**. In a society where violence is banned, people must settle their problems through a video game called Epic. The unjust treatment of his parents by the Central Allocations committee, which rules the planet and the game, sets Erik and his friends on a dangerous mission to challenge their world and put an end to Epic. Also, **Saga**. (F)

Kinney, Jeff. **DIARY OF A WIMPY KID: GREG HEFFLEY'S JOURNAL**. This novel in cartoons is the story of Greg's first year in middle school. His mom makes him keep a diary, and he records his hilarious experiences with family, friends, and school. The first in the **Diary of a Wimpy Kid** series. (F)

Korman, Gordon. **SCHOOLED**. Capricorn Anderson, homeschooled by his grandmother on their commune, enrolls in the local middle school with unexpected and humorous consequences. (F)

Landy, Derek. **SKULDUGGERY PLEASANT**. When Stephanie inherits her weird uncle's estate, she must join forces with Skulduggery Pleasant, a skeleton mage or magician, to save the world from the Faceless Ones. The first in the **Skulduggery Pleasant** series. (F)

Law, Ingrid. **SAVVY**. When Beaumont family members turn thirteen, they receive their "savvy" or magical gift unique to each one of them. Mibs' thirteenth birthday arrives when her father is out of town and becomes ill. Mibs, her savvy, and a cast of characters hit the road to save him. Also, the companion novel **Scumble**. (F)

Leroe, Ellen. **DISASTER! THREE REAL-LIFE STORIES OF SURVIVAL**. This is a collection of first-person accounts of three disasters: the 1914 shipwreck of the Empress of Ireland, the 1928 crash of the airship Italia, and the 1930 crash of the dirigible R-101. (NF)

Lester, Julius. **DAY OF TEARS**. This is a fictionalized, heart-wrenching account of the 1859 slave auction on the Georgia plantation of Pierce Butler. (F)

Levine, Ellen. **DARKNESS OVER DENMARK: THE DANISH RESISTANCE**. When Germany occupied Denmark during World War II, the Danes refused to turn a blind eye to Nazi atrocities. Of the nearly 8,000 Jews living in Denmark at the time of the occupation, almost all
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survived because the Danes took action. (NF)

Lewis, Richard. **THE KILLING SEA**. In the aftermath of the 2004 tsunami in Sumatra, two teenagers, American Sarah and Balinese Ruslan, meet and continue their grueling climb inland together, where Ruslan hopes to find his father and Sarah seeks a doctor for her brother. (F)

Lichtman, Wendy. **SECRETS, LIES, AND ALGEBRA**. Eighth-grader Tess is having trouble in school and with her friends. A boy she secretly likes asks her to cheat for him, and she suspects her mom's friend has been murdered. Luckily, Tess has always loved math, and she uses mathematical concepts to help her solve the dilemmas she's facing. The sequel is **The Writing on the Wall**. (F)

Lopez, Diana. **CONFETTI GIRL**. Lina Flores loves sports and science, has an obsession with socks, and might have a crush on classmate Luis. Lina, with the help of her friend Vanessa, is trying to survive the drama of middle school, as well as help her father cope with the recent loss of her mother. (F)

Lupica, Mike. **HEAT**. Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old, and he has no parents to offer them proof. (F)

Lupica, Mike. **HERO**. In this fast-paced adventure story, fourteen year old Zach Harriman races to uncover the mystery behind his dad's death, while also learning to control his new superhero powers. Will he discover the truth and learn to trust himself in time to face his father's fiercest enemies – or will he be too late? (F)

Lupica, Mike. **TRAVEL TEAM**. After he is cut from his travel basketball team – the very same team his father once led to national prominence – Danny Walker forms his own team of cast-offs who might have a shot at victory. (F)

MacLeod, Elizabeth. **ROYAL MURDER: THE DEADLY INTRIGUE OF TEN SOVEREIGNS**. From Cleopatra to Nikolay Romanov, kings and queens over the ages have been the targets of murderers or have done the targeting themselves. Read about gruesome deeds, deadly poisons, and political mysteries. (NF)

Mah, Adeline Yen. **CHINESE CINDERELLA: THE TRUE STORY OF AN UNWANTED DAUGHTER**. Chinese Cinderella is the perfect title for Adeline Yen Mah's memoir of her childhood growing up in China

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during the 1940s as she endures life ruled by a cruel stepmother. (NF)

Malone, Marianne. **THE SIXTY-EIGHT ROOMS.** When Ruthie and her best friend Jack visit the Chicago's Art Institute on a class field trip, they discover the Thorne Room which houses 68 miniature rooms representing different time periods. A found key allows them to shrink and visit these rooms and time periods, and the adventures begin. (F)

Martin, Russell. **THE MYSTERIES OF BEETHOVEN'S HAIR.** A lock of the famous composer's hair was saved from 1827, at the time of his death, and handed down to the current owners today. This is the story of how it was preserved and who the safekeepers were, as well as the results of the forensic tests that were performed to unravel the mystery of Beethoven's ill health. (NF)

Mass, Wendy. **EVERY SOUL A STAR: A NOVEL.** Three young teens witness a total solar eclipse and are changed forever. This novel is told in alternating narratives and incorporates astronomy into the teens' lives. (F)

Mazer, Harry. **BOY AT WAR: A NOVEL OF PEARL HARBOR.** Fourteen-year-old Adam is caught in the midst of the attack on December 7, 1941. Also, **A Boy No More and Heroes Don't Run: A Novel of the Pacific War.** (F)

Meyer, Stephenie. **TWILIGHT.** Bella leaves Phoenix to live with her father in Forks, Washington, where she meets and falls for Edward, a boy who isn't totally human. The first in the **Twilight Saga.** (F)

Mikaelson, Ben. **PETEY.** Petey, born in 1905 with cerebral palsy, faces a lonely and uninspired life in an institution. Though he is barely able to communicate, he shares his intelligence, friendship, and dignity with his caregivers during his 90 years. (F)

Mikaelson, Ben. **TOUCHING SPIRIT BEAR.** Cole, in order to avoid going to prison, agrees to participate in a sentencing alternative based on the Native American Circle Justice, and he is sent to a remote Alaskan Island. (F)

Miller, Sarah Elizabeth. **MISS SPITFIRE: REACHING HELEN KELLER.** Annie Sullivan travels to Alabama to teach six-year-old blind and deaf Helen Keller communication skills. (F)

Montgomery, Sy. **KAKAPO RESCUE: SAVING THE**

WORLD'S STRANGEST PARROT. The flightless Kakapo parrots had at one time numbered in the millions. They're most unusual because of their size (not the longest, but the heaviest parrot) and the fact that they bury their nests underground. Now 14 scientists are working to save the remaining 91 parrots, located on a small island off the coast of New Zealand. (NF)

Montgomery, Sy. **QUEST FOR THE TREE KANGAROO: AN EXPEDITION TO THE CLOUD FOREST OF NEW GUINEA.** Traveling on a tiny missionary plane into the remote areas of New Guinea, researchers reveal the secrets of the rare tree kangaroo and the realities of field work. (NF)

Morpurgo, Michael. **PRIVATE PEACEFUL.** Two young brothers, Tommo and Charlie Peaceful, are faced with the reality of trench warfare and life as soldiers during World War II. As Tommo reflects back on his childhood, this touching and emotional story intertwines his past family struggles with his current soldier life. (F)

Morpurgo, Michael. **WAR HORSE.** In 1914, Joey, a beautiful stallion with a distinctive cross on his nose, is bought by the British army. He leaves his owners and his life on an English farm and becomes a cavalry horse. He is shipped to France and witnesses horrific battle after battle with the German cavalry, always hoping to be reunited with his beloved master, Albert. (F)

Mortenson, Greg. **THREE CUPS OF TEA: ONE MAN'S MISSION TO FIGHT TERRORISM AND BUILD NATIONS – ONE SCHOOL AT A TIME.** Climber Greg Mortenson found himself lost after attempting to summit K2. After a Pakistani village took him in, he promised to return and build a school for the village. His inspirational efforts have resulted in over 50 schools built in Pakistan. (NF)

Mulligan, Andy. **TRASH.** Three boys live with hundreds of other families beside a city's mountainous garbage dumpsite. Their days are spent picking through trash for something to use, something to sell, or something to eat. One day their lives change forever after one of them finds a bag that contains a wallet, a key, and a map. (F)

Murphy, Jim. **AMERICAN PLAGUE.** Drawing on firsthand accounts, medical and non-medical, Murphy re-creates the fear and panic of the yellow fever epidemic that

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hit the nation's capital more than 200 years ago, the social conditions that caused the disease to spread, and the arguments about causes and cures. (NF)

Murphy, Jim. **TRUCE: THE DAY THE SOLDIERS STOPPED FIGHTING.** This is a close-up view of the Great War, World War I, and the extraordinary story of the December 25, 1914 truce between German and British soldiers as they laid down their weapons and met in No Man's Land to celebrate Christmas. (NF)

Myers, Walter Dean. **ANTARCTICA: JOURNEYS TO THE SOUTH POLE.** Through personal adventures, photos, and documents, Myers tells the stories of those who faced the hardships of exploration to discover this harsh continent. (NF)

Myers, Walter Dean. **THE CRUISERS.** While attending an academy for the gifted in New York City, eighth grader Zander Scott and his co-workers on the school's underground newspaper must find a creative way to stop the growing racial tensions at their school. (F)

Namioka, Lensey. **TIES THAT BIND, TIES THAT BREAK.** In China in 1911, Ailin resists tradition and pressure from her family by refusing to have her feet bound to make her more attractive for her future husband. Her act of defiance alters her life forever. (F)

Nelson, Kadir. **WE ARE THE SHIP: THE STORY OF NEGRO LEAGUE BASEBALL.** The early 1900s Negro League Baseball consisted of players who made great sacrifices and showed tremendous courage in the face of adversity, all for the sake of the game they loved. (NF)
Nelson, Pete. **LEFT FOR DEAD.** Nelson explains how the research of eleven-year-old Hunter Scott, who was inspired by a passing reference in the movie, *Jaws*, uncovered the truth behind a historic World War II naval disaster aboard the USS Indianapolis. (NF)

Nix, Garth. **MISTER MONDAY.** Arthur Penhaligon, a seventh grader, is caught up in a mysterious adventure involving seven pieces of the Will, while fighting for his life against Mister Monday, who is desperately trying to regain control of an unusual key. The first in **The Keys to the Kingdom** series. (F)

Osa, Nancy. **CUBA FIFTEEN.** Violet Paz does not know much about her Cuban background and is not excited about the quinceanero, the celebration of a Hispanic girl's fifteenth birthday. (F)

Paolini, Christopher. **ERAGON.** The fate of an Empire rests in the hands of Eragon, a fifteen-year-old boy who

finds a mysterious stone that brings a dragon hatchling. With an ancient sword and an old storyteller for guidance, he is thrust into a world of destiny, magic, and power. The first in the **Inheritance Trilogy.** (F)

Park, Linda Sue. **A LONG WALK TO WATER: BASED ON A TRUE STORY.** Told in alternating points of view, follow the stories of Salva, a Lost Boy in 1985 Sudan who spends six years seeking refuge, and Nya, a girl in 2008 Sudan who spends eight hours a day walking to and from a water source. These two stories merge and offer a message of hope. (F)

Park, Linda Sue. **WHEN MY NAME WAS KEOKO.** With pride and a bit of fear, brother and sister narrators face the increasingly oppressive occupation of Korea by Japan during World War II. (F)

Paterson, Katherine. **DAY OF THE PELICAN.** After her thirteen-year-old brother is captured and beaten by the Serbian police, Meli and her family flee their homeland in search of safety. This heartwarming contemporary tale illustrates the power of family despite prejudice and persecution. (F)

Patton, Edith. **EAST.** Rose is the youngest of seven children. She was meant as a replacement for her dead sister, but she never felt like she fit in with her other siblings. An enormous white bear shows up one day and asks Rose to come with him in exchange for the health of her sick sister. (F)

Paulsen, Gary. **MY LIFE IN DOG YEARS.** The author describes some of the dogs that were special to him during his life. (NF)

Paulsen, Gary. **LAWN BOY.** A neighbor convinces a teen to expand his lawn service. The results are hilarious and lucrative. Also, **Lawn Boy Returns.** (F)

Paulsen, Gary. **WOODS RUNNER.** Samuel's parents have been taken from their home in colonial Pennsylvania by the British and the Iroquois right before the onset of the Revolutionary War. Samuel has been fending for himself in the woods for years and is determined to use his skills to rescue his parents--even if it means he has to track them to New York City and British headquarters. (F)

Pausewang, Gudrun. **DARK HOURS.** In Germany at the end of World War II, sixteen-year-old Gisela, her mother, brothers, and grandmother flee their home ahead of advancing Russian troops. When an air raid destroys the train station, Gisela and her brothers are buried alive and

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must try to survive with little food or water until they can be dug out. (F)

Pearsall, Shelley. **ALL SHOOK UP.** Josh is mortified when he has to relocate and live with his father who has a new profession--Elvis impersonator. (F)

Peck, Richard. **A RIVER BETWEEN US.** In 1861, two mysterious women arrive in Illinois from New Orleans and are taken in by Tilly's family. As the Civil War spreads north, Tilly's brother Noah joins the Union army. Soon, the secret the women harbor becomes a family's test of friendship and courage during the agony of the war. (F)

Peck, Richard. **A SEASON OF GIFTS.** After enduring the worst that the local bullies have to offer, Bobby meets his new neighbor, Mrs. Dowdel, who suggests "if you can't get justice . . . get even." She doles out both justice and kindness in such an underhanded manner that people don't know who to blame or thank. (F)

Peck, Richard. **PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE.** There's a short story for everyone in this collection from historical to romantic or comic to supernatural. (F)

Peters, Julie Anne. **DEFINE NORMAL.** The outstanding student, Antonia, is matched up with the unusual and mysterious punker, Jazz, for a peer-counseling program. As the counseling sessions progress, the two girls discover that they have many things in common. (F)

Pfeffer, Susan Beth. **LIFE AS WE KNEW IT.** When a meteor hits the moon and knocks it off its axis, life on earth is altered forever. High-school student Miranda keeps a diary about how her family copes without electricity, food and gas shortages, and extreme weather changes. (F)

Pratchett, Terry. **NATION.** A tsunami brings two young survivors together to rebuild an island nation. Although the native boy and British girl speak different languages, they're finding a way to overcome their differences as they struggle to survive. (F)

Pullman, Phillip. **THE GOLDEN COMPASS.** This fantasy relates Lyra's adventures while preventing her best friend and other kidnapped children from becoming victims of experiments in the Far North. The first in **His Dark Materials Trilogy.** (F)

Preus, Margi. **HEART OF A SAMURAI: BASED ON THE TRUE STORY OF NAKAHAMA MANJIRO.** After being stranded on an uninhabited island and then rescued by an American whaling ship in the mid 1800s, Manjiro and his fishermen friends must decide if they will

adapt to American life or stay true to their Japanese heritage. Based on a fascinating true story, this is the inspirational and courageous account of one man's journey home. (F)

Qamar, Amjed. **BENEATH MY MOTHER'S FEET.** After her father's injury and her older brother's disappearance, fourteen-year-old Nazia is pulled from school to help her mother clean houses in modern-day Karachi. Nazia is torn between her wish for further education and her need to be a dutiful daughter. (F)

Riordan, Rick. **THE LIGHTNING THIEF.** After being kicked out of his sixth boarding school, twelve-year-old Percy Jackson travels to Camp Half Blood, where his real adventures finally begin. He discovers his true identity as the son of a Greek god and embarks on a quest in search of Zeus' most prized possession. The first in the **Percy Jackson and the Olympians** series. (F)

Roberts, David and Jeremy Leslie. **PICK ME UP: STUFF YOU NEED TO KNOW.** Facts, pictures, and intriguing trivia - this book is an interesting alternative to the *Guinness Book of World Records* books. (NF)

Robinson, Sharon. **PROMISES TO KEEP: HOW JACKIE ROBINSON CHANGED AMERICA.** Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in baseball in 1947 when he began playing for the Brooklyn Dodgers. In this photobiography, his daughter writes a personal account of this famous athlete and civil rights activist and the legacy he has left. (NF)

Ryan, Pam Munoz. **THE DREAMER.** This fictional biography is the story of a shy Chilean boy who grows up feeling and seeing poetry all around him. The story illustrates how the poetry of Pablo Neruda was shaped by his domineering father as well as the beauty of nature. (F)

Ryan, Pam Munoz. **ESPERANZA RISING.** After her father is murdered, Esperanza Ortega is forced to flee her beloved El Rancho de las Rosas in Mexico to a migrant camp in California. (F)

Salisbury, Graham. **EYES OF THE EMPEROR.** Japanese-American Eddy lies about his age and joins the US Army right before Pearl Harbor. He is sent on an experimental mission to train K-9 units to hunt the Japanese. (F)

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Sandler, Martin W. **LINCOLN THROUGH THE LENS: HOW PHOTOGRAPHY REVEALED AND SHAPED AN EXTRAORDINARY LIFE.** When Lincoln became president, photography was new. This book explores how America came to view Lincoln based on the photographs of his life and presidency. (NF)

Sandler, Martin W. **SECRET SUBWAY: THE FASCINATING TALE OF AN AMAZING FEAT OF ENGINEERING.** It's the 1860s and New York City's streets are swarming with immigrants and made deadly by hundreds of horse-drawn carriages leaving the streets with tons of manure. A brilliant engineer, Alfred Beach, tackles the problem by working secretly at night more than twenty feet underground, with dim lighting and in claustrophobic conditions, storing the dirt in a basement, and carting it away in the dark. What happens when his secret plan is discovered? (NF)

Schlosser, Eric and Charles Wilson. **CHEW ON THIS: EVERYTHING YOU DON'T WANT TO KNOW ABOUT FAST FOOD.** Adapted from the best-selling adult book *Fast Food Nation*, this is a look at fast food: what's in it, how it's made, and what it does to our bodies. (NF)

Selznick, Brian. **THE INVENTION OF HUGO CABRET.** When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toy seller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized. This novel in words and pictures is the winner of the 2008 Caldecott Medal. (F)

Shusterman, Neal. **DREAD LOCKS: DARK FUSION #1.** Parker meets Tara, the new girl in the neighborhood who has wild hair and terrible powers. She fascinates him until he begins to notice strange changes in his classmates. The first in the **Dark Fusion** series. (F)

Shusterman, Neal. **DOWNSIDERS.** Talon lives Downside, underneath New York City. When he accidentally meets Lindsay, a Topsider from above ground, their worlds inevitably collide. (F)

Smith, Charles R. **TWELVE ROUNDS TO GLORY: THE STORY OF MUHAMMAD ALI.** This is the life story of Muhammad Ali, including rap-inspired verse and illustrations. (NF)

Smith, Roland. **ELEPHANT RUN.** In 1941, Nick is sent to live with his father on a plantation in Burma to escape the war in London. Soon after, the Japanese invasion of

Burma begins, and his father is imprisoned. Nick and his new friend Mya are used as slaves. They decide to escape into the jungle with the help of a dangerous elephant, Hannibal. (F)

Smith, Roland. **PEAK.** Trouble with the law forces Peak Marcello to join his estranged father on a climbing adventure to the top of Mount Everest. As the story unfolds, Peak discovers his father's true intentions and begins to realize how much danger awaits him as he climbs to the top of the mountain. (F)

Smith, Sherri L. **FLYGIRL.** Ida Mae has to pass herself off as white, using her father's pilot's license, in order to contribute to the war effort in December 1941. She joins the Women's Airforce Service Pilots and becomes a WASP, where her dreams of flying come true, but not in the way she had planned. (F)

Sonnenblick, Jordan. **AFTER EVER AFTER.** Jeffrey Alper, an eighth grade cancer survivor, has learned a lot about life, but there's a lot that's brand-new, such as how to fight for himself and for the people he loves. This is a hopeful and sometimes funny story about what happens when you stop surviving and start living again. (F)
Spinelli, Jerry. **STARGIRL.** Sixteen-year-old Leo tells the story of Stargirl Caraway, the free spirit who enrolls at Mica High School, not exactly the "hotbed of non-conformity." Also, **Love, Stargirl.** (F)

Stead, Rebecca. **FIRST LIGHT.** Twelve-year-old Peter and his family arrive in Greenland for his father's research. He stumbles upon a secret his mother has been hiding from him all his life and begins an adventure he never imagined possible. (F)

Stead, Rebecca. **WHEN YOU REACH ME.** Sixth-grader Miranda lives in 1978 New York City with her mother and is never without her favorite book *A Wrinkle in Time*. When she starts to receive a series of notes that claim to want to save her life, Miranda begins to believe they are coming from someone who knows the future. This is the 2010 Newbery Medal winner. (F)

Stevenson, Robert Louis. **TREASURE ISLAND.** An innkeeper and his son find a map on the body of a deceased guest. The map promises a pirate's fortune and many adventures follow. (F)

Stone, Tanya Lee. **ALMOST ASTRONAUTS: 13 WOMEN WHO DARED TO DREAM.** In the early 1960s, thirteen women, all pilots, sought admission into NASA's first astronaut training program. The efforts of the Mercury 13 were crushed from many angles including the

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media, male astronauts, and the vice president of the United States. (NF)

Swanson, James L. **CHASING LINCOLN'S KILLER.** A biographical account of John Wilkes Booth's plot to kill the president and Booth's twelve days on the run following Lincoln's assassination. (NF)

Taylor, Mildred D. **ROLL OF THUNDER, HEAR MY CRY.** This is the story of an African-American family living in Mississippi and how they faced prejudice and discrimination during the Depression of the 1930s. The prequel is **The Land**, and the sequel is **Let the Circle Be Unbroken**. (F)

Taylor, Peter Lane and Christos Nicola. **THE SECRET OF PRIEST'S GROTTA: A HOLOCAUST SURVIVAL STORY.** Two explorers survey caves and relate the true story of how several Jewish families survived the Holocaust of World War II by hiding in the caves of western Ukraine for over three years. (NF)

Taylor, Theodore. **THE BOMB.** This is the story of Bikini Island, a nuclear test site during World War II, told from the point of view of Sorry, a sixteen-year-old islander. (F)

Telgemeier, Raina. **SMILE.** This graphic novel is based on the author's real experience of losing her two front teeth when she was twelve years old. Her painful recovery involves extensive dental work while she survives middle school and finds out what real friends are. (F)

Tolkien, J. R. R. **THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RINGS.** In this first book of the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy, Frodo, a hobbit, must journey to the barren wasteland of Mordor to destroy the one ring that could rule them all. A fellowship is formed to aid him on this dangerous journey. The first in **The Lord of the Rings** series. (F)

Uusma, Bea. **THE MAN WHO WENT TO THE FAR SIDE OF THE MOON: THE STORY OF APOLLO 11 ASTRONAUT MICHAEL COLLINS.** This is the story of Michael Collins who maneuvered through space while the first man walked on the moon. It includes scrapbook-style photos, notes, and seldom-mentioned details. (NF)

Van Draanen, Wendelin. **FLIPPED.** In alternating chapters, Bryce and Juli describe how their feelings for each other, themselves, and their families have changed over the years. (F)

Walker, Sally M. **WRITTEN IN BONE: BURIED LIVES OF JAMESTOWN AND COLONIAL MARYLAND.** This book is the work of forensic scientists who are excavating grave sites in James Fort in Jamestown, Virginia, to understand who lived in the Chesapeake Bay area in the 1600s and 1700s. It uncovers the lives of a teenage boy, a ship's captain, a colonial officer, an African slave girl, and others. Nearly every page has at least one illustration, a color photo or helpful diagram, a map, or a period document. (NF)

Webb, Sophie. **MY SEASON WITH PENGUINS: AN ANTARCTIC JOURNAL.** Through watercolor sketches and journal entries, Webb tells the story of her summer expedition. (NF)

Westerfeld, Scott. **UGLIES.** Tally resists the mandatory operation that every 16-year-old must endure to change all teens into "new pretties." Adventure is the result in this futuristic novel. The first of the **Uglies Trilogy**. (F)

White, Andrea. **SURVIVING ANTARCTICA: REALITY TV 2083.** It's 2083 and winning a reality TV show is the only way out of poverty for many people. Chosen from thousands, five teenagers will reenact Robert F. Scott's 1910 expedition to the South Pole on the popular show, *Historical Survivor*. Little do they know what is ahead. (F)

Whitesel, Cheryl Aylward. **BLUE FINGERS: A NINJA'S TALE.** Having failed an apprenticeship as a dye maker, Koji is captured and forced to train as a ninja, where he remains disloyal until he discovers Samurai have burned his former village. (F)

Wiles, Deborah. **COUNTDOWN.** In 1962 President Kennedy faced down the Communists, fathers were on active military duty, children became used to air-raid drills, and families had blueprints for bomb shelters. This eye-grabbing documentary novel includes Cold War-era images, lyrics, speeches, and headlines, all interspersed with the life of Franny Chapman, the narrator, an Air Force brat and middle child living in suburban Maryland. (F)

Williams-Garcia, Rita. **ONE CRAZY SUMMER.** It is 1968, and Delphine and her two sisters have been put on a plane from Brooklyn to California to spend a month with their mother, a poet who abandoned the family years ago. During this crazy summer, the girls not only learn about their mother and the politics of this time period, but they each grow individually and come to better understand each other. (F)

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Woodford, Chris. **COOL STUFF AND HOW IT WORKS**. Computer-generated images explain how many devices and processes of modern technology work, covering such inventions as HDTV, game consoles, robot cars, helicopters, space probes, oil rigs, mass dampers, biometric IDs, and tsunami alert systems. (NF)

Woodson, Jacqueline. **HUSH**. Toswiah Green, now Evie, will never be the same. After her policeman father testifies in a murder case, she and her family must enter the witness protection program. (F)

Wulffson, Don. **THE KID WHO INVENTED THE POPSICLE AND OTHER EXTRAORDINARY STORIES BEHIND EVERYDAY THINGS**. Brief, factual stories of how various familiar things were invented, many by accident, make for an informative read. Also, **The Kid Who Invented the Trampoline: and Other Extraordinary Stories About Inventions**. (NF)

Yang, Gene Luen. **AMERICAN BORN CHINESE**. The winner of the 2007 Printz Award, this graphic novel alternates three interrelated stories about the problems of young Chinese-Americans trying to participate in American culture. (F)

Yohalem, Eve. **ESCAPE UNDER THE FOREVER SKY: A NOVEL**. Based on a true story, this novel tells of the kidnapping of the daughter of the ambassador to Ethiopia. Lucy uses her knowledge of African animals, her inventiveness, and her determination to survive as she tries to escape and return home. (F)

Yoo, Paula. **GOOD ENOUGH**. Patti tries to balance schoolwork, band, and boys while trying to please her Korean parents by getting into an Ivy League school. (F)

Zindel, Paul. **THE GADGET**. It is 1945, and Stephen has moved to the top-secret military base in Los Alamos, New Mexico, to join his father, a famous physicist, who is working on a project he is forbidden to discuss. Stephen is determined to find out the true nature of "the gadget." (F)