

## Manhattan Beach Middle School Summer Reading List 2011

<u>6<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List</u>		<u>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List</u>	
Avi	<i>The Fighting Ground</i>	Christie	<i>And Then There Were None</i>
Avi	<i>The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle</i>	Cisneros	<i>The House on Mango Street</i>
Bauer	<i>On My Honor</i>	Cormier	<i>I Am the Cheese</i>
Brittain	<i>The Wish Giver</i>	Crichton	<i>Jurassic Park</i>
Burnford	<i>The Incredible Journey</i>	Hesse	<i>Out of the Dust</i>
Creech	<i>Walk Two Moons</i>	Jiang	<i>Red Scarf Girl</i>
Curtis	<i>The Watsons Go To Birmingham-1963</i>	Schusterman	<i>Everlost</i>
Farmer	<i>The Ear, the Eye and the Arm</i>	Smith	<i>A Tree Grows in Brooklyn</i>
MacLachlan	<i>Baby</i>	Spiegelman	<i>Maus</i>
Mikaelsen	<i>Touching Spirit Bear</i>	Taylor	<i>Let the Circle be Unbroken</i>
Ryan	<i>Esperanza Rising</i>	Voigt	<i>Dacey's Song</i>
Snyder	<i>The Egypt Game</i>	Wolff	<i>Make Lemonade</i>
		Zindel	<i>The Pigman</i>

<u>7<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List</u>		<u>9<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List - 2 books</u>	
Barker	<i>The Thief of Always</i>	*Haddon	<i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time</i>
Bauer	<i>Hope Was Here</i>	Rodriguez	<i>Always Running</i>
Card	<i>Ender's Game</i>	Dumas	<i>Funny in Farsi</i>
Collier	<i>My Brother Sam is Dead</i>	Walls	<i>The Glass Castle</i>
Curtis	<i>Bud, Not Buddy</i>	See	<i>Snow Flower and Secret Fan</i>
Draanen	<i>Flipped</i>	Setterfield	<i>The Thirteenth Tale</i>
Hiaasen	<i>Flush</i>	Millman	<i>Way of the Peaceful Warrior</i>
Jacques	<i>Redwall</i>		
King	<i>The Eyes of the Dragon</i>		
Park	<i>A Single Shard</i>		
Spinelli	<i>Stargirl</i>		
Yolen	<i>Devil's Arithmetic</i>		
			*Required

Each student is required to read three books from the list above (9<sup>th</sup> graders read 2 books). No substitutions are allowed. **After** reading three of those, if you are looking for other outstanding books for middle school students, check out the California Reading List Web Site <http://www.californiareadinglist.com/>.  
Revised 3/21/11.

2011 MANHATTAN BEACH MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING LIST

6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

- Avi            *The Fighting Ground*  
Thirteen-year-old Jonathan had long wanted to be a part of the war against the British, and one morning in 1778 he got his chance.
- Avi            *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle*  
“As the only passenger, and the only female, on a transatlantic voyage in 1832, thirteen-year-old Charlotte finds herself caught between a murderous captain and a mutinous crew.” A Newbery Honor book. – barnesandnoble.com
- Bauer        *On My Honor*  
“When his best friend drowns while they are both swimming in a treacherous river that they had promised never to go near, Joel is devastated and terrified at having to tell both sets of parents the terrible consequences of their disobedience.” A Newbery Honor book. – barnesandnoble.com
- Brittain     *The Wish Giver: Three Tales of Coven Tree*  
“When a strange little man comes to the Coven Tree Church Social promising he can give people exactly what they ask for, three young believers-in-magic each make a wish that comes true in the most unexpected way.” A Newbery Honor book. – barnesandnoble.com
- Burnford    *The Incredible Journey*  
A Siamese cat, an old bull terrier, and a young Labrador retriever travel together 250 miles through the Canadian wilderness to find their family.
- Creech      *Walk Two Moons*  
After her mother leaves home suddenly, thirteen-year-old Sal and her grandparents take a car trip retracing her mother's route. Along the way, Sal recounts the story of her friend Phoebe, whose mother also left. A Newbery Medal Award.
- Curtis       *The Watsons Go to Birmingham - 1963*  
The ordinary interactions and everyday routines of the Watsons, an African-American family living in Flint, Michigan, are drastically changed after they go to visit Grandma in Alabama in the summer of 1963. A Newbery Honor Book.
- Farmer      *The Eye, the Ear and the Arm*  
In 2194 in Zimbabwe, General Matsika's three children are kidnapped and put to work in a plastic mine while three mutant detectives use their special powers to search for them. A Newbery Honor Book.
- MacLachlan *Baby*  
Taking care of a baby left with them at the end of the tourist season helps a family come to terms with the death of their own infant son.
- Mikaelsen   *Touching Spirit Bear*  
After his anger erupts into violence, fifteen year-old 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 where an encounter with a huge Spirit Bear changes his life.
- Ryan        *Esperanza Rising*  
Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.
- Snyder      *The Egypt Game*  
Melanie and April turn a deserted lot into an imaginary Egypt where they spend many hours enacting rituals and consulting oracles, but there are real dangers and problems lurking outside their make-believe world that almost bring their game to a disastrous end.

2011 MANHATTAN BEACH MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING LIST

7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

- Barker *The Thief of Always*  
After a mysterious stranger promises to end his boredom with a trip to the magical Holiday House, ten-year-old Harvey learns that his fun has a high price.
- Bauer *Hope was Here*  
When sixteen-year-old Hope and the aunt who has raised her move from Brooklyn to Mulhoney, Wisconsin, to work as waitress and cook in the Welcome Stairways diner, they become involved with the diner owner's political campaign to oust the town's corrupt mayor.
- Card *Ender's Game*  
Ender Wiggin, who is the result of genetic experimentation, may be the military genius Earth needs in its war against an alien enemy.
- Collier *My Brother Sam is Dead*  
Recounts the tragedy that strikes the Meeker family during the Revolution, when one son joins the rebel forces while the rest of the family tries to stay neutral in a Tory town.
- Curtis *Bud, Not Buddy*  
Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father--the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids.
- Draanen *Flipped*  
In alternating chapters, two teenagers describe how their feelings about themselves, each other, and their families have changed over the years.
- Hiaasen *Flush*  
With their father jailed for sinking a river boat, Noah Underwood and his younger sister, Abbey, must gather evidence that the owner of this floating casino is emptying his bilge tanks into the protected waters around their Florida Keys home.
- Jacques *Redwall*  
When the peaceful life of ancient Redwall Abbey is shattered by the arrival of the evil rat Cluny and his villainous hordes, Matthias, a young mouse, determines to find the legendary sword of Martin the Warrior which, he is convinced, will help Redwall's inhabitants destroy the enemy.
- King *The Eyes of the Dragon*  
In the kingdom of Delain, a young prince must struggle against powerful forces to gain his rightful inheritance.
- Park *A Single Shard*  
Tree-ear, a thirteen-year-old orphan in medieval Korea, lives under a bridge in a potters' village, and longs to learn how to throw the delicate celadon ceramics himself.
- Spinelli *Stargirl*  
In this story about the perils of popularity, the courage of nonconformity, and the thrill of first love, an eccentric student named Stargirl changes Mica High School forever.
- Yolen *Devil's Arithmetic*  
Hannah resents the traditions of her Jewish heritage until time travel places her in the middle of a small Jewish village in Nazi-occupied Poland.

2011 MANHATTAN BEACH MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING LIST

8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

- Christie *And Then There Were None*  
Ten strangers--each with a secret in their past--are summoned by an absent millionaire to Indian Island, a private island off the coast of England and begin to die one by one upon arrival.
- Cisneros *The House on Mango Street*  
Esperanza Cordero, a young Latina girl living in an Hispanic neighborhood in Chicago ponders the advantages and disadvantages of her environment and evaluates her relationships with family and friends.
- Cormier *I Am the Cheese*  
A young boy's desperate search for his father leads him to discover secrets of his past that might very well threaten his life.
- Crichton *Jurassic Park*  
An account of the attempt, through a hair-raising twenty-four hours on a remote jungle island, to avert a global emergency--a crisis triggered by today's rush to commercialize genetic engineering.
- Hesse *Out of the Dust*  
In a series of poems, fifteen-year-old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's wheat farm in Oklahoma during the Dust Bowl years of the Depression.
- Jiang *Red Scarf Girl: a memoir of the Cultural Revolution*  
Jiang gives a child's-eye view of a terrifying time in 20th century history, and of one family's indomitable courage under fire.
- Shusterman *Everlost*  
When Nick and Allie are killed in a car crash, they end up in Everlost, a shadow of the living world, filled with all the things and places that no longer exist; a limbo for lost souls, where, although Nick is satisfied, Allie will stop at nothing--even skinjacking--to break free.
- Smith *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*  
Young Francie Nolan experiences the problems of growing up in a Brooklyn, New York slum.
- Spiegelman *Maus*  
A memoir about Vladek Spiegleman, a Jewish survivor of Hitler's Europe, and about his son, a cartoonist who tries to come to terms with his father, his story, and with history itself.
- Taylor *Let the Circle be Unbroken*  
Four black children growing up in rural Mississippi during the Depression experience racial antagonisms and hard times, but learn from their parents the pride and self-respect they need. Sequel to *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*.
- Voigt *Dacey's Song*  
Now that the four abandoned Tillerman children are settled in with their grandmother, Dacey finds that their new beginnings require love, trust, humor, and courage.
- Wolff *Make Lemonade*  
In order to earn money for college, fourteen year old LaVaughn babysits for a teenage mother.
- Zindel *The Pigman*  
Two high school sophomores from unhappy homes form a close friendship with a lonely old man with a terrible secret.

**MANHATTAN BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT — MIRA COSTA HIGH SCHOOL  
2009 SUMMER READING for INCOMING College Prep FRESHMEN (English 1-2 CP)**

- Freshmen are required to read TWO of the novels below, in their entirety, before school starts in the fall.
- Be prepared to bring in the two marked-up texts and to write a paper analyzing the books during the first week of school.

- **THE REQUIRED BOOK IS:**

**The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon**

ISBN-13: 9781400032716

Genre: Contemporary Fiction

"Christopher Boone is fifteen and has Asperger's, a form of autism. He knows a great deal about math and very little about human beings. When he finds his neighbor's dog murdered, he sets out on a terrifying journey which will turn his world upside down." -barnesandnoble.com

- **IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIRED TEXT, FRESHMEN MUST ALSO READ A TEXT FROM THE FOLLOWING LIST OF NOVELS:**

**Always Running by Luis J. Rodriguez**

ISBN-13: 9780743276917

Genre: Autobiography

By age twelve, Luis Rodriguez was a veteran of East L.A. gang warfare. Lured by a seemingly invincible gang culture, he witnessed countless shootings, beatings, and arrests, then watched with increasing fear as drugs, murder, suicide, and senseless acts of street crime claimed friends and family members. At times heartbreakingly sad and brutal, *Always Running* is ultimately an uplifting true story, filled with hope, insight, and a hard-learned lesson for the next generation." - barnesandnoble.com

**Funny in Farsi by Firoozeh Dumas**

ISBN-13: 9780812968378

Genre: Memoir

"*Funny in Farsi* chronicles the American journey of Dumas' wonderfully engaging family: her engineer father, a sweetly quixotic dreamer; her elegant mother, who never fully mastered English (nor cared to); her uncle, who combated the effects of American fast food with an army of miraculous American weight-loss gadgets; and Firoozeh herself. Above all, this is an unforgettable story of identity, discovery, and the power of family love." - barnesandnoble.com

**The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls**

ISBN-13: 9780743247542

Genre: Memoir

"Jeannette Walls grew up with parents whose ideals and stubborn nonconformity were both their curse and their salvation. In the beginning, they lived like nomads; moving among Southwest desert towns, camping in the mountains. Rex was a charismatic, brilliant man who, when sober, captured his children's imagination, teaching them physics, geology, and above all, how to embrace life fearlessly. Rose Mary, who painted and wrote and couldn't stand the responsibility of providing for her family, called herself an 'excitement addict.'" - barnesandnoble.com

**Snow Flower and the Secret Fan by Lisa See**

ISBN-13: 9780812968064

Genre: Contemporary Fiction

'*Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* is a brilliantly realistic journey back to an era of Chinese history that is as deeply moving as it is sorrowful. With the period detail and deep resonance of *Memoirs of a Geisha*, this lyrical and emotionally charged novel delves into one of the most mysterious of human relationships: female friendship." -barnesandnoble.com

**The Thirteenth Tale by Diane Setterfield**

ISBN-13: 9780743298032

Genre: Contemporary Fiction

"A compelling emotional mystery in the timeless vein of Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca*, about family secrets and the magic of books and storytelling. Margaret Lea works in her father's antiquarian bookshop where her fascination for the biographies of the long-dead has led her to write them herself. She gets a letter from one of the most famous authors of the day, the mysterious Vida Winter, whose popularity as a writer has been in no way diminished by her reclusiveness. Now she is old and ailing, and at last she wants to tell the truth about her extraordinary life. Her letter to Margaret is a summons." - barnesandnoble.com

Way of the Peaceful Warrior by Dan Millman

ISBN-13: 9780915811892

Genre: Contemporary Fiction

"During his junior year at the University of California, while training to become a world-champion gymnast, Dan Millman stumbled on a 94-year-old mentor nicknamed Socrates, a powerful, unpredictable, and elusive character. He taught a way to maximize performance using a unique blend of Eastern philosophy and Western fitness to cultivate the true essence of a champion - the 'way of the peaceful warrior.' Millman's first-person account of his odyssey into realms of light, darkness, mind, body, and spirit has since become an international bestseller about the universal quest for happiness." - barnesandnoble.com

*\* Attention Parents: This list represents a diversity of reading levels and interest areas. Some books, especially those published after 1960, may contain profanity and/or sexual material. Please work closely with your child to make the appropriate selections.*