

**Required Reading List
BMS Summer School Year 2011-12**

Grade 6

Fiction	Non-fiction
<u>Listening for Lions</u> by Gloria Whelan	<u>The Notorious Benedict Arnold: a true story of adventure, heroism, & treachery</u> by Steve Sheinkin
Left an orphan after the influenza epidemic in British East Africa in 1918, thirteen-year-old Rachel is tricked into assuming a deceased neighbor's identity to travel to England, where her only dream is to return to Africa and rebuild her parents' mission hospital.	An introduction to the life of Benedict Arnold that highlights not only the traitorous actions that made him legendary, but also his heroic involvement in the American Revolution.
<u>Tangerine</u> by Edward Bloor	<u>Knots in my Yo-Yo String: The Autobiography of a Kid</u> by Jerry Spinelli
Twelve-year-old Paul, who lives in the shadow of his football hero brother Erik, fights for the right to play soccer despite his near blindness and slowly begins to remember the incident that damaged his eyesight.	Spinelli, a Newbery Medalist, presents a humorous account of his childhood and youth in Norristown, Pennsylvania.
<u>Eleven</u> by Pat Reilly Giff	<u>Helen Keller: Her Life in Pictures</u> by George Sullivan
Sam, who can barely read, discovers an old newspaper clipping just before his eleventh birthday. The newspaper brings forth mysterious memories from his past. With the help of a new school friend, and the castle they are building for a school project, his questions are eventually answered.	Accompanied by brief, simply phrased commentary from Sullivan, this suite of photos portrays Keller from early childhood into her 80s.

Grade 7

Fiction	Non-fiction
<u>Goose Girl</u> by Shannon Hale	<u>Elizabeth Van Lew: Civil War Spy</u> by Heidi Schoof
Princess Anidori, on her way to marry a prince she has never met, is betrayed by her guards and her lady-in-waiting and must become a goose girl to survive until she can reveal her true identity and reclaim the crown that is rightfully hers.	Schoof presents a biography of Elizabeth Van Lew, a Union spy during the Civil War. Van Lew provides soldiers with money, food, and books. Information about her childhood, her passion to fight slavery, and her achievements are included.
<u>When you Reach Me</u> by Stead Rebecca	<u>Bad Boy: a Memoir</u> by Walter Dean Myers
Miranda's life is an ordinary round of family and school. But when she starts receiving anonymous notes that seem to foretell the future, it's clear that all is not as it seems. The story's revelations are startling and satisfying. Their reverberations give plenty of impetus for readers to go back and catch anything they may have missed.	Author Walter Dean Myers describes his childhood in Harlem in the 1940s and 1950s. Included is background about his loving stepmother, his problems in school, his reasons for leaving home, and his beginnings as a writer.
Hale <u>Lost Hero</u> by Rick Riordan	<u>Small Steps: the year I got polio</u> by Peg Kehert
Jason, Piper, and Leo, three students from a school for "bad kids," find themselves at Camp Half-Blood. There they learn that they are demigods and begin a quest to free Hera, who has been imprisoned by Mother Earth herself.	Juvenile mystery author Kehert relates, simply and directly, the story of her bout with infantile paralysis at age twelve.

Grade 8

Fiction	Non-fiction
<p><u>Montmorency: Thief, Liar, Gentleman?</u> by Eleanor Updale</p> <p>In Victorian London, a thief is saved by a young physician. Montmorency, the thief, uses the knowledge he gains in prison and from his life with the doctor to create a unique and highly successful double life for himself.</p>	<p><u>Stick Figure</u> by Lori Gottlieb</p> <p>Using her childhood diaries that chronicle her experiences as an anorexic, Lori Gottlieb shares her struggles with the debilitating eating disorder.</p>
<p><u>King's Shadow</u> by Elizabeth Alder</p> <p>After he is orphaned and has his tongue cut out in a clash with the bullying sons of a Welsh noble, Evyn is sold as a slave and serves many masters, from the gracious Lady Swan Neck to the valiant Harold Godwinson, England's last Saxon king.</p>	<p><u>The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind: creating currents of electricity and hope</u> by William Kamkwamba</p> <p>Forced to drop out of school when famine hits his village-which has no electricity or running water-a Malawi boy tinkers with scrap metal and builds a windmill that lights a few bulbs and catches the world's attention.</p>
<p><u>Speaker for the Dead</u> by Orson Scott Card</p> <p>Sequel to: Ender's game. Ender Wiggin has an opportunity to atone for his earlier failures through a second alien race discovered by Portuguese colonists on the planet Lusitania.</p>	<p><u>Chinese Cinderella: the true story of an unwanted daughter</u> by Adeline Yen Mah</p> <p>The author tells the story of her painful childhood in China where she lived until the age of fourteen with her father, stepmother, and siblings, all of whom considered her bad luck because her mother died shortly after giving birth to her.</p>