



**Hingham Public Schools Summer Reading**  
**Students Entering Grade 7**  
**Summer 2020**

**Instructions:**

- All students entering grade 7 at Hingham Middle School are asked to read one of the selections from the following list.
- Please complete this [note-taking template](#) as you read your selected text.
- Please note that one title on the list is located in the public domain and is therefore readily accessible online at no charge.

Grade 7 Choices (Select 1)		
Author	Title	Synopsis
Kwame Alexander	<i>The Crossover</i>	12-year old Josh Bell and his twin brother Jordan are awesome on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood, he's got mad beats, too, that tell his family's story in verse, in this novel of family and brotherhood. The brothers come to realize that breaking the rules comes at a terrible price, as their story's climax proves a game-changer for the entire family. <b>Goodreads</b>
J.M. Bedell	<i>Finding Courage...</i>	<i>Finding Courage: History's Young Heroes and Their Amazing Deeds</i> tells the stories of twenty-seven real kids from different countries who wanted to change the world and because of their heroic deeds, made a difference. This empowering collection of biographies will inspire kids everywhere to see the world in a new way. <b>Amazon.com</b>
Sharon Creech	<i>Heartbeat</i>	Twelve-year-old Annie loves to run. When she's running, she can hear her heart beat, a rhythm that makes sense when everything else is shifting. Her mother is pregnant, her grandfather forgetful, and her best friend, Max, always moody. Everything changes over time, just like the apple she's been drawing. But as she watches and listens, Annie begins to understand the many rhythms of life and how she fits within them. <b>Amazon.com</b>
Enrique Flores-Galbis	<i>90 Miles from Havana</i>	The narrator, Julian, presents a child's view of the Cuban Revolution and life in the overcrowded camps where children of the Pedro Pan airlift landed. Julian must decide how he is to deal with Caballo, the bully. Will he model his response on the events he witnessed during the Cuban Revolution, or do it the new democratic way, as Dolores the camp cook recommends? <b>Amazon.com review</b>
Cornelia Funke	<i>The Thief Lord</i>	Prosper and Bo are orphans on the run from their cruel aunt and uncle. The brothers decide to hide out in Venice, where they meet a mysterious character who calls himself the "Thief Lord." Prosper and Bo relish being part of this colorful new family. But the Thief Lord has secrets of his own. And soon the boys are thrust into circumstances that will lead them, and readers, to a fantastic, spellbinding conclusion. <b>Amazon.com</b>
Mike Lupica	<i>Travel Team</i>	No one plays basketball with more heart or court sense than twelve-year-old Danny Walker. But none of that matters when he is cut from his local travel team, the very same team his father led to national prominence as a boy. Danny's father knows Danny isn't the only kid who was cut for the wrong reason, and together he and a bunch of never-say-die kids prove that the heart simply cannot be measured. <b>Amazon.com</b>

Kate Milford	<i>Greenglass House</i>	It's wintertime at Greenglass House. The creaky smuggler's inn is always quiet during this season, and twelve-year-old Milo plans to spend his holidays relaxing. But on the first icy night of vacation, out of nowhere, the guest bell rings again and again, filling Milo's home with odd, secretive guests, each one with a strange story somehow connected to the old house. As objects go missing and tempers flare, Milo and Meddy, the cook's daughter, must decipher clues and untangle the web of deepening mysteries to discover the truth about Greenglass House-and themselves. <b>Goodreads</b>
Edith Nesbit	<i>The Railway Children</i> ( <a href="#">public domain – free online</a> )	The comfortable lives of three well-mannered siblings are greatly altered when, one evening, two men arrive at the house and take their father away. With the family's fortunes considerably reduced in his absence, the children and their mother are forced to live in a simple country cottage near a railway station. The youngsters' days are filled with adventure and excitement, including their successful attempt to avert a horrible train disaster; but the mysterious disappearance of their father continues to haunt them. <b>Goodreads</b>
Gary Paulsen	<i>Guts</i>	Paulsen offers this collection of wilderness survival/hunting essays that concentrates on drawing parallels between his own life and the fictional adventures of Brian Robeson in <i>Hatchet</i> and its sequels. Readers find out about moose attacks and plane crashes and attempts at eating raw turtle eggs. This title is a must for fans of the "Brian" adventures. It's also an excellent book to place in the hands of young readers interested in hunting. <b>from Booklist</b>
Holly Goldberg Sloan	<i>Counting By Sevens</i>	Willow Chance, a twelve-year-old genius, is obsessed with nature, diagnosing medical conditions, and finds it comforting to count by 7s. It has never been easy for her to connect with anyone other than her adoptive parents, but Willow's world is tragically changed when they both die in a car crash, leaving her alone in a baffling world. This odd but endearing girl manages to push through her grief, eventually finding a diverse and fully believable surrogate family. <b>Goodreads</b>
Jerry Spinelli	<i>Space Station Seventh Grade</i>	Jason Herkimer is trying desperately to survive the social scene of junior high school. The ninth graders torture him, and the girl he admires is unattainable. But Jason grows up quickly, especially when a friend's brother is killed and Jason feels responsible. <b>The Reading Corner</b>
Trenton Stewart	<i>The Mysterious Benedict Society</i>	ARE YOU A GIFTED CHILD LOOKING FOR SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES? Dozens of children respond to this peculiar ad and are then put through a series of mind-bending tests. Only four children succeed. Their challenge: to go on a secret mission that only the most intelligent and inventive children could complete. To accomplish it they go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules. <b>Amazon.com</b>
J.R.R. Tolkien	<i>The Hobbit</i>	According to J.R.R. Tolkien, "If you care for journeys there and back, out of the comfortable Western world, over the edge of the Wild, and home again, and can take an interest in a humble hero, here is a record of such a journey and such a traveler." The period is the ancient time between the age of Faerie and the dominion of men, when the forest of Mirkwood was still standing, and the mountains were full of danger. In following the path of this humble adventurer, you will learn much about trolls, goblins, dwarves, and elves... <b>Amazon.com</b>