

**MaST Community Charter School  
Middle School Summer Reading List (SY 13-14)**

All rising 5-8<sup>th</sup> graders will be responsible for reading during the summer months. You can refer to the list below for book choices, but remember to also refer to the Summer Reading Packet that was sent home before the end of the school year in May for your student's Summer Reading responsibilities.

**Incoming Fifth Graders**—Please refer to the summer reading packet for special instructions associated with this reading list.

Incoming fifth graders are required to choose **two** books from the following list:

Absolutely Normal Chaos by Sharon Creech

A House called Awful End by Philip Ardagh

Becoming Naomi Leon by Pam Munoz Ryan

Belle Teal by Ann Martin

Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis

Fudge-A-Mania by Judy Blume

Island of Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell

Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key by Joe Gantos

Harriet the Spy by Louise Fitzburg

My Brother Sam is Dead by Collier and Collier

Orphan Journey Home by L.Ketchum and H. Firt

The Castle in the Attic by Elizabeth Winthrop

The Janitor's Boy by Andrew Clements

The Witch of Blackbird Pond by Elizabeth Speare

Any of The 39 Clues series (This series is written by various authors.)

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**Incoming Sixth Graders**—Please refer to the summer reading packet for special instructions associated with this reading list.

All Incoming Sixth Graders will read Number the Stars and one additional book from the following list:

All is Well by Kristen Embry Litchman  
The Trojan Horse by Emily Little  
A Picture of Freedom by Patricia C. McKissack  
Loser by Jerry Spinneli  
Behind the Bedroom Wall by Laura E. Williams  
All About Sam by Lois Lowry  
Kevin Corbett Eats Flies by Patricia Hermes  
Emily's Runaway Imagination by Beverly Cleary  
Middle School Blues by Lou Kassem  
The Man in the Ceiling by Jules Feiffer  
Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse  
The Secret of Platform 13 by Eva Ibbotson  
Half Magic by Edward Eager  
Woodsong by Gary Paulsen  
The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle by Avi  
Bo and Mzzzz Mad by Sid Fleishman  
Julie of the Wolves by Jean Craighead George  
Rascal by Sterling North  
Souder by William H. Armstrong

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All rising 7-8th graders will be responsible for reading two books during the summer. The first book of each list (indicated with \*\*) will be read by the entire grade while the students have a choice between books two and three in their lists. Students will then take two objective tests covering the two books upon returning to school.

**Incoming Seventh Graders**

**\*\*No More Dead Dogs**

By Gordon Korman.

From Card Catalog Description—

Eighth-grade football hero Wallace Wallace is sentenced to detention attending rehearsals of the school play where, in spite of himself, he becomes wrapped up in the production and begins to suggest changes that improve not only the play but his life as well.

**Millicent Min Girl Genius**

By Lisa Yee

Review taken from Amazon.com—

Millie, an 11-year-old with a genius IQ, is taking a college poetry class and waiting for her high school senior year. Against her will, she is enrolled in summer volleyball and enlisted to tutor Stanford Wong, a friend of the family. Into this mix enters Emily, a volleyball teammate and typical preteen. The girls become friends, but Millie neglects to tell Emily about her genius status which leads to feelings of betrayal.

**Freak the Mighty**

By Rodman Philbrick

Synopsis--

Meet Maxwell Kane, narrator of *Freak the Mighty*. He's a timid soul stuck in the body of a teenage giant with size 14 shoes. Haunted by a dark secret in his past, he hides out in his basement room, avoiding the world. But when a new kid moves in next door, Max's life changes forever. The two outcasts from the 'normal' world team up to become "Freak the Mighty." Like knights of old they defend the weak, right every wrong—and solve the mystery of Max's past. Proving once and for all that courage comes in all sizes.

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**Incoming Eighth Graders**

**\*\* Things Not Seen**

By Andrew Clements  
From Amazon.com—

Teens, especially those not in the über-popular set, know all about feeling invisible. But what would happen if you actually did wake up invisible one day? Fifteen year-old Bobby is faced with this curious predicament in Andrew Clements's compelling novel *Things Not Seen*. Doing his best to adapt, Bobby informs his parents and grows more and more frustrated as they try to control his (unseen) life. Attempting to take matters into his own hands, he ventures out – naked – to the library, where he meets a blind girl who becomes a natural confidant.

**Gregor the Overlander** {This is the first book in the *Gregor the Overlander* series.}

by Suzanne Collins  
From the Book's Front Flap—

When eleven-year-old Gregor follows his little sister through a grate in the laundry room of their New York apartment building, he hurtles into the dark Underland beneath the city. There, humans live uneasily beside giant spiders, bats, cockroaches, and rats—but the fragile peace is about to fall apart.

Gregor wants no part of a conflict between these creepy creatures. He just wants to find his way home. But when he discovers that a strange prophecy foretells a role for him in the Underland's uncertain future, he realizes it might be the only way to solve the biggest mystery of his life. Little does he know his quest will change him and the Underland forever.

**The City of Ember** {This is Book 1 in the *Books of Ember* series.}

By Jeanne DuPrau  
Synopsis—

The city of Ember was built as a last refuge for the human race. Two hundred years later, the great lamps that light the city are beginning to flicker. When Lina finds part of an ancient message, she's sure it holds a secret that will save the city. She and her friend Doon must decipher the message before the lights go out on Ember forever! This stunning debut novel offers refreshingly clear writing and fascinating, original characters.