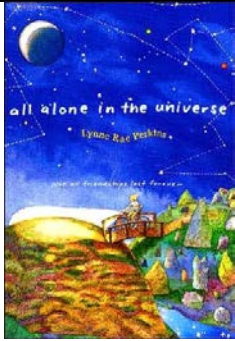
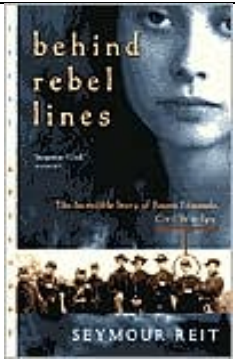


**Ms. Bellizzi and Ms. Cole's 7th Grade
Summer Reading List 2020**



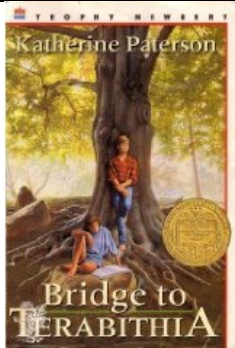
All Alone in the Universe by Lynn Rae Perkins

Debbie and Maureen are in middle school; they've been best friends since third grade. At least they were until Glenna Flaiber arrives on the scene and becomes a major threat to their relationship.



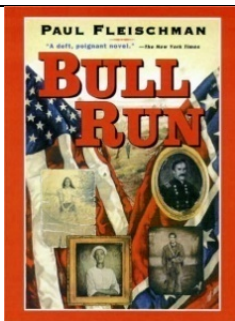
Behind Rebel Lines: The Incredible Story of Emma Edmonds, Civil War Spy
by Seymour Reit

In 1861, when war erupted between the States, President Lincoln made an impassioned plea for volunteers. Determined not to remain on the sidelines, Emma Edmonds cropped her hair, donned men's clothing, and enlisted in the Union Army. Posing in turn as a slave, peddler, washerwoman, and fop, Emma became a cunning master of disguise, risking discovery and death at every turn behind Confederate lines.



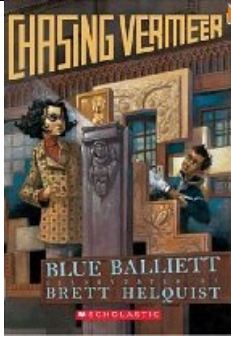
Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Paterson

Jess Aarons wants to be the fastest boy in the fifth grade--he wants it so bad he can taste it. He's been practicing all summer, running in the fields around his farmhouse until he collapses in a sweat. Then a tomboy named Leslie Burke moves into the farmhouse next door and changes his life forever. Not only does Leslie not look or act like any girls Jess knows, but she also turns out to be the fastest runner in the fifth grade. After getting over the shock and humiliation of being beaten by a girl, Jess begins to think Leslie might be okay.



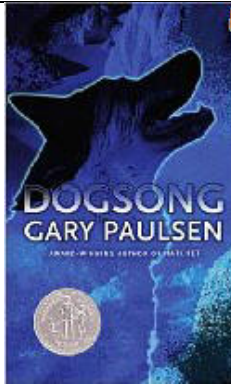
Bull Run by Paul Fleischman

Through the alternating viewpoints of 16 characters from various walks of life, readers gain insight into the first battle of the Civil War and into the nature of war in general. Poignant, dramatic cameos seamlessly woven together make for compelling historical fiction.



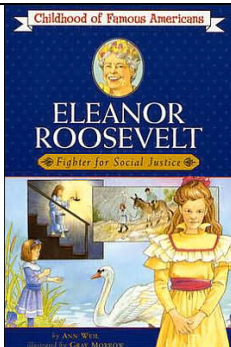
Chasing Vermeer by Blue Balliett

When a book of unexplainable occurrences brings Petra Andalee & Calder Pillay together, strange things start to happen: seemingly unrelated events connect, an eccentric old woman seeks their company, & an invaluable Vermeer painting disappears. Before they know it, the two find themselves at the center of an international art scandal.



Dogsong by Gary Paulsen

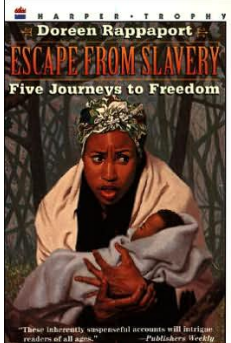
Something is bothering Russel Susskit. He hates waking up to the sound of his father's coughing, the smell of diesel oil, the noise of snow machines starting up. Only Oogruk, the shaman who owns the last team of dogs in the village, understands Russel's longing for the old ways and the songs that celebrated them. But Oogruk cannot give Russel the answers he seeks; the old man can only prepare him for what he must do alone. Driven by a strange, powerful dream of a long-ago self and by a burning desire to find his own song, Russel takes Oogruk's dogs on an epic journey of self-discovery that will change his life forever.



Eleanor Roosevelt: Fighter for Social Justice by Ann Weil

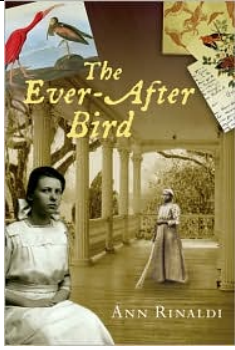
The childhood of the woman who became wife of a president and a great humanitarian.

**Any other Childhood of Famous Americans biography would be a great choice as well.*



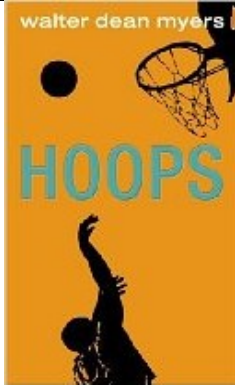
Escape from Slavery: Five Journeys to Freedom by Doreen Rappaport

Five stories of slaves who escaped along the Underground Railroad prior to the Civil War through a variety of means. In one of the episodes, Henry Brown shipped himself as freight to Philadelphia, arriving exhausted but free.



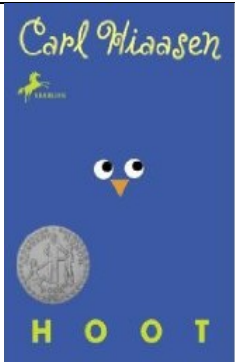
The Ever-After Bird by Ann Rinaldi

Now that her father is dead, CeCe McGill is left to wonder why he risked his life for the ragged slaves who came to their door in the dead of night. When her uncle, an ornithologist, insists she accompany him to Georgia on an expedition in search of the rare scarlet ibis, CeCe is surprised to learn there's a second reason for their journey; along the way, Uncle Alex secretly points slaves north in the direction of the Underground Railroad.



Hoops by Walter Dean Myers

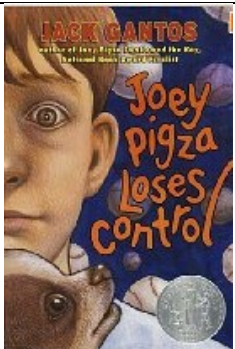
All eyes are on seventeen-year-old Lonnie Jackson while he practices with his team for a city-wide basketball Tournament of Champions. His coach, Cal, knows Lonnie has what it takes to be a pro-basketball player, but warns him about giving in to the pressure. Cal knows because he, too, once had the chance--but sold out.



Hoot by Carl Hiaasen

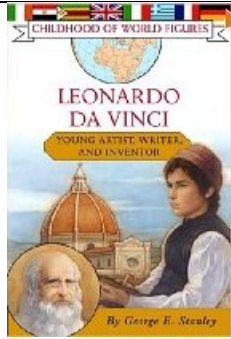
Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site.

Carl Hiaasen plunges readers right into the middle of an ecological mystery, made up of endangered miniature owls, the Mother Paula's All-American Pancake House scheduled to be built over their burrows, and the owls' unlikely allies--three middle school kids determined to beat the screwed-up adult system.



Joey Pigza Loses Control by Jack Gantos

Joey, who is still taking medication to keep him from getting too wired, goes to spend the summer with the hard-drinking father he has never known and tries to help the baseball team he coaches win the championship.



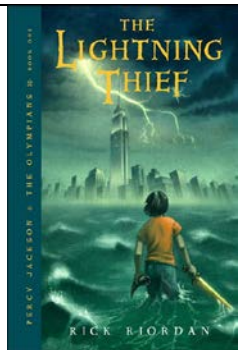
Leonardo Da Vinci by George E. Stanley

Leonardo Da Vinci is best known as the Renaissance painter who created the *Mona Lisa* and *The Last Supper*. He also made great contributions as a sculptor, architect, engineer and scientist. But Leonardo wasn't always famous. Leonardo grew up in Vinci, a small town in Italy, and when he was only a few years old he was separated from his mother and sent to live with his grandparents and uncle Francesco.



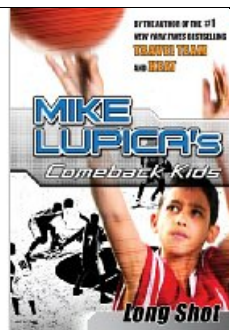
The Library Card by Jerry Spinelli

The magic library card that turns up in the four separate stories in this book is a ticket to whatever each young character needs most. The kids in these stories face varied turning points as they move toward adolescence. Each story is imaginative and surprising.



The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan

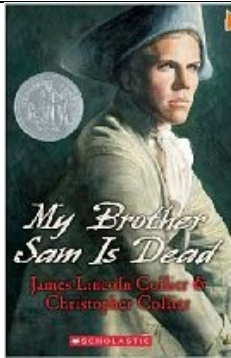
What if the gods of Olympus, Greece were alive in the 21st Century? What if they still fell in love with mortals and had children who might become great heroes — like Theseus, Jason and Hercules? What if you were one of those children? This is the first book in a series. They are all terrific.



Long Shot by Mike Lupica (*series)

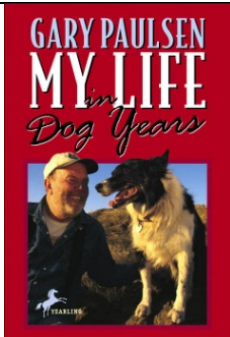
Pedro Morales has always been content helping others look great. The epitome of a point guard, he plays the game to set up his teammates—Ned, in particular, the star forward on the receiving end of Pedro's pinpoint passes. Pedro wants to make his father proud, and so he runs for class president. Yet doing so means going one-on-one against Ned, easily the most popular boy in school. And Pedro learns the hard way that being a good teammate doesn't mean that others will return the favor. Now Pedro wants to win more than ever—but this time, it's for himself.

*This book is part of a series. Any book in this series is a great choice.



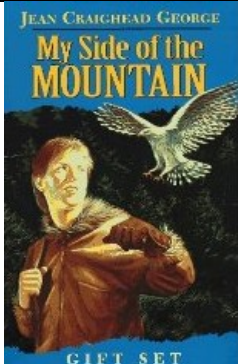
My Brother Sam is Dead by Christopher Collier & James Lincoln Collier

All his life, Tim Meeker has looked up to his brother Sam. Sam's smart and brave - and is now a part of the American Revolution. Not everyone in town wants to be a part of the rebellion. Most are supporters of the British -- including Tim and Sam's father. With the war soon raging, Tim knows he'll have to make a choice -- between the Revolutionaries and the Redcoats . . . and between his brother and his father.



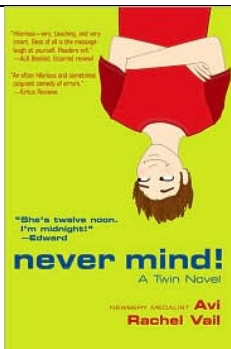
My Life in Dog Years by Gary Paulsen

Gary Paulsen has owned dozens of unforgettable and amazing dogs, and here are his favorites--one to a chapter. Among them are Snowball, the puppy he owned as a boy in the Philippines; Ike, his mysterious hunting companion; Electric Fred and his best friend, Pig; Dirk, the grim protector; and Josh, one of the remarkable border collies working on Paulsen's ranch today. *My Life in Dog Years* is a book for every dog lover and every Paulsen fan--a perfect combination that shows vividly the joy and wisdom that come from growing up with man's best friend.



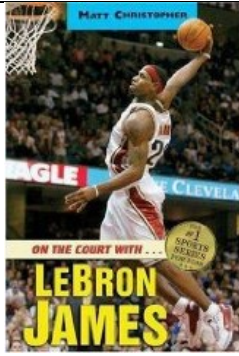
My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George

Like many kids, Sam Gibley dreams of running away, but unlike many, he actually does. Sam gets to the end of the block and keeps going--all the way to the Catskill Mountains of upstate New York. There he sets up house in a huge hollowed-out tree, with a falcon and a weasel for companions and his wits as his tool for survival. He learns to live off the land, and grows up a little in the process



Never Mind! A Twin Novel by Avi

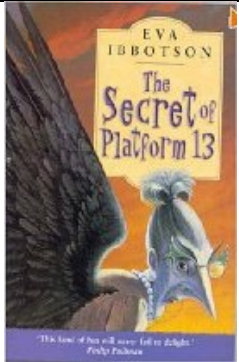
For seventh grade, brainy Meg is attending ultra-competitive Fischer, while freewheeling Edward goes to an alternative school downtown. But it's just when they're finally out of each other's shadows that the trouble begins. Meg's aspirations for popularity and a boyfriend combine with Edward's devious planning and lack of singing ability to set off a showdown.



On the Court with LeBron James by Matt Christopher

Outstanding. Unbelievable. Mind blowing. These are just a few of the words used to describe the talents of LeBron James.

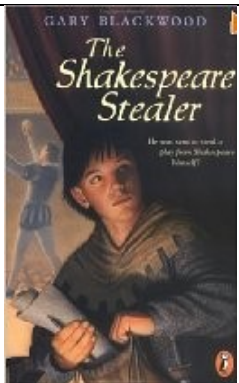
**Any other Matt Christopher biography would be a great choice as well.*



The Secret of Platform 13 by Eva Ibbotson

Odge Gribble, a young hag, joins an old wizard, a gentle fey, and a giant ogre on a journey from their magical island kingdom to London through a tunnel which opens every nine years for nine days, to try and rescue the young prince who had been stolen as an infant nine years before.

** For Harry Potter fans!*



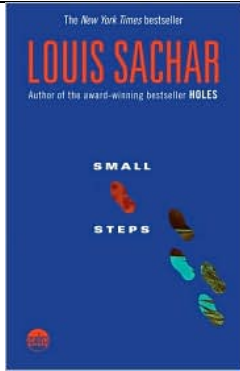
The Shakespeare Stealer by Gary Blackwood

A young orphan named Widge is sent to the Globe Theater to steal the script of Hamlet from Shakespeare's own company of players. When he becomes friends with the actors, he must decide whether to disobey his sinister master or betray his new friends.



Skellig by David Almond

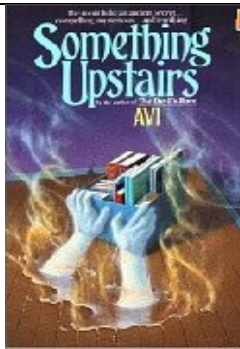
This is Michael's introduction to Skellig, the man-owl-angel who lies motionless behind the tea chests in the abandoned garage in back of the boy's dilapidated new house. As disturbing as this discovery is, it is the least of Michael's worries. The new house is a mess, his parents are distracted, and his brand-new baby sister is seriously ill. Still, he can't get this mysterious creature out of his mind--even as he wonders if he has really seen him at all.



Small Steps by Louis Sachar

(Companion Book to **Holes**)

Two years after being released from Camp Green Lake, Armpit is home in Austin, Texas, trying to turn his life around. But it's hard when you have a record, and everyone expects the worst from you. The only person who believes in him is Ginny.



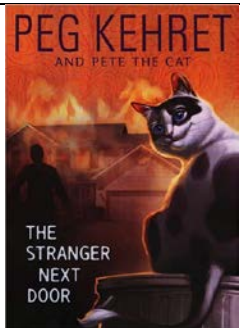
Something Upstairs by Avi

When he moves from Los Angeles to Providence, Rhode Island, Kenny discovers that his new house is haunted by the spirit of a black slave boy who asks Kenny to return with him to the early nineteenth century and prevent his murder by slave traders.



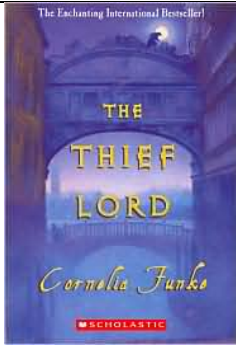
Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli

Jerry Spinelli, author of Newbery Medalist *Maniac Magee*, Newbery Honor Book *Wringer*, and many other excellent books for teens, elegantly and accurately captures the collective, not-always-pretty emotions of a high school microcosm in which individuality is pitted against conformity. 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.



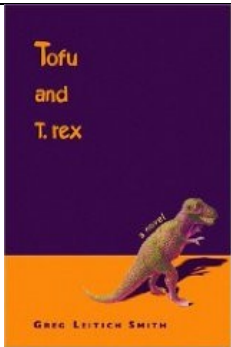
The Stranger Next Door by Peg Kehret

If there's a mystery to be solved, Pete's your man. Er, your cat. Pete's a cat, specifically, Alex's cat. And since Alex and his family moved into a new housing development, Pete is Alex's only friend. Things start looking up for Alex when Rocky moves in next door. But Rocky isn't very friendly, and Alex starts to suspect he's hiding something. And when the neighborhood is terrorized by a rash of fires and vandalism, Pete knows that he's got to investigate.



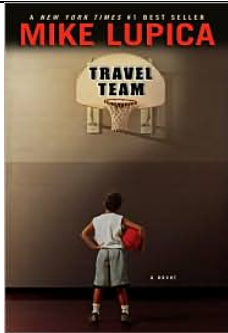
The Thief Lord by Cornelia Funke

This magical thriller is set among the crumbling canals and rooftops of Venice, Italy. A down-on-his-luck American detective is charged with the search for two orphaned children, who have run away from their aunt and uncle. The children are hiding in Venice, sheltered by a gang of children led by a mysterious young leader called The Thief Lord.



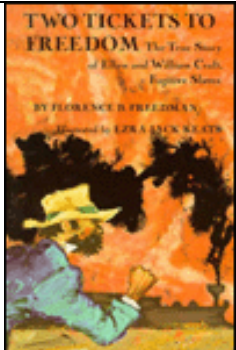
Tofu and T. Rex by Greg Leitch Smith

Strict vegan Frederika returns to her old private school after a brief 'hiatus,' but she then discovers that she has to live with her grandfather, who just happens to own a butcher shop and sausage deli. Not only that, Freddie's cousin, Hans-Peter, is a diehard carnivore but needs Freddie's insider knowledge to get accepted into her popular private school himself. Throw in a flaming dinosaur, a recipe for vegan sausage, and an accidental amputation and this battle of generations, wills, and diets will have readers laughing out loud.



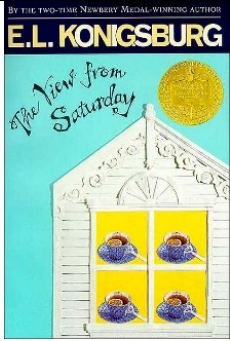
Travel Team by Mike Lupica

Danny Walker is crushed when he doesn't make the Vikings, the seventh-grade basketball team. He is told that he is too short, but he suspects that the real reason has something to do with the bad blood between his divorced father (a former NBA star whose career was cut short by a car accident) and Mr. Ross, the father of the team's best player.



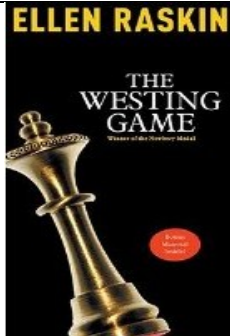
Two Tickets to Freedom: The True Story of Ellen and William Craft, Fugitive Slaves by Florence B. Freedman

Two Tickets to Freedom is the true story of a fugitive slave couple that travel the road to freedom in disguise -- Ellen (by all appearances white) dressed as a slave master and William posing as "his" slave. Their encounters both encourage them and cause them untold fear as they meet abolitionists and slave traders along the way.



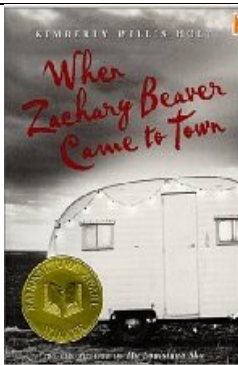
A View From Saturday by E.L Konigsburg

Four students, with their own individual stories, develop a special bond and attract the attention of their teacher, a paraplegic, who chooses them to represent their sixth-grade class in the Academic Bowl competition.



The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin

This highly inventive mystery involves sixteen people who are invited to the reading of Samuel W. Westing's will. They could become millionaires, depending on how they play the tricky and dangerous Westing game, which involves blizzards, burglaries, and bombings. Ellen Raskin has entangled a remarkable cast of characters in a puzzle-knotted, word-twisting plot filled with humor, intrigue, and suspense.



When Zachary Beaver Came to Town by Kimberly Willis Holt

During one unusual summer things are difficult for Toby Wilson. His 13-year-old heart has been broken twice: once by his mother, who left him and his father to become a country singer in Nashville, and then again by his crush Scarlett Stalling, the town beauty. However, Toby makes an unexpected friend when Zachary Beaver, "The World's Fattest Boy," comes to Antler as part of a traveling sideshow.