

## 2010 SUMMER FAVORITES

These titles have been suggested by the WMS Summer Reading Committee that consists of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and teachers. The goal of the committee is to have every WMS student and teacher commit to reading at least one of the books listed below. There will be small discussion groups held in the fall to share your thoughts about one of these books. Descriptions of these books are on the back side of this sheet.

Additional titles by grade levels for further reading can be found on our school website. For each book summary you complete, including the one from this list, you can earn 5 extra credit points by submitting each to different classroom teachers by September 24th.

**A NOTE TO PARENTS:** Maturity and reading ability of middle school children varies tremendously. As parents, you are the best judge of your child's emotional development. Please help your child select titles for his/her reading enjoyment. Many of these titles are available on audio tapes at the public library. Some of these titles are the same as the 2009 list, some were deleted and several new titles have been added. You may not sign up for the same book that you read last year. Yes, Ms. Conley still has that list!

### Life Lessons:

- The Misfits by James Howe
- Nothing But the Truth: A Documentary Novel by Avi
- The Wednesday Wars by Gary D. Schmidt

### Acceptance & Diversity

- Al Capone Does My Shirts by Gennifer Choldenko
- Rules by Cynthia Lord
- Schooled by Gordon Korman
- Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli

### Historical Fiction:

- The Boy Who Dared by Susan Campbell Bartoletti
- Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson

### Competition

- The Big Field by Mike Lupica
- Travel Team by Mike Lupica

### Fantasy:

- Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer
- Kingdom Keepers: Disney After Dark by Ridley Pearson
- The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan
- Savvy by Ingrid Law

### Suspense:

- Red Kayak by Priscilla Cummings
- Silverfin by Charlie Higson

### Global Warming:

- An Inconvenient Truth: The Crisis of Global Warming by Al Gore
- The Down-to-Earth Guide to Global Warming by Laurie David and Cambia Gordon

**Books available for  
purchase at May 17-19  
WMS Book Fair!**

<b><i>Al Capone Does My Shirts</i></b> - A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.	<b><i>The Misfits</i></b> - Four students who do not fit in at their small-town middle school decide to create a third party for the student council elections to represent all students who have ever been called names.
<b><i>Artemis Fowl</i></b> - When a twelve-year-old evil genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll.	<b><i>Nothing But the Truth: A Documentary Novel</i></b> - A ninth-grader's suspension for humming "The Star-Spangled Banner" during homeroom becomes a national news story, and leads to him and his teacher both leaving the school.
<b><i>The Big Field</i></b> - When fourteen-year-old baseball player Hutch feels threatened by the arrival of a new teammate named Darryl, he tries to work through his insecurities about both Darryl and his remote and silent father, who was once a great ballplayer too.	<b><i>Red Kayak</i></b> - Living near the water on Maryland's Eastern Shore, thirteen-year-old Brady and his best friends J.T. and Digger become entangled in a tragedy which tests their friendship and their ideas about right and wrong.
<b><i>The Boy Who Dared</i></b> - In October 1942, seventeen-year-old Helmuth Hubener, imprisoned for distributing anti-Nazi leaflets, recalls his past life and how he came to dedicate himself to bring the truth about Hitler and the war to the German people.	<b><i>Rules</i></b> - Frustrated at life with an autistic brother, twelve-year-old Catherine longs for a normal existence but her world is further complicated by a friendship with a young paraplegic.
<b><i>Chains</i></b> - After being sold to a cruel couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War.	<b><i>Savvy</i></b> - Recounts the adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her "savvy"--a magical power unique to each member of her family--just as her father is injured in a terrible accident.
<b><i>The Down-to-Earth Guide to Global Warming</i></b> - A collection of facts and information about global warming and its consequences, with suggestions on maintaining a healthy environment in the home, at school, and in the community.	<b><i>Schooled</i></b> - Cap lives in isolation with his grandmother, a former hippie; but when she falls from a tree and breaks her hip, Cap is sent to a foster home where he has his first experience in a public school.
<b><i>An Inconvenient Truth: The Crisis of Global Warming</i></b> - An adaptation of the book in which former Vice President Al Gore examines the climate crisis that is threatening the future of the planet, describes what the world's governments are doing to correct the problem, and explains why the problem should be taken more seriously. Includes photographs, maps, and graphs.	<b><i>Silverfin</i></b> - Young James Bond, a student at the Eton boarding school in the 1930s, travels to his aunt's Scotland estate for the Easter holidays where he becomes caught up in investigating the disappearance of a local boy, a crime allegedly linked to a madman with a plot for global domination.
<b><i>Kingdom Keepers: Disney After Dark</i></b> - Thirteen-year-old Finn and four other young teens have been transformed into holograms to be guides for visitors to Disney World, but now they must do battle with the evil witch, Maleficent, and her Overtakers to save Walt Disney World.	<b><i>Stargirl</i></b> - Stargirl, a teen who animates quiet Mica High with her colorful personality, suddenly finds herself shunned for her refusal to conform.
<b><i>The Lightning Thief</i></b> - After learning that he is the son of a mortal woman and Poseidon, god of the sea, twelve-year-old Percy is sent to a summer camp for demigods like himself, and joins his new friends on a quest to prevent a war between the gods.	<b><i>Travel Team</i></b> - After he is cut from his travel basketball team--the very same team that his father once led to national prominence--twelve-year-old Danny Walker forms his own team of cast-offs that might have a shot at victory.
<b><i>The Wednesday Wars</i></b> - During the 1967 school year, on Wednesday afternoons when all his classmates go to either Catechism or Hebrew school, seventh-grader Holling Hoodhood stays in Mrs. Baker's classroom where they read the plays of William Shakespeare and Holling learns much of value about the world he lives in.	

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Please select one title from above & return slip below to your ELA teacher by Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup>

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE OF BOOK: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ CIRCLE: GRADE IN SEPT. 7 8

If you have any of these titles at home and would like to donate to WMS, feel free to have your child bring them to the main office before the end of the school year. This would allow any student who wanted to borrow a book from the office over the summer, the opportunity to do so.

Any 8<sup>th</sup> grader who would like to be a book discussion leader for our groups in the Fall, please check here. \_\_\_\_\_ Ms. Conley will be in contact with you about the details.