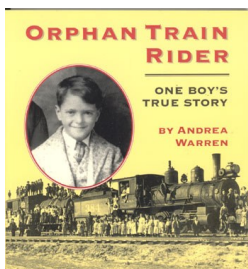


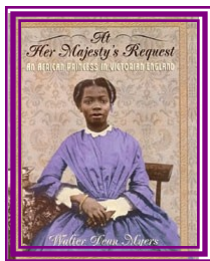
Entering Grade 6 choose ONE title :

Pharaoh's Boat by David Weitzman
The Frog Scientist by Pamela S. Turner
Quest for the Tree Kangaroo by Sy Montgomery
How Angel Peterson Got His Name: and Other Out-
rageous Tales About Extreme Sports by Gary
Paulsen
Through My Eyes by Ruby Bridges
Duke Ellington: giant of Jazz by Wendie C. Old
Changing Places: A Kid's View of Shelter Living
by Chalofsky, Finland and Wallace
Orphan Train Rider by Andrea Warren
Zlata's Diary: A Child's Life in Wartime Sarajevo
by Zlanta Filipov
Blizzard by Jim Murphy
My Life in Dog Years by Gary Paulsen



Entering Grade 7 choose ONE title:

Truce: the Day the Soldiers Stopped Fighting
by Jim Murphy
A Savage Thunder: Antietam and the Bloody Road to
Freedom by Jim Murphy
Chew on This: Everything You Don't Want to Know
About Fast Food by Eric Schlosser
Snakes, Snakes, and More Snakes by Dr. Robert Mason
At Her Majesty's Request: An African Princess in
Victorian England by Walter
Dean Myers

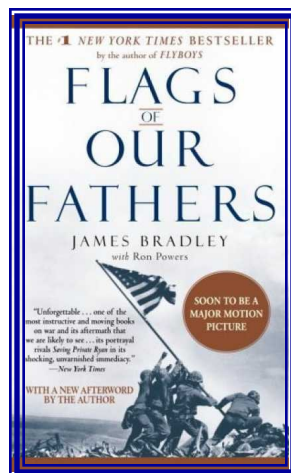


Entering Grade 7 cont'd:

Commodore Perry in the Land of the Shogun
by Rhonda Blumberg
Castles by Philip Steele
Knots in My Yo-Yo String by Jerry Spinelli
Amos Fortune: Free Man by Elizabeth Yates
The World of King Arthur and His Court
by Kevin Crossley-Holland
Queen Eleanor: Independent Spirit of the Medieval
World by Polly Schoyer

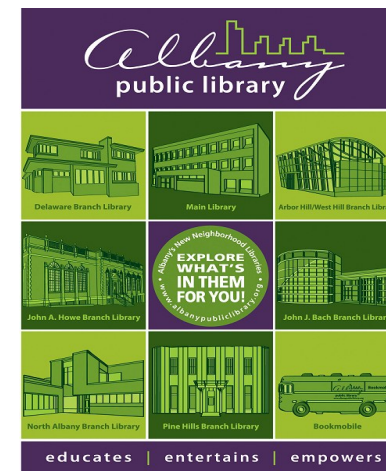
Entering Grade 8 choose ONE title:

Albert Einstein by Kathleen Krull
Flags of Our Fathers: Heroes of Iwo Jima
by James Bradley
The Greatest: Muhammad Ali by Walter Dean Myers
Childtime: A Three Generation Memoir
by Eloise Greenfield
The Boys' War: Confederate and Union Soldiers Talk
About the Civil War by Jim Murphy
Behind Barbed Wire: by Daniel S. Davis
Rescue: The Story of How Gentiles Saved Jews in the
Holocaust by Milton Meltzer
Black Hands, White Sails by Patricia C. McKissack
To Be a Slave by Julius Lester
A Great and Glorious Game: Baseball Writings
by A. Bartlett Giamatti
Immigrant Kids by Russell Freedman



Albany Public Library

<http://www.albanypubliclibrary.org/locations/>



OTHER "FUN SUMMER PROJECTS" CAN
BE LOCATED AT

<http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/summer/>

Book Stores

Book House: <http://www.bhny.com/>

Barnes & Nobles:

<http://store-locator.barnesandnoble.com/store/2275>

Borders:

http://www.borders.com/online/store/StoreDetailView_471

Amazon:

<http://amazon.com>



Summer Writing Assignments for All students entering Grades 6-8:

Students entering grades 6-8 are asked to keep a writing journal while reading their selected non-fiction text. Graphic organizers are also excellent tools that will help students retain information about their summer reading. A variety of graphic organizers can be located on our district website

<http://albanschools.org/>

****click on "academics" (top left)**

****click on summer reading (lower right)**



Students will be required to write a modified critical lens response essay in the fall .

Summer Reading Tips for Parents

Read aloud together with your child everyday.

Make it fun by reading outdoors on the front steps, patio, at the beach or park. Let your child read to you.

Set a good example.

Keep lots of reading material around the house. Turn off the TV and have each person read his or her book, including mom and dad.

Read the same book your child is reading and discuss it.

This is the way to develop habit of the mind and build capacity for thought and insight.

Buy books on tape.

Listen to them in the car, or turn off the TV and have the family listen to them together.

Take your children to the library regularly.

Check the library calendar for special summer reading activities and events. Libraries also provide age appropriate lists for summer reading.

Subscribe, in your child's name, to magazines like Highlights for Children or National Geographic World.

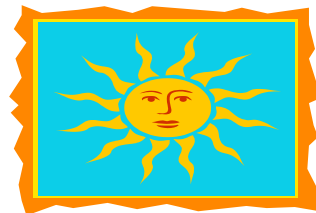
Encourage older children to read the newspaper and current events magazines, to keep up the reading habit over the summer. Ask them what they think about what they've read, and listen to what they say.

Make trips a way to encourage reading by reading aloud traffic signs, billboards, notices.

Show your children how to read a map, and once you are on the road, let them take turns being the navigator.

Encourage children to keep a summer scrapbook.

Tape in souvenirs of your family's summer activities picture postcards, ticket stubs, photos. Have your children write the captions and read them aloud as you look at the book together.



Albany City School District Middle School Summer Reading List 2011



Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

Summer is a wonderful time for children. It is a time of freedom, exploration and learning. Summer should also be a time for children to enjoy reading and continue to practice skills learned in the classroom. Just like swimming or throwing a baseball, reading is a skill that improves with practice.

This year, our required summer reading for students entering grades 6-8 will focus on non-fiction. Rather than ask students to read a specific non-fiction title, this year students will choose from a list of text the title they wish to read over the summer.

The books in this brochure are available at your public libraries and local bookstores. Although we are requesting students read non-fiction from our list, we recommend they read additional genres to keep them reading all summer.

Albany City Schools is working to ensure high standards and high achievement for every student in every classroom with literacy as a priority at all grade levels. We expect our students to work hard at reading and writing and to keep reading year-round. We need the support and encouragement of families to help us reach the goal of every student becoming a life-long reader.

Enjoy your summer and happy reading!

Secondary ELA Supervisor,
Margaret E. DiGiulio