

April 2013

Dear Parents and Students,

Santa Monica Public Library's (SMPL) theme for 2013 summer teen readers is "Beneath the Surface." In collaboration with SMPL, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District is pleased to announce our summer reading program prepared by our school librarians. On the other side of this letter is a list of recommended books to read during the summer. Because students' maturity and reading levels vary, we encourage parents to participate actively in selecting and/or discussing these books.

Students are expected to read and respond to two books from the list for the grade they will be entering in the fall. Students are responsible for obtaining their own books. The public libraries, as well as local booksellers, will have most of these titles available.



We are very excited about this program and hope the books on this list will provide knowledge and pleasure for your child.

Have a fantastic summer filled with reading and adventure!

Sincerely,

Erica Cuyugan, Teen Services Librarian, Santa Monica Public Library

Joe DiMercurio, Librarian, Malibu High School

Kelly Urtz, Librarian, Lincoln Middle School

Susan Bodok, Librarian, John Adams Middle School

BOOK SELECTION GUIDELINES:

All students must read and be prepared to share & evaluate **2 BOOKS** by August 22nd from the **2013 SUMMER READING LIST.**

(*SERIES: Students can choose any book of a *series. PLEASE NOTE students' 2nd book choice can not be from the same series.)

FILL IN THE INFORMATION BELOW AS YOU READ YOUR 2 BOOKS

(on this page or in your notebook).

DUE 8/22/13 by 1st or 2nd WEEK OF SCHOOL.

BOOK #1:

Be prepared to write a recommendation that a book be read or not read by your classmates.



1) *CITE YOUR BOOK:

*LOOK in the 1st few pages inside the book. OR...

*CHECK www.smpl.org for your book title:

- 'Year published' is by book image under author),
- CLICK the book for its 'full record' to find below info:

*Title:

*Author:

*Publisher/City:

*Year Published:

2) Main Character:

Name:

Age:

Traits:

3) What's the conflict?

4) Fiction or Nonfiction?

5) Genre? Fantasy?



BOOK #2:

This assignment could be in-class writing, a booktalk, or a special project.



1) *CITE YOUR BOOK:

*Title:

*Author:

*Publisher/City:

*Year Published:

2) Main Character:

Name:

Age:

Traits:



3) What's the conflict?

4) Fiction or Nonfiction?

5) Genre? Mystery?



6) Rate this book 1-5:

1-Did not like
5 -Fantastic book!



SANTA MONICA PUBLIC

LIBRARY

YOUTH SERVICES



8th Grade READING LIST



VISIT

Santa Monica Public Library or your local library for fun activities & prizes celebrating "Beneath the Surface!"

Check smpl.org. Click Teens tab for Summer Reading & programs.

FICTION: REALISTIC

DEUKER, CARL - NIGHT HOOPS. While trying to prove that he is good enough to be on his high school's varsity basketball team, Nick must also deal with his parents' divorce and the erratic behavior of a troubled classmate who lives across the street.

HINTON, S.E. - THAT WAS THEN, THIS IS NOW. Sixteen-year-olds Mark and Bryon have been like brothers since childhood. As their involvement with girls, gangs, and drugs increases, their relationship seems to gradually disintegrate.

LUBAR, DAVID - SLEEPING FRESHMEN NEVER LIE. Scott, a ninth-grader, keeps a hilarious diary with a list of "do's" and "don'ts" for surviving freshman year in hopes of helping his unborn sibling.

MASS, WENDY - A MANGO-SHAPED SPACE. Thirteen-year-old Mia has kept a secret since third grade. She can see colors in numbers, music and spoken words. When she starts to fail math in eighth grade, she realizes she must seek help. Will her family and friends understand?

NA, AN - A STEP FROM HEAVEN. A young Korean girl and her family find it hard to adjust to life in America.

PHILBRICK, RODMAN - FREAK THE MIGHTY. Max, a large eighth-grader with a learning disability, becomes friends with Freak, an intelligent boy who is physically impaired.

SONES, SONYA - WHAT MY MOTHER DOESN'T KNOW. Through poetry, Sophie describes her relationships with a series of boys as she searches for Mr. Right.

VAN DRAANEN, WENDELIN - RUNNING DREAM. Jessica loses her leg in a car accident. All her friends turn her back on her except a girl with cerebral palsy. Will she be able to run track again, and learn the meaning of true friendship?

CLASSIC

AUSTEN, JANE - EMMA. Emma devotes her formidable energies to matchmaking between friends and acquaintances in the village of Highbury. The plot turns on a romance of which she is wholly unaware.

STOKER, BRAM - DRACULA. From accounts in news clippings to his personal diaries, Count Dracula travels from Transylvania to London in search of new victims.

HISTORICAL

BRUCHAC, JOSEPH - CODE TALKER. Sixteen-year-old Ned lies about his age, joins the Marines, and becomes a code talker. Using his secret Navajo language, he helps his country end the war against Japan.

OTSUKA, JULIE - WHEN THE EMPEROR WAS DIVINE. Five members of a Japanese American family present their unique perspectives of being forced into an internment camp during World War II.

SCHMIDT, GARY - THE WEDNESDAY WARS. In 1967, Holling Hoodhood starts seventh grade and experiences a series of mishaps and adventures involving cream puffs, yellow tights, Shakespeare and the New York Yankees.

MYSTERY & ADVENTURE

CARTER, ALLY - HEIST SOCIETY. Teen Kat Bishop is tired of her family's life of crime, so she enrolls in the top boarding school. When her father gets blamed for stealing a mobster's art, she must steal back the paintings to save her father's life.

DU MAURIER, DAPHNE - REBECCA. For months after her death, the memory of Rebecca de Winter continues to dominate everyone at her former home, Manderley, a famous English country house.

LANE, ANDREW - DEATH CLOUD (*SERIES). Sherlock Holmes' legend begins at the age of 14 when visiting his aunt and uncle; two neighbors die of a mysterious plague. Sherlock and his tutor Amos find out the real deadly reason behind this deadly disease.

YANCEY, RICK - THE EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURES OF ALFRED KROPP. When teenager Alfred Kropp accidentally rescues King Arthur's legendary Excalibur, he begins a dangerous mission to keep the sword safe from the forces of evil.

SCIENCE-FICTION & FANTASY

ADAMS, DOUGLAS - THE HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY. Seconds before Earth is demolished to make room for a galactic freeway, an earthman is saved by his friend. Together they journey through the galaxy.

CARD, ORSON SCOTT - ENDER'S GAME.

In order to develop a secure defense against a hostile alien race's next attack, government agencies breed child geniuses and train them as soldiers.

CRICHTON, MICHAEL - ANDROMEDA STRAIN. For five days, American scientists struggle to identify and control a deadly new form of life.

FARMER, NANCY - THE HOUSE OF THE SCORPION. In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patron, the 142-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States.

GILBERT MURDOCK, CATHERINE - PRINCESS BEN. When her parents are assassinated, Queen Sofia locks tomboy "Ben" in a room to train her to be royal "Princess Benevolence". Barricaded and starving, she finds a hidden door and learns magic. With her kingdom under threat, can she escape and use her new powers to save her people?

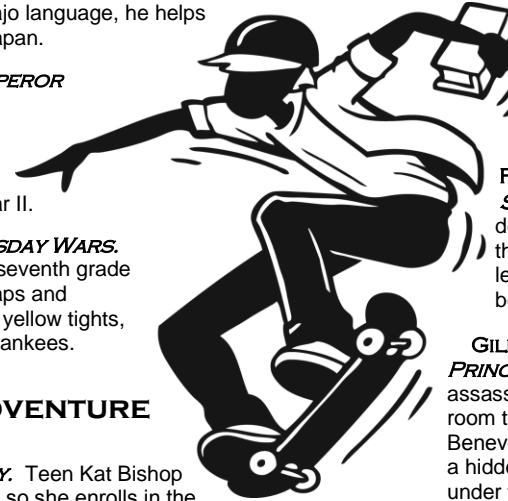
WESTERFELD, SCOTT - UGLIES. Growing up in a futuristic world, 15-year-old Tally, a fun-loving trickster, attracts the attention of the secret police when she begins to question the society she lives in and break the rules.

**NON-FICTION:
BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY**

DAVIS, SAMPSON - WE BEAT THE STREET. Growing up in Jersey, Rameck, George, and Sampson decide to avoid the fate of many of their friends' lives of drug dealing, gangs, and prison, by making a pact to go to medical school.

HOOSE, PHILIP - CLAUDETTE COLVIN: TWICE TOWARD JUSTICE. Nine months before Rosa Parks, 15-year-old Claudette Colvin is the first to trigger a bus boycott. She was a key plaintiff in ending Montgomery's segregated bus system. Read about this brave teenager's courageous life story.

SPIEGELMAN, ART - MAUS I. A story of a Jewish survivor of Hitler's Europe and his son, a cartoonist who tries to come to terms with his father's story and history itself.



**READ & ENJOY
2 BOOKS!**