

7th Grade Recommended Reading

Real Life and Historical Fiction

Alcott, L. Little Women

Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy share happy hours and trials, growing up in the 1800s in New England.

Alexander, Lloyd Gypsy Rizka

Living alone in her wagon on the outskirts of a small town while waiting for her father's return, Rizka, a Gypsy and a trickster, exposes the ridiculous foibles of some of the townspeople.

Bronte, C. Jane Eyre

Jane Eyre, a young governess, is fascinated by her brooding, passionate master and discovers his secret amid the ashes of Thornfield.

Collier, R. My Brother Sam is Dead

Sixteen year old Sam runs away from his Tory family to fight on the side of the Minutemen in the Revolutionary War, splitting the family and leading to bitter turmoil and tragedy.

Duncan, L. Summer of Fear

Cousin Julia comes to live with her aunt and uncle after the death of her parents. What is it about Julia that seems gradually to poison the life of the family?

Fox, P. Slave Dancer

A thirteen year old boy is kidnapped from his home and forced to play his fife on an African slave ship so that the slaves will dance to keep strong.

George, J. C. Julie of the Wolves

After running away from home, Julie, a twelve-year old Eskimo girl, becomes hopelessly lost and survives with the help of a pack of Arctic wolves.

Green, B. Summer of My German Soldier

Patty Bergen, a young Jewish girl, was bored the summer that German prisoners were held in a POW camp outside her town in Arkansas. This all changed when she made the decision to help Anton, an escaped German soldier.

Gutman Honus & Me

When young baseball nut Joe Stoshack finds the most valuable baseball card in the world, a Honus Wagner T-206, in a pile of garbage, he thinks he's struck it rich.

Hamilton, V. House of Dies Drear

This is the spellbinding modern-day story of a massive house that once helped hide fugitive slaves in a labyrinth of underground tunnels.

Hinton, S.E. The Outsiders

Pony Boy, a young gang member, tells the story of the town and the rich kids from the suburbs.

Klass Danger Zone

When basketball player Jimmy Doyle is chosen to be part of the American "Teen Dream Team" to play in Europe, he's flattered but also scared.

London, J. White Fang

Tortured by his original owner, White Fang finally has a kind master for whom he is willing to sacrifice his life. This is the stirring account of a wolf tamed into the likeness of a dog.

Mazer, H. The Last Mission

Using his older brother's birth certificate, fifteen-year old Jack Raab signs up for the U.S. Air Force. After twenty-five successful missions, he is unprepared for the terror of being shot down and taken to a German prisoner-of-war camp.

Paulsen, Gary Monument

Mick Strum, an artist, creates a memorial to honor the war dead of Bolton, Kansas. In doing so he earns the respect of the town and a teen named Rocky who develops her own artistic talents under his guidance.

Peck, R. A Day No Pigs Would Die

This is a moving story of a thirteen-year old Shaker boy and his relationship with his father as they work together on their Vermont farm. Their struggle for survival includes a heart-wrenching decision regarding a beloved pet, a pig.

Richter, D. Light in the Forest

A white boy who has been reared by Indians is dragged back to the settlement against his will. He rebels and escapes to the forest but is faced with the problem of whether he wants to accept the values of the white people or the Indians.

Roth, A. Iceberg Hermit

This survival story is based on the true account of a young boy who is trapped on an iceberg after his whaling ship sinks with the entire crew.

Smith, B. A Tree Grows in Brooklyn

This is a heartwarming story of the childhood and youth of Francie Nolan, of her family and friends. We see the pain and beauty of her way of life as it appears through her especially observant eyes.

Staples, S. Shabanu, Daughter of the Wind

When suddenly called upon to uphold the family honor, Shabanu finds herself caught in a tangle of conflicting emotions and a sense of duty.

Taylor, M. Let the Circle Be Unbroken

This sequel to Roll of Thunder describes Stacey and Cassie leaving childhood and becoming young adults.

Voight, C. Izzy- - Willy Nilly

Pretty cheerleader Isobel Lingard has everything going for her; then one drunk driver changes her life forever.

Wallace, Rich Wrestling Sturbridge

Ben doesn't want to stay in the small town of Sturbridge and work in the cinder block factory like everyone else. He is also not going to let his friend Al win the state wrestling championship. Ben just has to win and ends up wrestling not only his best friend, but also many of life's biggest issues.

White, R. Deathwatch

Young Ben thinks his career in leading hunters in search of bighorn sheep is over when a crazed hunter attacks and leaves him to die in the desert.

Yates, E. Amos Fortune, Free Man

This story describes the remarkable life of a man who was born a prince in Africa, lived as a slave in America, and managed to save enough money to buy his freedom and the freedom of others.

Zindel, P. The Pigman

Two unhappy high school students befriend a lonely old man in this story told from the viewpoint of the two teenagers.

Mystery

Christie, A. Murder on the Orient Express

A man is murdered on the train going from Istanbul to Calais. The famous detective, Hercule Poirot, happens to be on board and unravels the mystery.

Fantasy & Science Fiction

Adams, R. Watership Down

This novel describes a group of adventurous rabbits who desert their doomed city and venture forth against all odds to find a new home.

Brooks, T. The Elf Queen of Shannara

Because the enchantment has left the Four Lands, Wren is sent to find the Elves. Wren's journey is filled with adventure as he travels across the Blue Divide and through a terror-filled jungle.

Cooper, Susan King of Shadows

A richly descriptive story mingling fantasy and historical fiction, about a contemporary American boy who suddenly awakens to find himself on Shakespeare's stage in 1599.

Eddings, D. Pawn of Prophecy

This is an immense epic which fills five books and covers a history of 7,000 years. Garon, a young farm boy, becomes involved with the dangerous struggles of gods and kings in faraway lands.

Jacques, Brian Redwall Series

There's non-stop action in the form of battles, sieges and violent villainy along with a triumphant ending that's never in real doubt but is nevertheless involving.

McCaffrey, A. Dragonsong

When Menolly is forbidden by her father to continue with her music, she runs away to be with dragons.

Poe, E.A. Short Stories

Poe paints a world of horror and imagination in these famous short stories.

Non-fiction

Berenson, Jan Will Power A Biography of Will Smith

Will Smith's life is told from Philadelphia rapping and Fresh Prince days to his movie career through Men in Black.

Blinn, W. Brian's Song

This is a story of the relationship between Chicago Bears running backs, Brian Piccolo and Gale Sayers, both on playing field and in life as Brian struggles with cancer.

Frank, A. Anne Frank, Diary of a Young Girl

This famous story is of a thirteen year old's account of life in hiding in order to survive the Nazi terror.

Herriot, J. All Creatures Great and Small

A young, country veterinarian practices in an English town and learns how to handle these animals and people, birth to death.

Lord, W. A Night to Remember

Are you interested in the true-life disaster of the sinking of one of the greatest luxury liners of all time? When the "unsinkable" Titanic went down in 1912, over 1200 lives were lost.

Meltzer, M. American Revolutionaries: A History in Their Own Words

What was it like to cross the Delaware with Washington or help feed the troops or tend the wounds or oppose the war? Read the accounts of those who experienced this and more.

Pfetzner and Galvin Within Reach, My Everest Story

The author describes how he spent his teenage years climbing mountains around the world with an emphasis on his two expeditions up Mt. Everest. This compelling real life drama shows how he conquers not only mountains but personal tragedy as well.

Ripkin, Cal The Only Way I Know

This autobiography is a great motivational tale for all ages. Emphasis is placed on Ripkin's talent, work ethic, and personal challenge to live each day to its fullest.

Serof, H. The Road Back

Three people find life changed by disabilities as they work to overcome their problems.