

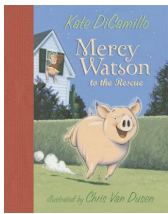
Summer Reading List for Middle School Students

All book summaries and cover photos are from Goodreads.com.

Student Choice Books

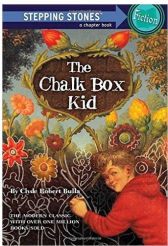
All students must select and read **at least one** of the texts below.

The Mercy Watson Series by Kate DiCamillo (choose one)



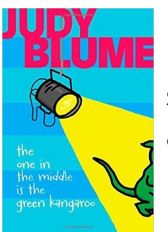
To Mr. and Mrs. Watson, Mercy is not just a pig--she's a porcine wonder. And to the portly and good-natured Mercy, the Watsons are an excellent source of buttered toast, not to mention that buttery-toasty feeling she gets when she snuggles into bed with them. This is not, however, so good for the Watsons' bed. BOOM! CRACK! As the bed and its occupants slowly sink through the floor, Mercy escapes in a flash--"to alert the fire department," her owners assure themselves. But could Mercy possibly have another emergency in mind--like a sudden craving for their neighbors' sugar cookies?

The Chalk Box Kid by Clyde Robert Bulla



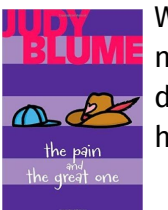
A new neighborhood. A new school. A lonely birthday. Life isn't easy for nine-year-old Gregory. Then he finds an abandoned chalk factory behind his house. It's a secret place, just for him! Now he can draw anything he imagines on the dark brick walls. What amazing thing will Gregory draw first?

The One in the Middle is a Green Kangaroo by Judy Blume



Freddy Dissel has two problems. One is his older brother, Mike. The other is his younger sister, Ellen. That leaves Freddy in the middle, feeling like the peanut butter part of a sandwich, squeezed between two pieces of bread like a great big middle nothing. So when Freddy hears about the school play, he knows it's his chance to shine--even if the play is being put on by the big kids, and even if Mike says that *everybody* can jump. But nobody can jump quite as well as Freddy, which makes him the *perfect* Green Kangaroo--and the star of the show!

The Pain and the Great One Series by Judy Blume (choose one)



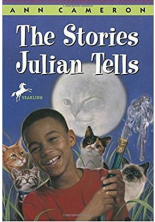
When an eight-year-old girl and her six-year-old brother take turns describing each other, it's no surprise that "The Pain" and "The Great One" are the nicknames that emerge. As this duo debates whom Mom and Dad love most, their competition becomes increasingly humorous--because when it comes to family affection, there's no such thing as win or lose.

The Paint Brush Kid by Clyde Robert Bulla



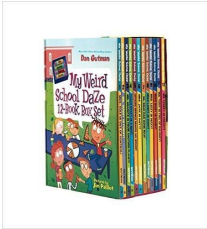
In the sequel to *The Chalk Box Kid*, Gregory's friend Uncle Pancho is in trouble. The city wants to build a highway right where his house is. They will have to tear it down! Then Gregory has an idea. He will paint the story of Uncle Pancho's life for the whole city to see... but can the paintings save Uncle Pancho's home?

The Stories Julian Tells Series by Ann Cameron



Julian is a quick fibber and a wishful thinker. And he is great at telling stories. He can make people--especially his younger brother, Huey--believe just about anything. Like the story about the cats that come in the mail. Or the fig leaves that make you grow tall if you eat them off the tree. But some stories can lead to a heap of trouble, and that's exactly where Julian and Huey end up!

The Weird School Series by Dan Gutman



Things have gotten weirder! From a zany graduation ceremony to the off-the-wall antics of their new third-grade teacher, A.J. and the gang from Ella Mentry School have had some weird and wacky adventures.