

# Summer Reading



Middle School | 2020

**McCALLIE**  
— HONOR TRUTH DUTY —



## Dear McCallie Middle School Families,

Welcome to those of you who are new to McCallie and hello to returning families! I hope you all are doing well during this strange and difficult time. While we are all looking ahead with uncertainty, we are also carrying on. Things look different, but we are still learning and hopefully holding on to those things that bring us joy. At McCallie, we want to encourage boys to find joy in books and reading. Part of the way that we encourage McCallie students to read is our Summer Reading program, and I hope that you enjoy this year's selections.

This summer, every Middle School student will read the young readers' version of *Outcasts United* by Warren St. John. This non-fiction book follows one season of a soccer team of refugee boys in a small town outside of Atlanta, Georgia. It is a fascinating story of how boys from all different countries, religions, and backgrounds find a family in their dynamic coach and their soccer team. I am very excited about this book and highly recommend that you read it as a family!

In addition, each grade will have an assigned book. 6th graders will read *The War that Saved My Life* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley. 7th graders will read *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton. 8th graders will read *Murder on the Orient Express* by Agatha Christie.

Finally, students will also read one book of their choice.

In addition to the required reading, students are invited to participate in the [optional] Summer Reading Challenge!

Please see the Summer Reading Guide [link below] for more information about the 2020 book selections, the Summer Reading Challenge, as well as recommended books for the choice book.

Summer Reading Guide:  
<https://libguides.mccallie.org/mssummerreading2020>

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Happy reading!

**Margaret Wadley**  
McCallie School Librarian

# FAQS



## How many books do I have to read?

Three. Each Middle School student will read the all-school book (*Outcasts United* by Warren St. John), the grade-level book, and one choice book. You can find book recommendations on the [Summer Reading Guide](#). Of course, we would love for you to read as many books as you want!

## Can I choose a book that



## I have already read?

Please choose a book that you have never read before.



## Am I allowed to read my book(s) on an eReader [Kindle, iPad, Nook, etc.]?

Absolutely!



## Can I listen to the audio-book version of one or more of my books?

Yes, but you must read along as you listen.

There are several



## different versions of my book available to buy. How do I know which one to get?

We've provided an ISBN for each book to help you find a copy; however, you are not required to read that exact edition, unless noted. Please note that there is an adult version of *Outcasts United*. We are reading and discussing the young readers' version.

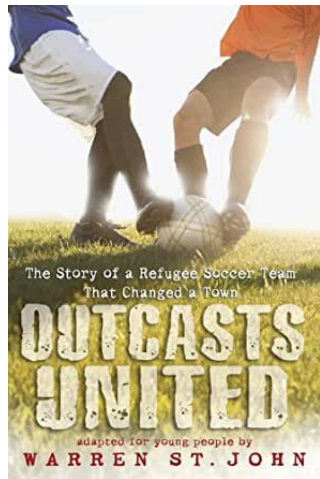


## I have another question about summer reading. What should I do?

Contact Mrs. Wadley at [mwadley@mccallie.org](mailto:mwadley@mccallie.org).

# Required Reading

## ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL BOOK



### **Outcasts United: The Story of a Refugee Soccer Team That Changed a Town, adapted for young people**

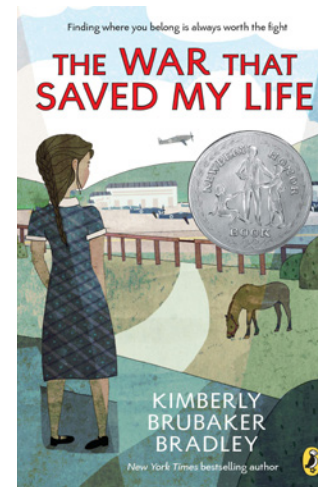
by Warren St. John

ISBN-13: 978-0385741958

Clarkston, Georgia, was a typical Southern town until it was designated a refugee settlement centre in the 1990s, becoming home to scores of families in flight from the world's war

zones—from Liberia and Sudan to Iraq and Afghanistan. Suddenly Clarkston's streets were filled with women wearing the hijab, the smells of cumin and curry, and kids of all colours playing football in any open space they could find. Among them was Luma Mufleh, a Jordanian woman who founded a youth football team to unify Clarkston's refugee children and keep them off the streets. These kids named themselves the Fugees. This fast-paced chronicle of a single season is a complex and inspiring tale of a small town becoming a global community—and an account of the ingenious and complicated ways we create a home in a changing world.

## 6TH GRADE BOOK



### **The War that Saved My Life**

by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

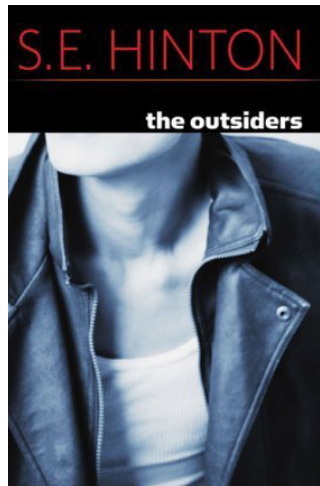
ISBN-13: 978-0147510488

Ten-year-old Ada has never left her one-room apartment. Her mother is too humiliated by Ada's twisted foot to let her outside. So when her little brother Jamie is shipped out of London to escape the war, Ada doesn't waste a minute—she sneaks out to join him. So begins a new adventure of Ada, and for Susan

Smith, the woman who is forced to take the two kids in. As Ada teaches herself to ride a pony, learns to read, and watches for German spies, she begins to trust Susan—and Susan begins to love Ada and Jamie. But in the end, will their bond be enough to hold them together through wartime? Or will Ada and her brother fall back into the cruel hands of their mother?

# Required Reading

## 7TH GRADE BOOK



### **The Outsiders**

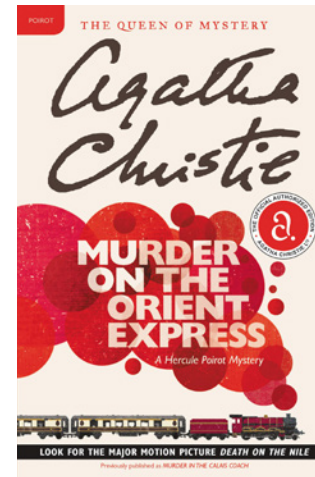
by S.E. Hinton

ISBN-13: 978-0142407332

According to Ponyboy, there are two kinds of people in the world: greasers and socs. A soc (short for “social”) has money, can get away with just about anything, and has an attitude longer than a limousine. A greaser, on the other hand, always lives on the outside and needs to watch his back. Ponyboy is a

greaser, and he’s always been proud of it, even willing to rumble against a gang of socs for the sake of his fellow greasers—until one terrible night...

## 8TH GRADE BOOK



### **Murder on the Orient Express**

by Agatha Christie

ISBN-13: 978-0062073495

Just after midnight, a snowdrift stops the Orient Express in its tracks. The luxurious train is surprisingly full for the time of the year, but by the morning it is one passenger fewer. An American tycoon lies dead in his compartment, stabbed a dozen

times, his door locked from the inside. Isolated and with a killer in their midst, detective Hercule Poirot must identify the murderer—in case he or she decides to strike again.

For more information contact:  
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*\*All quotations taken from book reviews on amazon.com*