



SHADY SIDE
ACADEMY

Middle School
Summer Reading
2021

FORM I (7th Grade) Summer Reading List

Directions: The Seventh Most Important Thing is required reading for all Form I students. Choose three additional titles from at least two different genres on the list.

All-Form Book

Pearsall, Shelly

The Seventh Most Important Thing

In 1963, thirteen-year-old Arthur is sentenced to community service helping the neighborhood Junk Man after he throws a brick at the old man's head in a moment of rage.

Hot Off the Press! New Books

Keller, Tae

When You Trap a Tiger

When Lily, her sister Sam, and their mother move in with her sick grandmother, Lily traps a tiger and makes a deal with him to heal Halmoni.

Rhodes, Jewell Parker

Black Brother, Black Brother

Suspended unjustly from elite Middlefield Prep, Donte Ellison studies fencing with a former champion, hoping to put the racist fencing team captain in his place.

Schmidt, Gary

Just Like That

It's summer 1968. Meryl Lee is reeling from the shocking accidental death a boy she's loved since the third grade, and she is heading to boarding school. Also arriving in Harpswell, ME is Matt Coffin, a homeless white 13-year-old whose harrowing past keeps him on the run, with the dream of safety and happiness always out of reach. Matt and Meryl Lee's lives intertwine, and they begin to recognize their value and innate strength.

Classics

Alcott, Louisa May

Little Women

Grown-up Meg, tomboyish Jo, timid Beth, and precocious Amy. The four March sisters couldn't be more different. But with their father away at war, and their mother working to support the family, they have to rely on one another.

Christie, Agatha

And Then There Were None

Ten strangers--each with a sordid past--are summoned by an absent millionaire to a private island off the coast of Devon and begin to die one by one upon arrival.

Doyle, Arthur Conan

The Hound of the Baskervilles

The country doctor came to Sherlock Holmes, with an eerie tale—the legend of the devil-beast that haunted the lonely moors around the Baskervilles’ ancestral home. The tale warned the descendants of that ancient family never to venture out on the moor. But Sir Charles Baskerville was now dead—and the footprints of a giant hound have been found near his body.

Raskin, Ellen

The Westing Game

The mysterious death of an eccentric millionaire brings together an unlikely assortment of heirs who must uncover the circumstances of his death before they can claim their inheritance.

Speare, Elizabeth George

The Witch of Blackbird Pond

In 1687 in Connecticut, Kit Tyler, feeling out of place in the Puritan household of her aunt, befriends an old woman considered a witch by the community and suddenly finds herself standing trial for witchcraft.

Tolkien, J.R.R.

The Hobbit

Bilbo Baggins, a respectable, well-to-do hobbit, lives comfortably in his hobbit-hole until the day the wandering wizard Gandalf chooses him to take part in an adventure from which he may never return.

Science Fiction

Cass, Kiera

The Selection or sequels

For thirty-five girls, the Selection is the chance of a lifetime. The opportunity to escape a rigid caste system, live in a palace, and compete for the heart of gorgeous Prince Maxon. But for America Singer, being Selected is a nightmare. It means turning her back on her secret love with Aspen, who is a caste below her, and competing for a crown she doesn’t want.

Charbonneau, Joelle

The Testing or its sequels

Sixteen-year-old Malencia (Cia) Vale is chosen to participate in The Testing to attend the University; however, Cia is fearful when she figures out her friends who do not pass The Testing are disappearing.

Holyoke, Polly

The Neptune Project or its sequels

A group of kids who have been genetically altered to survive in the ocean must embark on a dangerous underwater journey to find refuge--and maybe even a way to save the world.

Lu, Marie

Legend or its sequels

In a dark future, when North America has split into two warring nations, fifteen-year-olds Day, a famous criminal, and prodigy June, the brilliant soldier hired to capture him, discover that they have a common enemy.

Meyer, Marissa

The Lunar Chronicles : **Cinder** or its sequels

Cinder, a gifted mechanic and a cyborg with a mysterious past, is blamed by her stepmother for her stepsister's illness while a deadly plague decimates the population of New Beijing, but when Cinder's life gets intertwined with Prince Kai's, she finds herself at the center of an intergalactic struggle.

Westerfield, Scott

Uglies or its sequels

Tally is faced with a difficult choice when her new friend Shay decides to risk life on the outside rather than submit to the forced operation that turns sixteen-year-old girls into gorgeous beauties, and realizes that there is a whole new side to the pretty world that she does not like.

Historical Fiction

Gratz, Alan

Prisoner B-3087

Based on the life of Jack Gruener, this book relates his story of survival from the Nazi occupation of Krakow, when he was eleven, through a succession of concentration camps, to the final liberation of Dachau.

Hilton, Marilyn

Full Cicada Moon

In 1969 twelve-year-old Mimi and her family move to an all-white town in Vermont, where Mimi's mixed-race background and interest in "boyish" topics like astronomy make her feel like an outsider.

Hiranandani, Veera

The Night Diary

Shy twelve-year-old Nisha, forced to flee her home with her Hindu family during the 1947 partition of India, tries to find her voice and make sense of the world falling apart around her by writing to her deceased Muslim mother in the pages of her diary.

Nielsen, Jennifer

A Night Divided

When the Berlin Wall went up, Gerta, her mother, and her brother Fritz were trapped on the eastern side where they were living, while her father, and her other brother Dominic were in the West--four years later, now twelve, Gerta sees her father on a viewing platform on the western side and realizes he wants her to risk her life trying to tunnel to freedom.

Smith, Sherri L.

Flygirl

During World War II, a light-skinned African American girl "passes" for white in order to join the Women Airforce Service Pilots.

Wolk, Lauren

Echo Mountain

When twelve-year-old Ellie and her family lose their livelihood and move to a mountain cabin in 1934, she quickly learns to be an outdoors woman and, when needed, a healer

Fantasy

Bryant, Kobe and Ivy Claire

Epoca

At the most elite sports academy in the land, where the best child-athletes are sent to hone their skills, Rovi and Pretia arrive, each harboring a secret about themselves. They begin to suspect that something evil is at play at the school.

Farmer, Nancy

Sea of Trolls or its sequels

After Jack becomes apprenticed to a Druid bard, he and his little sister Lucy are captured by Viking Berserkers and taken to the home of King Ivar the Boneless and his half-troll queen, leading Jack to undertake a vital quest.

Johnson, Jaleigh

Mark of the Dragonfly

Since her father's death in a factory in the Dragonfly territories, thirteen-year-old Piper has eked out a living as a scrapper in Merrow Kingdom, but the arrival of a mysterious girl sends her on a dangerous journey to distant lands.

Soontornvat, Christina

A Wish in the Dark

Pong, who was born in Namwon Prison, dreams of the day he will be able to walk among the magical lights. But when Pong escapes from prison, he realizes that the world outside is no fairer than the one behind bars. Worst of all, Pong's prison tattoo marks him as a fugitive who can never be truly free. Nok, the prison warden's perfect daughter, is bent on tracking Pong down and restoring her family's good name.

Thompson, Kate

The New Policeman

Irish teenager JJ Liddy discovers that time is leaking from his world into Tir na nOg, the land of the fairies, and when he attempts to stop the leak he finds out a lot about his family history, the music that he loves, and a crime his great-grandfather may or may not have committed.

Turner, Megan Whalen

The Thief (The Queen's Thief Book 1) or its sequels

Eugenides, the queen's thief, can steal anything—or so he says. When his boasting lands him in prison and the king's magus invites him on a quest to steal a legendary object, he's in no position to refuse.

Mystery

Burt, Jake

Greetings from Witness Protection!

Thirteen-year-old Nikki Demere is an orphan and a kleptomaniac, making her the perfect girl to portray the Trevors' daughter in witness protection. After all, the bad guys are searching for a family with one kid, not two, and adding a streetwise girl who knows a little something about hiding things may be just what the marshals need.

Hiaasen, Carl

Squirm or other Hiaasen book

Billy Dickens discovers that his mysterious father lives in Montana, so this summer Billy will fly across the country, hike a mountain, float a river, dodge a grizzly bear, shoot down a spy drone, and save his own father.

Horowitz, Anthony

Alex Rider or its sequels

They said his uncle Ian died in a car accident. But Alex Rider knows that's a lie, and the bullet holes in the windshield prove it. Yet he never suspected the truth: his uncle was really a spy for Britain's top secret intelligence agency. Now Alex has been recruited to find his uncle's killers.

Johnson, Varian

The Parker Inheritance

Candice Miller is spending the summer in the old house that belonged to her grandmother, who died after being dismissed as city manager for having the city tennis courts dug up looking for buried treasure. She finds herself caught up in the mystery and sets out to find the inheritance, exonerate her grandmother, and expose an injustice.

Klise, James

The Art of Secrets

When some quirky art donated to a school fundraising effort to help a Pakistani American family, victims of a possible hate crime, is revealed to be an unknown work by a famous outsider artist, worth hundreds of thousands of dollars, adults and teenagers alike debate who should get the money and begin to question each other's motivations.

Lee, Trenton Stewart

Mysterious Benedict Society or its sequels

After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules.

General Fiction

Anderson, John David

Posted

A group of middle school students decide to begin leaving sticky notes for each other after cell phones are banned, but soon the kids in school are leaving cutting and cruel notes, and nothing will ever be the same.

Magoon, Kekla

The Season of Styx Malone

Caleb Franklin and his younger brother, Bobby Gene, spend an extraordinary summer with their new, older neighbor, Styx Malone, a foster boy from the city

Ramee, Lisa Moore

A Good Kind of Trouble

Twelve-year-old Shayla is allergic to trouble. All she wants to do is to follow the rules. But in junior high, it's like all the rules have changed. Now she's suddenly questioning who her best friends are and some people at school are saying she's not black enough.

Schrefer, Eliot

Endangered

A girl, having travelled with her mother to an animal sanctuary for bonobos in the Congo, struggles to survive with the animals after revolution breaks out and she and the chimpanzees are forced to flee into the jungle.

Sloan, Holly Goldberg

To Night Owl from Dogfish

Unhappy about being sent to the same summer camp after their fathers start dating, Bett and Avery, eleven, eventually begin scheming to get the couple back together after a break-up. Told entirely through emails.

Woodson, Jacqueline

Before the Ever After

ZJ's friends Ollie, Darry and Daniel help him cope when his father, a beloved professional football player, suffers severe headaches and memory loss that spell the end of his career.

Nonfiction/Memoir

Bolden Tonya

Facing Frederick: The Life of Frederick Douglass

Chronicles the life of Frederick Douglass, discussing his years as a slave, escape to freedom, acclaim as a famous orator, journalist, and presidential advisor, work as an abolitionist, and other related topics.

Kamkwamba, William

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind (Young Reader's Edition)

African teenager William Kamkwamba explored science books in his village library when he was forced to drop out of school, and was able to change his family's life by creating a windmill to pump water for his family's farm.

Kilmeade, Brian and Don Yaeger

George Washington's Secret Six: The Spy Ring That Saved the American Revolution

Portrays the intelligence agents known as George Washington's secret six, who were recruited by George Washington to gather information secretly and thus contributed significantly to the general's successes in the Revolutionary War.

Schnazer, Rosalyn

Witches! The Absolutely True Tale of Disaster in Salem

An illustrated history of the witch hunts that took place in colonial-era Salem, Massachusetts, featuring primary source accounts, and describing the victims, accused witches, corrupt officials, and impact of the events on society.

Sheinkin, Steve

Undefeated: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team

An unflinching look at the U.S. government's violent persecution of Native Americans and the school that was designed to erase Indian cultures. Expertly told by three-time National Book Award finalist Steve Sheinkin, it's the story of a group of young men who came together at that school, the overwhelming obstacles they faced both on and off the field, and their absolute refusal to accept defeat.

Tyson, Neil DeGrasse

Astrophysics for Young People in a Hurry

From the basics of physics to big questions about the nature of space and time, celebrated astrophysicist and science communicator Neil deGrasse Tyson breaks down the mysteries of the cosmos into bite-sized pieces.