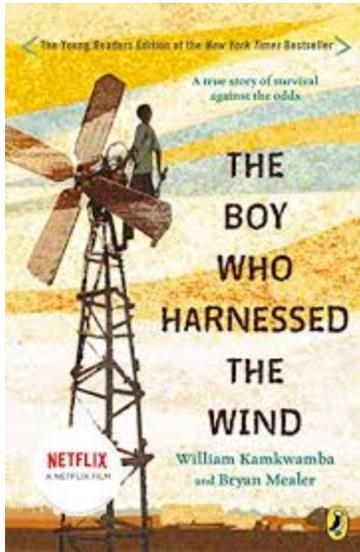


Friends Academy
2021 Middle School Summer Reading List
for students entering
7th Grade

Challenge One: Touchstone Text



Students entering seventh grade are required to read the following: (read at the end of the summer)

Kamkwamba, William *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*, Young Reader's Edition **ISBN-13:** 978-0147510426 Memoir

When a terrible drought struck William Kamkwamba's tiny village in Malawi, his family lost all of the season's crops, leaving them with nothing to eat and nothing to sell. William began to explore science books in his village library, looking for a solution. There, he came up with the idea that would change his family's life forever: he could build a windmill. Made out of scrap metal and old bicycle parts, William's windmill brought electricity to his home and helped his family pump the water they needed to farm the land.

Challenge Two

(read this book FIRST)

Students entering seventh grade are also required to read one book from the following list:

Balliett, Blue. *Hold Fast*.

ISBN-13: 978-0545299893

Mystery

Where is Early's father? He's not the kind of father who would disappear. But he's gone and he's left a whole lot of trouble behind. As danger closes in, Early, her mom, and her brother have to flee their apartment. With nowhere else to go, they are forced to move into a city shelter. Once there, Early starts asking questions and looking for answers. Because her father hasn't disappeared without a trace. There are patterns and rhythms to what's happened, and Early might be the only one who can use them to track him down and make her way out of a very tough place.

Barnhill, Kelly. *The Girl Who Drank the Moon*. ISBN-13: 978-1616207465 Fantasy
2017 Newbery Medal winner

Every year, the people of the Protectorate leave a baby as an offering to the witch who lives in the forest. They hope this sacrifice will keep her from terrorizing their town. But the witch in the Forest, Xan, is kind. Xan rescues the children and delivers them to welcoming families on the other side of the forest, nourishing the babies with starlight on the journey. Xan decides she must raise one girl, whom she calls Luna, as her own. As Luna's thirteenth birthday approaches, her magic begins to emerge – with dangerous consequences. Meanwhile, a young man from the Protectorate is determined to free his people by killing the witch.

Bell, Cece *El Deafo* ISBN-13 9781419712173 Graphic Novel

Starting at a new school is scary, even more so with a giant hearing aid strapped to your chest! At her old school, everyone in Cece's class was deaf. Here she is different. She is sure the kids are staring at the Phonic Ear, the powerful aid that will help her hear her teacher. Too bad it also seems certain to repel potential friends. Then Cece makes a startling discovery. With the Phonic Ear she can hear her teacher not just in the classroom, but anywhere her teacher is in school — in the hallway... in the teacher's lounge... in the bathroom! This is power. Maybe even superpower! Cece is on her way to becoming El Deafo, Listener for All. But the funny thing about being a superhero is that it's just another way of feeling different... and lonely. Can Cece channel her powers into finding the thing she wants most, a true friend?

Blake, Ashley Herring *The Mighty Heart of Sunny St James* ISBN-13: 978-0812550702 Realistic Fiction

When Sunny St. James receives a new heart, she decides to set off on a "New Life Plan": 1) do awesome amazing things she could never do before; 2) find a new best friend; and 3) kiss a boy for the first time. Her "New Life Plan" seems to be racing forward, but when she meets her new best friend Quinn, Sunny questions whether she really wants to kiss a boy at all. With the reemergence of her mother, Sunny begins a journey to becoming the new Sunny St. James.

Card, Orson Scott. *Ender's Game*. ISBN-13: 978-0812550702 Science Fiction

The war with the Buggers has been raging for a hundred years, and the quest for the perfect general has been underway for almost as long. Enter Andrew "Ender" Wiggin, the result of decades of genetic experimentation. Is Ender the general Earth so desperately needs? The only way to find out is to throw him into ever-harsher training at Battle School, to chip away and find the diamond inside, or destroy him utterly. Ender Wiggin is six years old when his training begins. He will grow up fast. But Ender is not the only result of the experiment. His two older siblings, Peter and Valentine, are every bit as unusual as he is, but in very different ways. Among the three of them lie the abilities to remake a world. If, that is, the world survives.

Choldenko, Gennifer *Chasing Secrets* ISBN-13 9780385742542 Historical Fiction
San Francisco, 1900. The Gilded Age. A fantastic time to be alive for lots of people . . . but not thirteen-year-old Lizzie Kennedy, stuck at Miss Barstow's snobby school for girls. Lizzie's secret passion is science, an unsuitable subject for finishing-school girls. Lizzie lives to go on house calls with her physician father. On those visits to his patients, she discovers a hidden dark side of the city—a side that's full of secrets, rats, and rumors of the plague. The newspapers, her powerful uncle, and her beloved papa all deny that the plague has reached San Francisco. So why is the heart of the city under quarantine? Why are angry mobs trying to burn Chinatown to the ground? Why is Noah, the Chinese cook's son, suddenly making Lizzie question everything she has known to be true? Ignoring the rules of race and class, Lizzie and Noah must put the pieces together in a heart-stopping race to save the people they love.

Gibbs, Stuart. *FunJungle*.

Mystery

When Teddy Fitzroy moved into FunJungle, the nation's largest zoo, with his scientist parents, he expected things to be kind of quiet. There'd be the occasional elephant stampede and water balloon fight with the chimpanzees, of course, but when Henry the Hippo dies from not-so-natural causes, Teddy suspects foul play. And that was just the beginning. He begins to realize that the zoo is far more exciting than he thought it was, and soon the mysteries at FunJungle are piling up...

Book 1: *Belly Up* **ISBN-13:** 978-1416987321

Book 2: *Poached* **ISBN-13:** 978-1442467781

Book 3: *Big Game* **ISBN-13:** 978-1481423342

Book 4: *Panda-monium* **ISBN-13:** 978-1481445689

Book 5: *Lion Down* **ISBN-13:** 978-1534424739

Graff, Lisa. *Lost in the Sun*.

ISBN-13: 978-0147508584

Realistic Fiction

Everyone says that middle school is awful, but Trent knows nothing could be worse than the year he had in fifth grade when a freak accident on Cedar Lake left one kid dead, and Trent with a brain full of terrible thoughts he can't get rid of. Trent's pretty positive the entire disaster was his fault, so for him, middle school feels like a fresh start, a chance to prove to everyone that he's not the horrible screw-up they seem to think he is.

Lai, Thanhha *Listen, Slowly*

ISBN-13: 978-0062229199

Realistic Fiction

A California girl born and raised, Mai can't wait to spend her vacation at the beach. Instead, she has to travel to Vietnam with her grandmother, who is going back to find out what really happened to her husband during the Vietnam War. Mai's parents think this trip will be a great opportunity for their out-of-touch daughter to learn more about her culture. But to Mai, those are their roots, not her own. Vietnam is hot, smelly, and the last place she wants to be. Besides barely speaking the language, she doesn't know the geography, the local customs, or even her distant relatives. To survive her trip, Mai must find a balance between her two completely different worlds.

