



Middle School Independent Reading List

2026-2027

Grade 6:

Title	Author	Lexile	Notes
<i>The Bronze Bow</i>	Elizabeth George Speare	760L	Christian historical fiction
<i>Island of the Blue Dolphins</i>	Scott O'Dell	1000L	Survival and character
<i>Understood Betsy</i>	Dorothy Canfield Fisher	980L	Growth and family values
<i>The Call of the Wild</i>	Jack London	1120L	Nature and Survival
<i>Treasures of the Snow</i>	Patricia St. John	960L	Forgiveness and redemption
<i>Where the Red Fern Grows</i>	Wilson Rawls	700L	Friendship and loss
<i>Carry On, Mr. Bowditch</i>	Jean Lee Latham	570L	Perseverance and early America
<i>The Door in the Wall</i>	Marguerite de Angeli	990L	Medieval setting, inner strength
<i>Miracles on Maple Hill</i>	Virginia Sorensen	750L	Healing and faith
<i>Joni: An Unforgettable Story</i>	Joni Eareckson Tada	870L	Christian biography
<i>Big Red</i>	Jim Kjelgaard	890L	Loyalty and character
<i>Freedom Train</i>	Dorothy Sterling	900L	Harriet Tubman's life
<i>Twenty and Ten</i>	Claire Huchet Bishop	750L	Courage during WWII
<i>Gladys Aylward</i>	Janet Bengé	970L	Missionary biography



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Grade 7:

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<i>The Witch of Blackbird Pond</i>	Elizabeth George Speare	850L	Puritan New England
<i>A Little Princess</i>	Frances Hodgson Burnett	950L	Resilience and grace
<i>A Wrinkle in Time</i>	Madeleine L'Engle	740L	Faith, science, good vs evil
<i>Johnny Tremain</i>	Esther Forbes	840L	Courage in the American Revolution
<i>The False Prince</i>	Jennifer A. Nielsen	720L	Courage, loyalty, and identity
<i>A Hero's Guide to Saving Your Kingdom</i>	Christopher Healy	750L	Adventure discovering heroism
<i>Ella Enchanted</i>	Gail Carson Levine	770L	Courage and self-determination
<i>The Goose Girl</i>	Shannon Hale	830L	Resilience and friendship
<i>The Bletchley Riddle</i>	John O. Beahm	900L	WWII mystery
<i>Soldier's Heart</i>	Gary Paulsen	910L	Civil War faith story
Any Alan Gratz Novel	Alan Gratz	800+L	Historical fiction
Any Heroes of the Faith: Then & Now	Janet & Geoff Benge	800+L	Biographies of Christian figures
<i>The Wingfeather Saga (Book 1)</i>	Andrew Peterson	810L	Christian whimsical fantasy
<i>The Jungle Book</i>	Rudyard Kipling	1160L	Belonging and morality
<i>The Singing Tree</i>	Kate Seredy	840L	WWI from Christian values
<i>The Wanderings of the Odysseus</i>	Rosemary Sutcliff	1070L	Retelling of Homer's epic
<i>Tuck Everlasting</i>	Natalie Babbitt	770L	Immortality and the value of life
<i>Anne of Green Gables</i>	L.M. Montgomery	990L	Family, friendship, and growth
<i>Restart</i>	Gordon Korman	730L	Rediscovery of self
<i>Loser</i>	Jerry Spinelli	650L	Humor, uniqueness, and kindness
<i>The White Mountains</i>	John Christopher	840L	Sci-fi dystopian with adventure
<i>Bud, Not Buddy</i>	Christopher Paul Curtis	780L	Great Depression-era adventure
<i>Within Reach: My Everest Story</i>	Jack Galvin	970L	Adventure and survival on Mt. Everest



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<i>Anne of Green Gables</i>	L.M. Montgomery	970L	Faith and joy in God's creation
<i>Treasure Island</i>	Robert Louis Stevenson	1070L	Adventure with morality
<i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i>	Mark Twain	950L	Friendship, honesty, and morality
<i>20,000 Leagues Under the Sea</i>	Jules Verne	1040L	Scientific voyage with justice
<i>The Call of the Wild</i>	Jack London	1110L	Instinct, endurance, and freedom
<i>Little Women</i>	Louisa May Alcott	1300L	Faith and womanhood
<i>Watership Down</i>	Richard Adams	880L	Allegory and community
<i>The Pilot</i>	R.C. Sproul	850L	Allegory exploring faith and truth
<i>Unbroken (Young Reader's edition)</i>	Laura Hillenbrand	850L	WWII story of endurance and faith
<i>Never Quit</i>	Michael J. Haskew	950L	Perserverance and leadership
<i>Into the Clouds</i>	Tod Olson	850L	Survival story of climbers on Everest
<i>The Light Princess</i>	George MacDonald	900L	Allegorical fairy tale
<i>Do Hard Things</i>	Alex & Brett Harris	870L	Rising above expectations
<i>The Diary of a Young Girl</i>	Anne Frank	1080L	Human dignity and injustice
<i>Love Does (for Kids)</i>	Bob Goff & Lindsey Goff Vidulich	760L	Love and joy through faith
<i>The Chosen</i>	Chaim Potok	970L	Faith and identity
<i>Pilgrim's Progress</i>	John Bunyan	1100L	Christian allegory
<i>Salt to the Sea</i>	Ruta Sepetys	850L	WWII teens story of courage
<i>Jungle Pilot</i>	Russell T. Hitt	970L	Missionary aviation biography
<i>The Red Badge of Courage</i>	Stephen Crane	890L	Civil War soldier story



High School Independent Reading List

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Grade 9:

Title	Author	Lexile	Notes
<i>The Pearl</i>	John Steinbeck	1010L	Pearl diver's life transformed
<i>Of Mice and Men</i>	John Steinbeck	1110L	Great Depression workers story
<i>Animal Farm</i>	George Orwell	1170L	Political allegory
<i>Black Beauty</i>	Anna Sewell	1110L	Horse recounts its life with owners
<i>All the Light We Cannot See</i>	Anthony Doerr	880L	WWII story of two children
<i>Under the Overpass</i>	Mike Yankoski	880L	Stories from five American cities
<i>Between Shades of Grey</i>	Ruta Sepetys	1050L	Girl in a Siberian labor camp
<i>I Still Believe</i>	Jeremy Camp	850L	Memoir of Christian singer
<i>The Time Machine</i>	H.G. Wells	1050L	Scientist invents a time machine
<i>The Old Man and the Sea</i>	Ernest Hemingway	940L	Man vs. nature
<i>Fahrenheit 541</i>	Ray Bradbury	1070L	Future American society
<i>The Maze Runner</i>	James Dashner	1050L	Deadly maze mystery
<i>The War of the Worlds</i>	H.G. Wells	1160L	Martian Earth invasion
<i>Enders Game</i>	Orson Scott Card	800L	Defend Earth against martian invasion
<i>Out of the Silent Planet</i>	C.S. Lewis	1020L	Escaping martian kidnapping
<i>The Stranger in the Lifeboat</i>	Mitch Albom	890L	Shipwreck survivors
<i>Dune</i>	Frank Herbert	880L	Star Wars-like story of survival
<i>A Tale of Two Cities</i>	Charles Dickens	1130L	Sacrifice, resurrection, justice
<i>Eragon</i>	Christopher Paolini	990L	Dragons
<i>Tress of the Emerald Sea</i>	Brandon Sanderson	950L	Funny pirate adventure
<i>Journey to the Center of the Earth</i>	Jules Verne	1000L	Volcanic passage to the Earth's core
<i>The Princess Bride</i>	William Goldman	870L	Humorous fantasy story
<i>Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep</i>	Philip K. Dick	950L	Post-apocalyptic San Francisco



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Grade 10:

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<i>Jane Eyre</i>	Charlotte Bronte	1150L	Life of an orphan
<i>Emma</i>	Jane Austen	1150L	Clever girl meddles with disastrous results
<i>1984</i>	George Orwell	1090L	Control and freedom
<i>Pride and Prejudice</i>	Jane Austen	1100L	British era story
<i>The Book Thief</i>	Markus Zusak	1100L	Story about cruelty and kindness
<i>Through the Gates of Splendor</i>	Elisabeth Elliot	1050L	Missionary story in Ecuador
<i>Seabiscuit</i>	Laura Hilienbrand	990L	Story of a racehorse, Seabiscuit
<i>The Boys in the Boat</i>	Daniel James Brown	1260L	College rowing crew in the Olympics
<i>The Martian</i>	Andy Weir	850L	Astronaut stranded alone on Mars
<i>Project Hail Mary</i>	Andy Weir	1110L	Mystery to save Earth from extinction
<i>Sunrise on the Reaping</i>	Suzzanne Collins	900L	Prequel to Hunger Games
<i>Jurassic Park</i>	Michael Crichton	800L	Thriller about genetically cloned dinosaurs
<i>The Once and Future King</i>	T.H White	1150L	Retelling of the story of King Aurther
<i>Mistborn</i>	Brandon Sanderson	1100L	A heist set in a dystopian world
<i>Life of Pi</i>	Yann Martel	830L	Survival of a shipwreck
<i>Frankenstein</i>	Mary Shelley	1170L	The danger of playing God
<i>The Screwtape Letters</i>	C.S. Lewis	1170	Temptation and corruption with faith
<i>The Shack</i>	William Paul Young	640L	Confront grief and doubts with God's love
<i>The Song That Moves the Sun</i>	Anna Bright	1000L	Secret world of magic and mystery
<i>thorn</i>	Intisar Khanani	950L	Retelling of a fairytale
<i>The Crucible</i>	Arthur Miller	1320L	Guilt, confession, redemption
<i>Brave New World</i>	Aldous Huxley	870L	Futuristic world
<i>The Nightingale</i>	Kristin Hannah	740L	Survival in WWII Germany
<i>The Stranger</i>	Albert Camus	880L	Life before and after a disastrous choice
<i>Rime of the Ancient Mariner</i>	Samuel Taylor Coleridge	1280L	Supernatural journey on the ocean
<i>Wuthering Heights</i>	Emily Bronte	1080L	Forbidden romance