

CINCINNATI PUBLIC SCHOOLS -- APPROVED READING LIST (revised 2003)

GRADE 6

*The following supplemental titles are eligible for use in class instruction at this grade level. Please note that, in order to promote differentiated instruction in the classroom, there are titles included both below grade level and above grade level. If you find that some of your students have not yet read a book listed at a lower grade level and you would like to use it with them in class, you may pull from the lower grade level lists. Please **DO NOT** utilize any of these titles for instruction at a higher grade level.*

<i>TITLE</i>	<i>AUTHOR</i>	<i>BRIEF SUMMARY (Summaries from Book Source catalogue)</i>	<i>POTENTIAL PROBLEMS</i>	<i>READING LEVEL</i>	<i>INTEREST LEVEL</i>	<i>FICTION NONFICTION</i>
Africa Is Not A Country	Knight, Margy Burns and Melnicove, Mark	This book is a cross-cultural look at the continent of Africa as a diverse continent made up of many countries with their own customs.		5	3-8	Nonfiction
Anthony Burns	Hamilton, Virginia	A biography of the slave who escaped to Boston in 1854, was arrested at the instigation of his owner, and whose trial caused a furor.		7.2	7-12	Nonfiction
Black Beauty	Sewell, Anna	A horse in nineteenth-century England recounts his experience with both good and bad masters.		6	4-10	Fiction
The Call Of The Wild	London, Jack	A young dog abused by men and his hungry rivals on a Klondike dog team escapes to join a wolf pack.		7	5-10	Fiction
Canyons	Paulsen, Gary	Finding a skull on a camping trip in the canyons outside El Paso, Texas, Brennan becomes involved with the fate of a young Apache Indian who lived in the late 1800's.		6.2	6-12	Fiction
The Cay	Taylor, Theodore	After the freighter that Phillip is traveling on is torpedoed by Germans, he must rely on an old West Indian man in order to survive.		5.2	4-7	Fiction

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Crash	Spinelli, Jerry	Seventh-grader John “Crash” Coogan has always been comfortable with his tough, aggressive behavior until his relationship with an unusual Quaker boy and his grandfather’s stroke make him consider the meaning of friendship and the importance of family.		4.2	5-9	Fiction
Dogsong (Digest Edition)	Paulsen, Gary	A fourteen-year-old Eskimo boy who feels assailed by the modernity of his life takes 1,400-mile journey by dog sled across ice, tundra, and mountains seeking his own “song” of himself.		5.9	5-9	Fiction
Double Dutch	Draper, Sharon M.	Three eighth-grade friends preparing for the International Double Dutch Championship jump rope competition in their hometown of Cincinnati, Ohio, cope with Randy’s missing father, Delia’s inability to read, and Yo Yo’s encounters with the class bullies.		6	6-10	Fiction
Dragonwings	Yep, Laurence	In the early twentieth century, a young Chinese boy joins his father in San Francisco and helps him realize his dream of making a flying machine.		6.6	5-9	Fiction
Eyewitness Series	Various Authors	Enthralling subjects and stunning photographs make this a great nonfiction series.		5	4-8	Nonfiction
The Fighting Ground	Avi	Thirteen-year-old Jonathan goes off to fight in the Revolutionary War and discovers the real war is being fought within himself		5.5	4-8	Fiction
The Forgotten Heroes	Cox, Clinton	The fascinating true story of former slaves who were recruited to open up the West at the expense of the Native Americans who already lived there.		4.5	3-8	Nonfiction

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Gandhi, Peaceful Warrior	Bains, Rae	Biography of the nonviolent leader.		5	3-8	Nonfiction
Gathering Blue	Lowry, Lois	Lame and suddenly orphaned, Kira is mysteriously removed from her squalid village to live in the palatial Council Edifice where she is expected to use her gifts as a weaver.		5	5-9	Fiction
The Giver	Lowry, Lois	Jonas becomes the receiver of memories shared by only one other in his community and discovers the terrible truth about the society in which he lives.		6.5	5-9	Fiction
Goddesses, Heroes And Shamans	Casterton, Peter	A guide to the great myths and legends of the ancient world explains how certain myths developed, explores common themes shared by different regions, and includes the more diverse cultures of Siberia, India, and the Amazon.		5	3-8	Nonfiction
The Golden Goblet	McGraw, Eloise	A young Egyptian boy struggles to reveal a hideous crime and reshape his own destiny.		6	5-9	Fiction
The Greatest: Muhammad Ali	Myers, Walter Dean	This biography is about Mohammed Ali, considered by many sportswriters to be the "Athlete of the Century."		5	5-10	Nonfiction
The Great Gilly Hopkins	Paterson, Katherine	Finding herself in the latest and most intolerable of a string of foster homes, an eleven-year-old prides herself on her cleverness to provoke the adults around her.		6.1	5-9	Fiction
Guinness Book Of World Records	Young, Mark	Reference				Nonfiction
Hatchet	Paulsen, Gary	After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the wilderness learning to survive.		7	5-9	Fiction

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Herstory: Women Who Changed The World	Ashby, Ruth	A collection of short biographies offers sketches of the lives and accomplishments of 150 women.		6	6-12	Nonfiction
Holes	Sachar, Louis	Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.		6	5-9	Fiction
Hoops	Myers, Walter Dean	Seventeen-year-old Lonnie Jackson sees the city-wide basketball Tournament of Champions as a possible escape from Harlem, but fears the pressures that have sidelined his coach.		4.9	6-12	Fiction
Hope Was There	Bauer, Joan	When sixteen-year-old Hope and the aunt who has raised her move from Brooklyn to Mulhoney, Wisconsin, to work as a waitress and cook in a diner, they become involved in a political campaign to oust the town's corrupt mayor		6	6-9	Fiction
I Am The Darker Brother	Adoff, Arnond	Verse of African American poets of the twentieth century.		6	7-12	Nonfiction
I, Juan De Pareja	De Trevino, Elizabeth Borton	Although Juan is a slave, a friendship develops between him and his benevolent master, the great Spanish artist Velazquez, who secretly teaches him to paint.		6.1	4-8	Fiction
The Incredible Journey	Burnford, Sheila	A Siamese cat, an old Bull Terrier, and a young Labrador Retriever travel 250 miles to find their family		8.5	5-9	Fiction
Island Of The Blue Dolphins	O'Dell, Scott	A young Indian girl learns the art of survival when she is stranded on an isolated Pacific island.		6.4	5-9	Fiction

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Jacob Have I Loved (Digest Edition)	Paterson, Katherine	Feeling deprived all her life of schooling, friends, mother, and even her name by her twin sister, Louise finally begins to find her identity.		8.3	5-9	Fiction
Julie Of The Wolves	George, Jean Craighead	While running away from home and an unwanted marriage, a thirteen-year-old Eskimo girl becomes lost on the North Slope of Alaska and is befriended by a wolf pack.		6.4	5-9	Fiction
Langston Hughes	Melzer, Milton	Biography of the poet.		6	6-12	Nonfiction
Lost Star	Luaber, Patricia	Traces the life of the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean and mysteriously disappeared in 1937 while attempting to fly around the world.		4	4-8	Nonfiction
The Man Who Was Poe	Avi	In 1848, Edgar Allan Poe reluctantly investigates the problems of eleven-year-old Edmund, whose family has mysteriously disappeared and whose story suggests a new Poe tale with a ghastly final twist.		6.5	6-12	Fiction
M.C. Higgins, The Great	Hamilton, Virginia	Fifteen-year-old M.C. is torn between trying to get his family away and fighting for the home they love.		5.7	4-8	Fiction
Missing May	Rylant, Cynthia	After the death of the beloved aunt who has raised her, twelve-year-old Summer and her uncle Ob leave their West Virginia trailer in search of the strength to go on living.		7	5-9	Fiction

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My Louisiana Sky	Holt, Kimberly Willis	Growing up in Louisiana in the 1950's, twelve-year-old Tiger Ann struggles with her feelings about her stern but loving grandmother, her mentally slow parents, and her good friend and neighbor Jesse.		4.7	4-8	Fiction
Number The Stars	Lowry, Lois	In 1943 during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.		5	4-7	Fiction
Red Scarf Girl	Jiang, Ji-Li	The story of Ji-Li-Jiang, a twelve-year-old girl growing up in China in 1966, the year that Chairman Mao launched the Cultural Revolution and the changes it brought to her and her family.		6	5-12	Fiction
Roll Of Thunder, Hear My Cry	Taylor, Mildred D.	Young Cassie Logan endures humiliation and witnesses the racism of the KKK as they embark on a cross burning rampage before she fully understands the importance her family attributes to having land of their own.		7.1	5-9	Fiction
The Secret Garden	Burnett, Frances Hodgson	Ten-year-old Mary comes to live in a lonely house on the Yorkshire moors and discovers an invalid cousin and the mysteries of a locked garden.		6	4+	
A Separate Battle	Chang, Ina	Recounts the stories of women in both the North and South who worked as nurses, spies, and volunteers.		6	5-12	Nonfiction
Sign of the Beaver	Speare, Elizabeth	18 th Century Maine boy left alone to survive in the wilderness and protect his family's homestead is taught survival skills by Indians.		5.7	5-9	Fiction

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True Confessions Of Charlotte Doyle	Avi	Accused and convicted of murder, thirteen-year-old Charlotte Doyle decides to reveal what really happened aboard the <i>Seahawk</i> .		7.2	6-12	Fiction
Tuck Everlasting	Babbitt, Natalie	The Tuck family is confronted with an agonizing situation when they discover that a ten-year-old girl and a malicious stranger now share their secret about a spring whose water prevents one from ever growing any older.		6.3	5-9	Fiction
Walk Two Moons	Creech, Sharon	After her mother leaves home suddenly, thirteen-year-old Sal and her grandparents take a car trip retracing her mother's route.		5.4	5-9	Fiction
The Watsons Go To Birmingham 1963	Curtis, Christopher Paul	The ordinary interactions and everyday routines of the Watsons, an African-American family living in Flint, Michigan, are drastically changed after they go to visit Grandma in Alabama in the summer of 1963.		6.1	5-8	Fiction
When Zachary Beaver Came To Town	Holt, Kimberly Willis	During the summer of 1971 in a small Texas town, thirteen-year-old Toby and his best friend Cal meet the star of a sideshow act, 600-pound Zachary, the fattest boy in the world.		5.4	5-9	Fiction
Words by Heart	Sebestyen, Ouida	A young black girl's confrontation with fear and hatred illuminates the triumph of the human spirit over prejudice.		5	5-9	Fiction