

## **Camp Read-A-Lot Grades 6-8 Reading List**

Reading Requirements:

1. Titles on the Core List
2. Find one additional book to read, post your written review and booktalk at Camp. This title should meet the following criteria:
  - a. You have not read it before this summer.
  - b. Original copyright is no older than 2008.
  - c. It can be used in the classroom or you would recommend it to students for free reading.
  - d. Try to avoid highly popular and that are likely known to the majority of campers.

### **Fiction**

**Absolutely Positively Not** by David LaRochelle (Scholastic, 2005), 9780439591096.

Steven's a 16-year-old boy with two obsessions: sex and getting his driving license. The problem is, Steven's not thinking girls when he's thinking sex. Could he be -- don't say it -- gay?

**Anything But Typical** by Nora Raleigh Baskin (Simon & Schuster, 2009), 9781416963783.

Jason Blake is an autistic 12-year-old living in a neurotypical world. Most days it's just a matter of time before something goes wrong. When Jason corresponds with Rebecca online he thinks she could be his first real friend. But as desperate as Jason is to meet her, he's terrified that if they do meet, Rebecca will only see his autism and not who Jason really is.

**Hunger Games** by Suzanne Collins (Scholastic, 2008), 9780439023481.

Set in an easy-to-imagine, cruel future society that is divided by wealth and obsessed with media and celebrity. The Hunger Games are mandatory watching for the citizens of Panem. The competition pits 12 teams of a teen girl and boy from each of the 12 districts against each other in a battle to the death.

**I am a Genius of Unspeakable Evil and I want to be Your Class President** by

Josh Lieb (Penguin, 2009), 9781595142405.

Twelve-year-old Oliver Watson's got the IQ of a grilled cheese sandwich. Or so everyone in Omaha thinks. In reality, Oliver's a mad evil genius on his way to world domination, and he's used his great brain to make himself the third-richest person on earth! Then Oliver's father—and archnemesis—makes a crack about the upcoming middle school election, and Oliver takes it as a personal challenge.

**Night Wings** by Joseph Bruchac (HarperCollins, 2009), 9780061123184).

Paul's nightmare visions of a predatory winged creature are becoming all too real. He has depended on his Abenaki ancestors' stories to guide his footsteps, but no monster tale could have prepared him for what he is about to encounter, alone, at the top of one of the most dangerous mountains in the world.

**Riot** by Walter Dean Myers (Egmont USA, 2009), 9781606840009.

During a long hot July in 1863, the worst race riots the United States has ever seen erupt in New York City. The police cannot hold out against the rioters, and finally, battle-hardened soldiers are ordered back from the fields of Gettysburg to put down the insurrection, which they do—brutally.

### **Nonfiction**

**Are You Afraid Yet?: The Science Behind Scary Stuff** by Stephen James O'Meara

(Kids Can Press, 2009), 9781554532940.

An illustrated investigation into all the stuff that's frightened us out of our wits for centuries and the gruesome, gory, gut-churning science behind it.

**I Can't Keep My Own Secrets: Six-Word Memoirs** by Teens Famous and Obscure

edited by Larry Smith (HarperCollins, 2009), 9780061726842.

Almost 800 authors, ranging in age from 13 to 19, contributed to this thought-provoking collection of individual memoirs. The full range of teen emotion are explored in very few words, "Mom just

revoked my creative license"; "Grandma is dying while I'm out shopping"; "In the nest, twigs are sharp."

**Our Living Earth: A Story of people, Ecology and Preservation** by Yann

Arthus-Bertrand (Abrams, 2008), 9780810971325.

The scientific and technical advances of the last century have had major effects on the earth. How can humans, in today's world, continue to respect nature and avoid doing irreparable damage to the planet? From pollution to CO2 emissions and endangered plants, to disappearing languages and glaciers, each theme is presented in detail.

**Written in Bone: Buried Lives of Jamestown and Colonial Maryland** by Sally M.

Walker (Lerner Publishing Grp, 2009), 9780822571353.

Just as forensic scientists use their knowledge of human remains to help solve crimes, they use similar skills to solve the mysteries of the long-ago past. The book will introduce you to what scientists believe are the lives of a teenage boy, a ship's captain, an indentured servant, a colonial official and his family, and an enslaved African girl. All are reaching beyond the grave to tell us their stories, which are written in bone.