

CATONSVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING LIST 2019



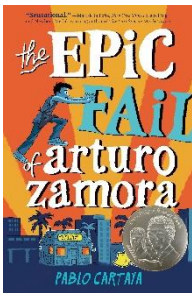
Amina's Voice by Khan, Hena

Subject Listings:
Realistic Fiction
Muslims - Fiction
Social Issues - Fiction
Friendship - Fiction

Summary:

A Pakistani-American Muslim girl struggles to stay true to her family's vibrant culture while simultaneously blending in at school after tragedy strikes her community.

Reading Level: 4.6



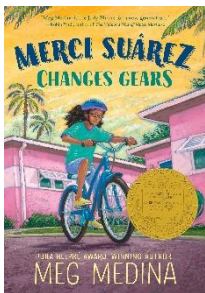
The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora by Cartaya, Pablo

Subject Listings:
Realistic Fiction
Community Life - Fiction
Latinos - Fiction
Family Life - Fiction
Pura Belpre Honor Book

Summary:

Save the restaurant. Save the town. Get the girl. Make Abuela proud. Can thirteen-year-old Arturo Zamora do it all or is he in for a BIG, EPIC FAIL?

Reading Level: 5.7



Merci Suarez Changes Gears by Medina, Meg

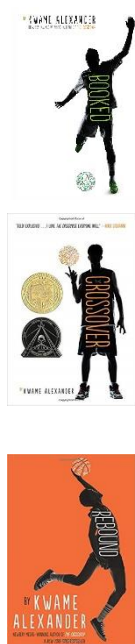
Subject Listings:
Realistic Fiction
Middle School - Fiction
Hispanic American - Fiction
Newbery Award winner

Summary:

Merci Suárez knew that sixth grade would be different, but she had no idea just how different. For starters, Merci has never been like the other kids at her private school in Florida, because she and her older brother, Roli, are scholarship students. Things aren't going well at home, either: Merci's grandfather and most trusted ally, Lolo, has been acting strangely lately. No one in her family will tell Merci what's going on, so she's left to her own worries, while also feeling all on her own at school.

Reading Level: 6.3

CATONSVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING LIST 2019



Booked Crossover Rebound

by Alexander, Kwame

Subject Listings:

Sports
African American - Fiction
Family Life - Fiction
Novels in Verse
Crossover - Newbery Award

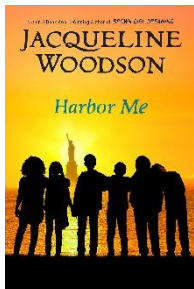
Summary:

Booked: Twelve-year-old Nick loves soccer and hates books, but soon learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams.

Rebound: In the summer of 1988, twelve-year-old Chuck Bell is sent to stay with his grandparents, where he discovers jazz and basketball and learns more about his family's past.

Crossover: Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health.

Reading Level: 5



Harbor Me

by Woodson, Jacqueline

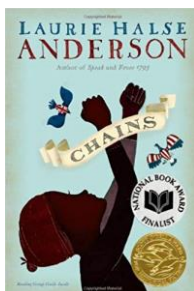
Subject Listings:

Realistic Fiction
Friendship - Fiction
Family Life - Fiction
African American - Fiction
NAACP Image Award for
Outstanding Literary Work

Summary:

When six students are chosen to participate in a weekly talk with no adults allowed, they discover that when they're together, it's safe to share the hopes and fears they have to hide from the rest of the world

Reading Level: 5.2



Chains

by Anderson, Laurie Halse

Subject Listings:

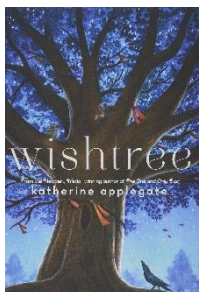
Historical Fiction
US History - Fiction
Slavery - Fiction
Spy Stories
ALA Notable Children's Book

Summary:

After being sold to a cruel couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War.

Reading Level: 6.3

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Wishtree

by Applegate, Katherine

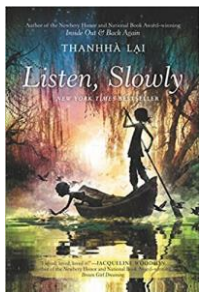
Subject Listings:

Fantasy
Friendship - Fiction
Toleration - Fiction
MD Black Eyed Susan winner

Summary:

An old red oak tree tells how he and his crow friend, Bongo, help their human neighbors get along after a threat against an immigrant family is carved into the tree's trunk.

Reading Level: 4.6



Listen, Slowly

by Lai, Thanhha

Subject Listings:

Realistic Fiction
Family Life - Fiction
Vietnam Fiction
Asian American fiction
2011 National Book Award

Summary:

Twelve-year-old Mai is sick of being perfect and her straight A's and extracurricular activities have gotten her a much unwanted trip to Vietnam with her family so she can learn more about her roots. But as time goes on, Mai grows closer to her family and she begins to understand her culture.

Reading Level: 5.1



Rain Reign

by Martin, Ann M.

Subject Listings:

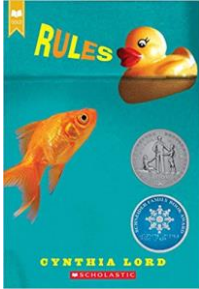
Realistic Fiction
Asperger's Syndrome - Fiction
Family - fiction
ALA Schneider Family Book Award

Summary:

Rose Howard is obsessed with homonyms, which is why she named her stray dog Rain, a name with two homonyms, which makes the name very special in Rose's mind. After recovering Rain from being lost in a severe thunderstorm, she discovers Rain has an implanted microchip and must face losing the dog once again.

Reading Level: 3.5

CATONSVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING LIST 2019



Rules

by Lord, Cynthia

Subject Listings:

Realistic Fiction

Autism - Fiction

Siblings - Fiction

Newbery Award

Dorothy Canfield Fisher

Children's Book Award

Summary:

Frustrated at life with an autistic brother, twelve-year-old Catherine longs for a normal existence but her world is further complicated by a friendship with an young paraplegic.

Reading Level: 5.1



Stargirl

by Spinelli, Jerry

Subject Listings:

Realistic Fiction

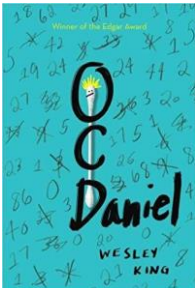
School stories

Individuality - Fiction

Summary:

Stargirl, a teen who animates quiet Mica High with her colorful personality, suddenly finds herself shunned for her refusal to conform.

Reading Level: 4.1



OCDaniel

by King, Wesley

Subject Listings:

Action & Adventure Fiction

Obsessive-compulsive
disorder - Fiction

Mental Illness - Fiction

Edgar Award for Best

Juvenile Literature

Summary:

A thirteen-year-old boy's life revolves around hiding his obsessive compulsive disorder until a girl at school, who is unkindly nicknamed Psycho Sara, notices him for the first time and he gets a mysterious note that changes everything.

Reading Level: 4.3

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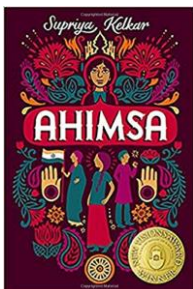
The Other Boy by Hennessey, MG

Subject Listings:
Realistic Fiction
LGBTQIA
Family Fiction

Summary:

Twelve-year-old Shane Woods is just a regular boy. He loves pitching for his baseball team, working on his graphic novel, and hanging out with his best friend, Josh. But Shane is keeping something private, something that might make a difference to his friends and teammates, to Josh, and his crush, Madeline. And when a classmate threatens to reveal his secret, Shane's whole world comes crashing down.

Reading Level: 4.4



Ahimsa by Keikar, Supriya

Subject Listings:
Historical Fiction
India History - Fiction
Passive resistance - Fiction
New Visions Award Winner

Summary:

In 1942, when Mahatma Gandhi asks Indians to give one family member to the freedom movement, ten-year-old Anjali is devastated to think of her father risking his life for the freedom struggle. But it turns out he isn't the one joining. Anjali's mother is.

Reading Level: 5.3



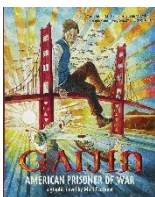
New Kid **Gaijin: American Prisoner of War A Game for Swallows** by New Kid: Craft, Jerry Gaijin: Faulkner, Matt Game: Abirached, Zeina

Subject Listings:
Graphic Novels
Multicultural
Historical

Game for Swallows - ALA
Notable Children's Book
Award

Summary:

New Kid: Seventh grader Jordan Banks loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade. As he makes the daily trip from his Washington Heights apartment to the upscale Riverdale Academy Day School, Jordan soon finds himself torn between two worlds--and not really fitting into either one. Can Jordan learn to navigate



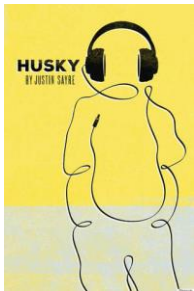
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his new school culture while keeping his friends and staying true to himself?
Gaijin: After the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, a thirteen-year-old California boy who is half Japanese is sent to an internment camp. Story based on the history of the author's great-aunt.
Game for Swallows: Zeina Abirached, a woman born into a Lebanese Christian family in 1981 during the civil war in Lebanon, reflects on her childhood, the disappearance of her parents, and the help and protection she received from neighbors.

Reading Level: 3.6

Summary:



Husky

by Sayre, Justin

Subject Listings:

Realistic Fiction

Coming of Age

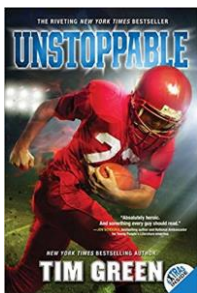
Humor

Self - esteem/weight

Twelve-year-old Davis lives in an old brownstone with his mother and grandmother in Brooklyn. He loves people-watching in Prospect Park, visiting his mom in the bakery she owns, and listening to the biggest operas he can find as he walks everywhere. But Davis is having a difficult summer. He worries people don't see him as anything other than "husky." His best girlfriends are starting to hang out with mean girls and popular boys. Davis is equally concerned about the distance forming between him and his single mother as she begins dating again, and about his changing relationship with his amusingly loud Irish grandmother, Nanny.

Reading Level: 5.1

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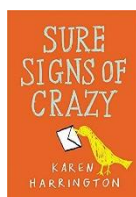
Unstoppable by Green, Tim

Subject Listings:
Sports
Foster children - fiction
Father-son Relationship -
Fiction

Summary:

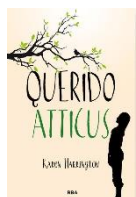
Foster child Harrison, who dreams of playing in the NFL, is happy when he is put into a home with loving parents and a foster father who is a football coach, but, after becoming the star running back and suffering an injury, a cancer diagnosis threatens to ruin his future.

Reading Level: 4.4



Sure Signs of Crazy or **Querido Atticus** (Spanish text version) by Harrington, Karen

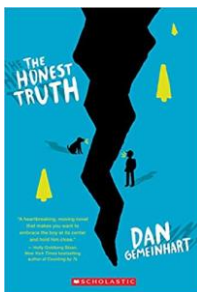
Subject Listings:
Realistic Fiction
Coming of Age
Mental Health
Family Problems - fiction



Summary:

Twelve-year-old Sarah writes letters to her hero, To Kill a Mockingbird's Atticus Finch, for help understanding her mentally ill mother, her first real crush, and life in her small Texas town, all in the course of one momentous summer.

Reading Level: 4.8



The Honest Truth by Gemeinhart, Dan

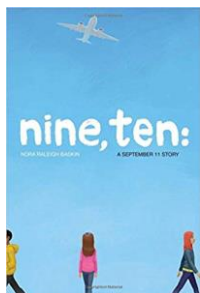
Subject Listings:
Realistic Fiction
Diseases & Illnesses
Death & Dying

Summary:

A boy named Mark, tired of being sick with cancer, conceives a plan to climb Mount Rainier, and runs away from home with his dog, Beau--but with over two hundred miles between him and his goal, and only anger at his situation to drive him on, nothing will be easy, and only his best friend, Jessie, suspects where he is heading.

Reading Level: 4

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Nine, Ten: A September 11 Story

by Raleigh Baskin, Nora

Subject Listings:

Historical Fiction

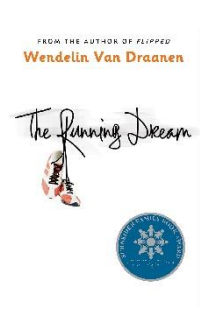
September 11th

Prejudice & Racism Fiction

Summary:

Relates how the lives of four children living in different parts of the country intersect and are affected by the events of September 11, 2001.

Reading Level: 4.8



The Running Dream

by Van Draanen, Wendelin

Subject Listings:

Realistic Fiction

Disabilities

Perseverance

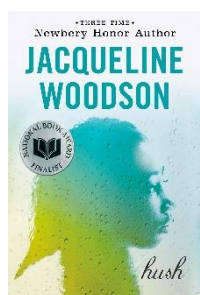
Courage

Summary:

When a school bus accident leaves sixteen-year-old Jessica an amputee, she returns to school with a prosthetic limb and her track team finds a wonderful way to help her rekindle her dream of running again.

Reading Level: YA

7-10



Hush

by Woodson, Jacqueline

Subject Listings:

Realistic Fiction

African Americans - Fiction

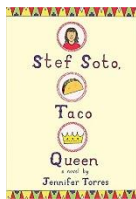
Witness Protection - Fiction

Summary:

Twelve-year-old Toswiah finds her life changed when her family enters the witness protection program.

Reading Level: 5.5

CATONSVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING LIST 2019



Stef Soto, Taco Queen **Stef Soto, la Reina del Taco**

by Torres, Jennifer

Subject Listings:

Realistic Fiction
Mexican Americans - Fiction
Family life - fiction
Friendship - fiction

Summary:

Mexican-American Stef Soto is hoping to break free from her overprotective parents and embarrassing reputation from her family's taco truck business, but she soon learns that family, friendship, and the taco truck are important and wonderful parts of her life.

Reading Level: 5.8



Waiting for Normal

by Conner, Leslie

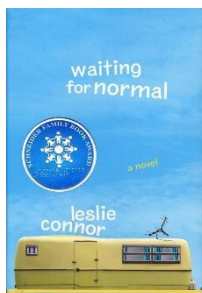
Subject Listings:

Realistic Fiction
Friendship - Fiction
Family Life - Fiction
Self-reliance - Fiction

Summary:

Twelve-year-old Addie tries to cope with her mother's erratic behavior and being separated from her beloved stepfather and half-sisters when she and her mother go to live in a small trailer by the railroad tracks on the outskirts of Schenectady, New York

Reading Level: 5.8



**Schneider Family Book Award*

Mockingbird

by Erskine, Kathryn

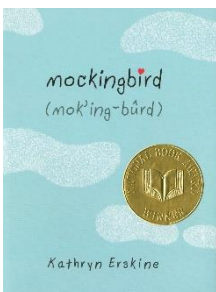
Subject Listings:

Realistic Fiction
Disabilities - Fiction
Families - Fiction

Summary:

Ten-year-old Caitlin, who has Asperger's Syndrome, struggles to understand emotions, show empathy, and make friends at school, while at home she seeks closure by working on a project with her father.

Reading Level: 4.1



**National Book Award winner*

Miles Morales, Spider-Man

by Reynolds, Jason

Subject Listings:

Adventure Fiction
Superheroes Fiction
Sci-Fi

Summary:

Brooklyn Visions Academy student Miles Morales may not always want to be a super hero, but he must come to terms with his identity--and deal with a villainous teacher--as the new Spider Man

Reading Level: YA

