

**McCall Middle School
Summer Reading 2026
Incoming Grade 8**

Choose **at least one book** from the list below (detailed descriptions available here). Read it at any point during the summer. After you have completed the book, compose a response on the [Google Form](#) linked on the McCall Middle School website by the first day of school, Wednesday, September 2. The response will be used as a completion grade in your English class. Please know that you are encouraged to read as many books as you wish, regardless of whether they come from this list, a series on this list, or your own inspiration.

Links are provided to the Winchester Public Library's Overdrive ebook listing of the text, but you may access the book through purchase or library loan as well. Happy reading!

Classic Authors

[Flowers for Algernon](#) by Daniel Keyes [Student Recommendation](#)
[Anne of Green Gables](#) by Lucy Maud Montgomery

Science Fiction and Dystopian Fiction

[Legend](#) by Marie Lu (part of a series) [Student Recommendation](#)
[Scythe](#) by Neal Shusterman (part of a series) [Student Recommendation](#)
[The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy](#) by Douglas Adams (part of a series)
[Uglies](#) by Scott Westerfeld (part of a series)
[The Space Between Here and Now](#) by Sarah Suk

Fantasy

[Children of Blood and Bone](#) by Tomi Adeyemi
[Cinderella is Dead](#) by Kalynn Bayron
[The Selection](#) by Kiera Cass
[Six of Crows](#) by Leigh Bardugo [Student Recommendation](#)

Graphic Novels

[Gaijin: American Prisoner of War](#) by Matt Faulkner [Student Recommendation](#)
[The Magic Fish](#) by Trung Le Nguyen
[Nimona](#) by Noelle Stevenson
[Mexikid](#) by Pedro Martin

Historical Fiction

[Between Shades of Gray](#) by Ruta Sepetys [Student Recommendation](#)
[Chains](#) by Laurie Halse Anderson [Student Recommendation](#)
[The Book Thief](#) by Markus Zusak
[The Paper Girl of Paris](#) by Jordyn Taylor
[When the Mapou Sings](#) by Nadine Pinede
[Gold Mountain](#) by Betty Yee

Nonfiction

Fallout: Spies, Superbombs, and the Ultimate Cold War Showdown by Steve Sheinkin

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind by William Kamkwamba (Young Reader's Edition) Student Recommendation

I Will Always Write Back by Caitlin Alifirenka, Liz Welch, and Martin Ganda

Mystery/Thriller

Fracture by Megan Miranda

Shift by Jennifer Bradbury

The Inheritance Games by Jennifer Lynn Barnes Student Recommendation

The Naturals by Jennifer Lynn Barnes

White Smoke by Tiffany Jackson

Realistic Fiction

The Thing About Jellyfish by Ali Benjamin Student Recommendation

The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas Student Recommendation

Son of the Mob by Gordon Korman Student Recommendation

The Year I Stopped Trying by Katie Heaney

Orbiting Jupiter by Gary Schmidt

Sports

The Girl Who Threw Butterflies by Mick Cochrane Student Recommendation

True Legend by Mike Lupica Student Recommendation

Born to Play: My Life in the Game by Dustin Pedroia Student Recommendation

When the Game Was Ours by Jackie MacMullan, Larry Bird, and Magic Johnson Student Recommendation

Eleven Seconds: A Story of Tragedy, Courage, and Triumph by Travis Roy Student Recommendation

Rising Above: Inspiring Women in Sports by Gregory Zuckerman

Rez Ball by Byron Graves