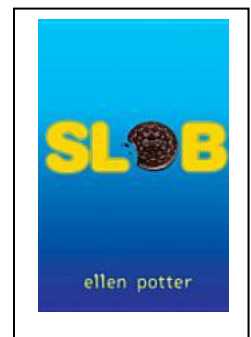


# Sixth Grade Summer Reading

Summer provides many opportunities for students and their families to enjoy unforgettable books together. Before entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade, a Norton Middle School student is expected to read **at least two books** listed below. The students will be expected to take a comprehension quiz over the books when they return to school in the fall.

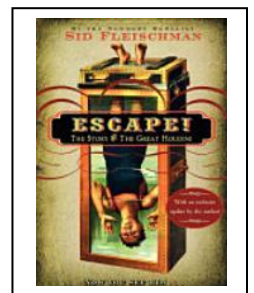
## **Slob** by Ellen Potter (Realistic Fiction)

Twelve-year-old Owen Birnbaum is the fattest kid in school. But he's also a genius who invents cool contraptions - like a TV that shows the past. Something happened two years ago that he needs to see. But genius or not, there is much Owen can't out think. Like his gym coach, who's on a mission to humiliate him. Or the way his Oreos keep disappearing from his lunch. He's sure that if he can only get the TV to work, things will start to make sense. But it will take a revelation for Owen, not science, to see the answer's not in the past, but the present. That no matter how large he is on the outside, he doesn't have to feel small on the inside....



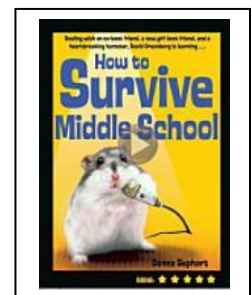
## **Escape! The Story of The Great Houdini** by Sid Fleischman (Biography)

Profiling his early years, personal life, and great accomplishments in show business, the story of the famous magician, Harry Houdini, comes to life through a review of his greatest tricks and most amazing feats, complete with index, photos, and author's notes. An ALA Best Book for Young Adults & Notable Children's Book.



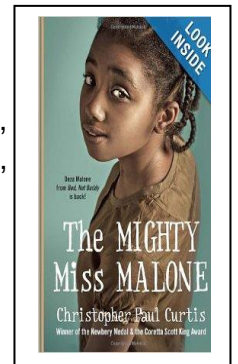
## **How to Survive Middle School** by Donna Gephart (Realistic Fiction)

Eleven-year-old David Greenberg dreams of becoming a TV superstar like his idol, Jon Stewart. But in real life, David is just another kid terrified of starting his first year at Harman Middle School. With a wacky sense of humor and hilarious Top 6½ Lists, David spends his free time making TalkTime videos, which he posts on YouTube. But when David and his best friend have a fight, David is lucky enough to make a pretty cool new friend, Sophie—who just (gulp) happens to be a girl.



## The Mighty Miss Malone by Christopher Paul Curtis (Historical Fiction)

"We are a family on a journey to a place called wonderful" is the motto of Deza Malone's family. Deza is the smartest girl in her class in Gary, Indiana, singled out by teachers for a special path in life. But it's 1936 and the Great Depression hits Gary hard, and there are no jobs for black men. When her beloved father leaves to find work, Deza, Mother, and her older brother, Jimmie, go in search of him, and end up in a Hooverville outside Flint, Michigan. Jimmie's beautiful voice inspires him to leave the camp to be a performer, while Deza and Mother find a new home, and cling to the hope that they will find Father. The twists and turns of their story reveal the devastation of the Depression and prove that Deza truly is the Mighty Miss Malone.



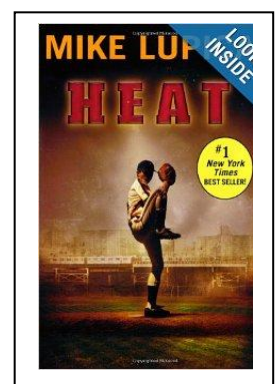
## Kingdom Keepers: Disney After Dark by Ridley Pearson (Fantasy)

In this fantastical thriller, five young teens tapped as models for theme park "guides" find themselves pitted against Disney villains and witches that threaten both the future of Walt Disney World and the stability of the world outside its walls. Using a cutting-edge technology called DHI--which stands for both Disney Host Interactive and Daylight Hologram Imaging--Finn Whitman, an Orlando teen, and four other kids are transformed into hologram projections that guide guests through the park. The new technology turns out, however, to have unexpected effects that are both thrilling and scary. Soon Finn finds himself transported in his DHI form into the Magic Kingdom at night. Is it real? Is he dreaming?



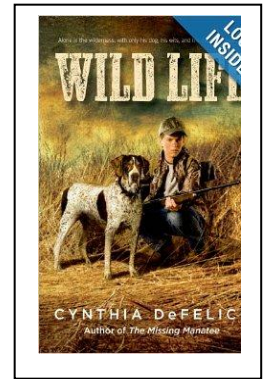
## Heat by Mike Lupica (Realistic Fiction)

Michael Arroyo has a pitching arm that throws serious heat along with aspirations of leading his team all the way to the Little League World Series. But his firepower is nothing compared to the heat Michael faces in his day-to-day life. Newly orphaned after his father led the family's escape from Cuba, Michael's only family is his seventeen-year old brother Carlos. If Social Services hears of their situation, they will be separated in the foster-care system—or worse, sent back to Cuba. Together, the boys carry on alone, dodging bills and anyone who asks too many questions. But then someone wonders how a twelve-year-old boy could possibly throw with as much power as Michael Arroyo throws. With no way to prove his age, no birth certificate, and no parent to fight for his cause, Michael's secret world is blown wide open, and he discovers that family can come from the most unexpected sources.



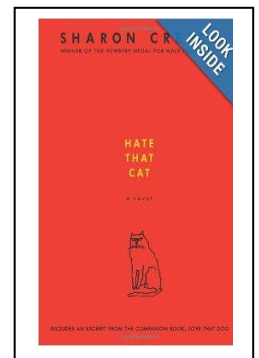
**Wild Life** by Cynthia DeFelice (Realistic Fiction)

Erik is preparing for his first-ever hunting trip when he learns that his parents are being deployed to Iraq. A few days later, Erik is shipped off to North Dakota to live with Big Darrell and Oma, grandparents he barely knows. When Erik rescues a dog that's been stuck by a porcupine, Big Darrell says Erik can't keep him. But Erik has already named her Quill and can't bear to give her up. He decides to run away, taking the dog and a shotgun, certain that they can make it on their own out on the prairie.



**Hate That Cat: A Novel** by Sharon Creech (Poetry)

*Hate That Cat* continues the story of Jack from *Love That Dog*. It is a new school year, and Jack learns that his previous year's teacher, Miss Stretchberry, has also moved up a grade along with him. "You understand my brain," he says. Once again, Miss Stretchberry introduces Jack and his classmates to poems that intrigue and entice, allowing Jack to talk about things that are on his mind: mean cats, sound, silence, worry, and joy. You don't really think Miss Stretchberry is going to let Jack hate a cat, do you? Hmm.



Remember to get your books early in the summer!!  
Do not wait until the last minute to find the books  
you want to read. List a couple of the books that  
you are interested in reading:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Book 1 Notes**

**Book Title**

Main characters \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Minor characters \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Setting \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Conflict \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Climax \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Theme \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other Important Information from Book \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date Read \_\_\_\_\_

**Book 2 Notes**

**Book Title**

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Main characters \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Minor characters \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Setting \_\_\_\_\_  
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Conflict \_\_\_\_\_  
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Climax \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Theme \_\_\_\_\_  
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Other Important Information from Book \_\_\_\_\_  
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Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date Read \_\_\_\_\_