Year 7 and 8: Summer Holiday Reading Lists 2019

The aim of a summer reading list is to encourage as much reading as possible over the summer break. There are a number of genres represented, some of which will even help you complete this summer's Book Bingo!

For children going into Year 7:

Eye Can Write by Jonathan Bryan

Can you imagine not being able to speak or communicate? The silence, the loneliness, the pain. But, inside you disappear to magical places.

Longbow Girl by Linda Davies

A romance, in the old fashioned sense of the word, a story full of marvels and heroic deeds.

The Boy Who Lied by Kim Slater

Ed Clayton is a liar. It started when his dad went to prison and now he can't seem to stop.

Boy 87 by Ele Fountain

A moving novel about a journey to survival for a resilient young boy driven from his home.

The Lost Magician by Piers Torday

1945. They have survived the Blitz, but when Simon, Patricia, Evelyn and Larry step through a mysterious library door, it is the beginning of their most dangerous adventure yet.

WildSpark by Vashti Hardy

A year after the death of her older brother, Prue Haywood's family is still shattered by grief. But everything changes when a stranger arrives at the farm.

Rumblestar by Abi Elphinstone

The new Unmapped Chronicles start with a "what if" – specifically what if our climate was actually created magically in another world linked to ours?

Out of My Mind by Sharon M. Draper

The story of a brilliant girl who cannot speak or write.

The Middler by Kirstie Applebaum

Eleven-year-old Maggie lives in Fennis Wick, enclosed and protected from the outside world by a boundary, beyond which the Quiet War rages and the dirty, dangerous wanderers roam.

The Eye of the North by Sinéad O'Hart

Emmeline Widget has never left Widget Manor - and that's the way she likes it. But when her scientist parents mysteriously disappear, she finds herself being packed off on a ship to France, heading for a safe house in Paris.

The Letter for the King by Tonke Dragt

When sixteen-year-old Tiuri answers a desperate call for help, he finds himself on a perilous mission that could cost him his life.

For children going into Year 8:

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams

Seconds before the Earth is demolished to make way for a galactic freeway, Arthur Dent is plucked off the planet by his friend, Ford Prefect.

Chinese Cinderella by Adeline Yen Mah

The unforgettable story of a young Chinese girl's struggle to find acceptance.

The Wall by John Lanchester

Ravaged by the Change, an island nation in a time very like our own has built the Wall—an enormous concrete barrier around its entire coastline.

Vango by Timothée de Fonbelle

A gripping mystery-advaneture set in the 1930s interwar period about a character desperately searching for his identity.

Dissolution by C. J. Sansom

An historical mystery set in the dark heart of Tudor England.

Maus by Art Spielgelman

This graphic novel is a rich and engaging story. It follows the author's parents' story in Poland, and describes their experiences as the Nazis invaded and persecuted the Jewish population.

Spellslinger by Sebastian de Castell

There's trickery, traps, and action aplenty in this vividly conjured magical fantasy.

Red Leaves by Sita Brahmachari

A sensitive depiction of diversity and the human need for somewhere to call home.

The Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo

A young girl in Harlem discovers slam poetry as a way to understand her mother's religion and her own relationship to the world. Debut novel of renowned slam poet Elizabeth Acevedo.

A Skinful of Shadows by Frances Hardinge

A dark historical fantasy set in the early part of the English Civil War.

A Little History of the World by E. H. Gombrich

The story of mankind from the Stone Age to the atomic bomb, focusing not on small detail but on the sweep of human experience.

The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins

In a dark vision of the near future, The Hunger Games is set in a future with unsettling parallels to our present.

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck

Drifters in search of work, George and his childlike friend Lennie, have nothing in the world except the clothes on their back - and a dream that one day they will have some land of their own.