

April 2013

Dear Parents and Students,

Santa Monica Public Library's (SMPL) theme for 2013 summer teen readers is "Beneath the Surface." In collaboration with SMPL, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District is pleased to announce our summer reading program prepared by our school librarians. On the other side of this letter is a list of recommended books to read during the summer. Because students' maturity and reading levels vary, we encourage parents to participate actively in selecting and/or discussing these books.

Students are expected to read and respond to two books from the list for the grade they will be entering in the fall. Students are responsible for obtaining their own books. The public libraries, as well as local booksellers, will have most of these titles available.



We are very excited about this program and hope the books on this list will provide knowledge and pleasure for your child.

Have a fantastic summer filled with reading and adventure!

Sincerely,

Erica Cuyugan, Teen Services Librarian,  
Santa Monica Public Library

Joe DiMercurio, Librarian, Malibu High School

Kelly Urtz, Librarian, Lincoln Middle School

Susan Bodok, Librarian,  
John Adams Middle School

**BOOK SELECTION GUIDELINES:**

All students must read and be prepared to share & evaluate **2 BOOKS** by August 22nd from the **2013 SUMMER READING LIST.**

(\*SERIES: Students can choose any book of a \*series. PLEASE NOTE students' 2nd book choice can not be from the same series.)

**FILL IN THE INFORMATION BELOW AS YOU READ YOUR 2 BOOKS**  
(on this page or in your notebook).  
**DUE 8/22/13 by 1st or 2nd WEEK OF SCHOOL.**

**BOOK #1:**

Be prepared to write a recommendation that a book be read or not read by your classmates.



**1) \*CITE YOUR BOOK:**

\*LOOK in the 1st few pages inside the book. OR...

\*CHECK [www.smpl.org](http://www.smpl.org) for your book title:

- 'Year published' is by book image under author),
- CLICK the book for its 'full record' to find below info:

•Title:

•Author:

•Publisher/City:

•Year Published:

**2) Main Character:**  
Name:

Age:

Traits:

**3) What's the conflict?**



**4) Fiction or Nonfiction?**

**5) Genre?** Fantasy?



**BOOK #2:**

This assignment could be in-class writing, a booktalk, or a special project.



**1) \*CITE YOUR BOOK:**

•Title:

•Author:

•Publisher/City:

•Year Published:

**2) Main Character:**  
Name:

Age:

Traits:



**3) What's the conflict?**



**4) Fiction or Nonfiction?**

**5) Genre?** Mystery?



**6) Rate this book 1-5:**

1-Did not like  
5 -Fantastic book!



SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY  
YOUTH SERVICES



# 7th Grade READING LIST



VISIT  
Santa Monica Public Library  
or your local library for  
fun activities & prizes celebrating  
"Beneath the Surface!"  
Check [smpl.org](http://smpl.org). Click Teens tab  
for Summer Reading & programs.

**FICTION: REALISTIC**

**BASKIN, NORA RALEIGH - *ANYTHING BUT TYPICAL*.** Jason, a twelve-year-old boy who wants to become a writer, relates what his life is like as he tries to make sense of his world.

**FLAKE, SHARON - *THE SKIN I'M IN*.** Thirteen-year-old Maleeka, uncomfortable because her skin is extremely dark, meets a new teacher with a birthmark on her face. She makes some discoveries about how to love who she is and what she looks like.

**OSA, NANCY. *CUBA 15*.** Violet longs to be a typical American teen in her Cuban-Polish family. With her 'quinceañera' 15<sup>th</sup> birthday fast approaching, will her family force her to wear a dress and be on the wedding market at her birthday party? *Pura Belpre Honor book.*

**SOTO, GARY - *FACTS OF LIFE*.** Gaby Lopez, Michael Robles, and Cynthia Rodriguez have a lot in common: irritating siblings, parents that don't understand, and frustrating crushes.

**VAN DRAANEN, WENDELIN - *FLIPPED*.** In alternating chapters, two teenagers describe how their feelings about themselves, each other, and their families have changed over the years.

**SPORTS**

**LUPICA, MIKE - *HEAT*.** Twelve-year-old Michael Arroyo is a star pitcher struggling with his father's death. He pursues his dream of leading his South Bronx All-Stars to the Little League World Series.

**MYERS, WALTER DEAN - *SLAM!*** Sixteen-year-old "Slam" Harris is counting on his noteworthy basketball talents to get him out of the inner city. He hopes it will give him a chance to succeed in life, but his coach sees things differently.

**CLASSICS – FANTASY & SCI-FI**

**CARROLL, LEWIS - *ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND*.** Alice's ordinary life is turned upside-down by following a rabbit down a rabbit hole.

**WELLS, H.G. - *WAR OF THE WORLDS*.** Martians come to exterminate all of mankind, will they succeed?

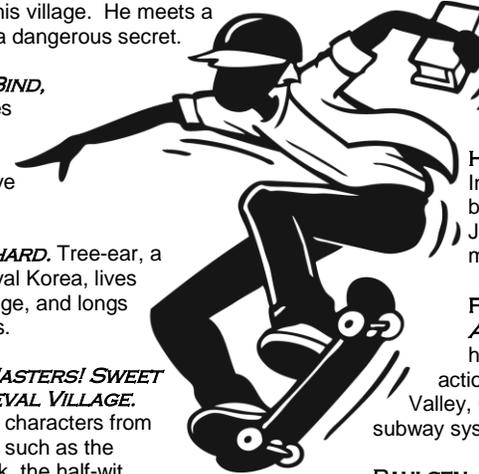
**HISTORICAL**

**AVI - *CRISPIN: THE CROSS OF LEAD*.** Falsely accused of theft and murder, an orphaned peasant boy in fourteenth-century England flees his village. He meets a larger-than-life juggler who holds a dangerous secret.

**NAMIOKA, LENSEY - *TIES THAT BIND, TIES THAT BREAK*.** Ailin's life takes a different turn when she defies the traditions of upper class Chinese society by refusing to have her feet bound.

**PARK, LINDA SUE - *A SINGLE SHARD*.** Tree-ear, a thirteen-year-old orphan in medieval Korea, lives under a bridge near a potters' village, and longs to be a master potter for the royals.

**SCHLITZ, LAURA AMY - *GOOD MASTERS! SWEET LADIES! VOICES FROM A MEDIEVAL VILLAGE*.** In this collection of plays featuring characters from the thirteenth century, meet locals such as the Barbary, the mud slinger, and Jack, the half-wit.

**SCIENCE-FICTION & FANTASY**

**BARRON, T.A. - *THE LOST YEARS OF MERLIN*.** A young boy, with no memories of his past, washes ashore on the coast of Wales. Will he find his true name and identity?

**O'CONNOR, GEORGE - *ZEUS: KING OF THE GODS*.** Find out how Zeus became the ultimate ruler of the Olympian Pantheon through many horrible battles with all the Greek gods, including his father.

**PFEFFER, SUSAN BETH - *LIFE AS WE KNEW IT*.** Miranda journals her experiences of when an asteroid knocks the moon closer, causing tsunamis, earthquakes and volcanoes to erupt.

**SCOTT, MICHAEL - *THE ALCHEMYST: THE SECRETS OF THE IMMORTAL NICHOLAS FLAMMEL (\*SERIES)*.** Twins Sophie and Josh are caught in a centuries-old struggle between rival alchemists, over an ancient powerful book.

**SHUSTERMAN, NEIL - *THE SCHWA WAS HERE*.** Eighth-grader Antsy Bonano realizes his friend Calvin Schwa has the ability to be nearly invisible, so he concocts a money-making scheme.

**WREDE, PATRICIA - *DEALING WITH DRAGONS*.** Determined not to be pushed into marrying a boring and proper prince, Princess Cimerone flees her kingdom and becomes an assistant to the dragon Kazul.

**MYSTERY & ADVENTURE**

**BLACKWOOD, GARY - *THE SHAKESPEARE STEALER*.**

A young orphan boy is ordered by his master to infiltrate Shakespeare's acting troupe and steal the script of "Hamlet." He discovers instead the meaning of friendship and loyalty.

**HOUBLER, DOROTHY - *IN DARKNESS, DEATH*.** In eighteenth century Japan, young Seikei becomes involved with a ninja as he helps Judge Ooka, his foster father, investigate the murder of a samurai.

**PATTERSON, JAMES - *MAXIMUM RIDE: THE ANGEL EXPERIMENT (\*SERIES)*.** Max leads her feisty half-human, half-bird "family" on an action-packed journey. They travel from Death Valley, California, to the bowels of the New York City subway system to rescue their youngest sister Angel.

**PAULSEN, GARY - *BRIAN'S WINTER*.** Brian is forced to survive a winter in the wilderness with only his survival pack and hatchet.

**NON-FICTION:  
BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY**

**BERNSTEIN, RICHARD - *A GIRL NAMED FAITHFUL PLUM*.** 11-year-old Zhongmei, a poor country girl in China, beats out 60,000 girls for a spot in Beijing's Dance Academy. Being far from home and the only girl not from the city, will she be able to succeed and become a famous dancer?

**LEE STONE, TANYA - *ALMOST ASTRONAUTS: 13 WOMEN WHO DARED TO DREAM*.** 13 female pilots exceed scores on all the astronauts' endurance tests. NASA denied them their journey into space. Read how they fought Congress and paved the way for future female astronauts.

**TUNNEL, MICHAEL O. - *CANDY BOMBER: THE STORY OF THE BERLIN AIRLIFT'S "CHOCOLATE PILOT"*.** An American pilot decides to embark on a secret mission in his plane to drop off candy to children during World War II.

**READ & ENJOY  
2 BOOKS!**

2013 SUMMER READING LISTS ARE ONLINE AT [SMPL:WWW.SMPL.ORG](http://SMPL:WWW.SMPL.ORG)  
AND [SMMUSD: HTTP://SMILENET.SMMUSD.ORG](http://SMMUSD:HTTP://SMILENET.SMMUSD.ORG).