

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 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



6th Grade READING LIST



VISIT

Santa Monica Public Library

or your local library for

fun activities & prizes celebrating "Beneath the Surface!"

Check smpl.org. Click Teens tab for Summer Reading & programs.

**FICTION: REALISTIC**

**ALVAREZ, JULIA - *HOW TÍA LOLA CAME TO STAY.*** Ten-year-old Miguel is at first embarrassed by his colorful aunt, Tía Lola, from the Dominican Republic. After his parents' divorce, he learns to love her.

**DRAPER, SHARON - *OUT OF MY MIND.*** Eleven-year old Melody is the smartest girl in school, but with cerebral palsy, no one knows this as she can not speak. When she gets a talking device, students and teachers will learn of her 'smarts' and inner-strengths. *Corretta King Scott winning author.*

**GANTOS, JACK - *JOEY PIGZA SWALLOWED THE KEY. (\*SERIES).*** To the constant disappointment of his mother and his teachers, Joey has trouble paying attention and controlling his mood swings.

**HIAASEN, CARL - *HOOT.*** Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site. *Newbery Medal Honor Book.*

**RHODES, JEWELL PARKER - *NINTH WARD.*** Lanessa and Mama Ya-Ya live in New Orleans's ninth ward. When Hurricane Katrina comes to their neighborhood, together they fight to survive this powerful storm. *Coretta Scott King Honor Book.*

**SPINELLI, JERRY - *CRASH.*** Seventh-grader John "Crash" Coogan has always been comfortable with his tough behavior, until his relationship with an unusual Quaker boy and his grandfather's stroke make him consider the importance of friendship and family.

**TELGEMEIER, RAINA - *SMILE.*** If sixth grade isn't hard enough, Raina has to overcome braces, retainers, headgear, earthquakes, boy troubles and 'frenemies'.

**HISTORICAL**

**CHOLDENKO, GENNIFER - *AL CAPONE DOES MY SHIRTS.*** A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935. He contends with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister. *Newbery Honor and ALA Best Book.*

**LAI, THANHHA - *INSIDE OUT AND BACK AGAIN.*** Hà's beloved Vietnam is being attacked, forcing her to move to Alabama. It's definitely not Saigon with its lack of markets, friends and papaya trees. Can Hà adjust to her new American life? *National Book Award Winner.*

**READ & ENJOY  
2 BOOKS!**

**SALISBURY, GRAHAM - *UNDER THE BLOOD-RED SUN.*** Tomikazu Nakaji's life with his Japanese family in Hawaii changes drastically after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December 1941.

**SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY**

**CARMAN, PATRICK - *THE DARK HILLS DIVIDE.*** When she finds the key to a secret passage leading out of the walled city of Bridewell, twelve-year-old Alexa explores the mysterious forests and mountains that lie beyond the wall.

**HADDIX, MARGARET PETERSON - *RUNNING OUT OF TIME.*** When a diphtheria epidemic hits her 1840 village thirteen-year-old Jessie discovers it is actually a 1996 tourist site under unseen observation by heartless scientists.

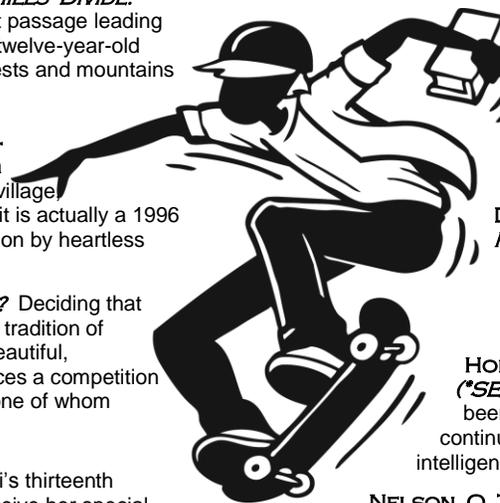
**IBBOTSON, EVA - *WHICH WITCH?*** Deciding that he must sire a child to carry on his tradition of Loathing Light and Blighting the Beautiful, the Great Wizard Arriman announces a competition among the witches of Todcaster, one of whom will marry him.

**LAW, INGRID - *SAVVY.*** Mississippi's thirteenth birthday means she is about to receive her special powers, 'her savvy', which can be anything from creating electricity to making hurricanes. Will her 'savvy' be able to save her dad's life after he has a car accident? *Newbery Honor book.*

**OPPEL, KENNETH - *AIRBORN.*** Matt, a young cabin boy aboard an airship, and Kate, a wealthy young girl traveling with her chaperone, team up to search for the existence of mysterious winged creatures reportedly living hundreds of feet above the Earth's surface.

**STEAD, REBECCA - *WHEN YOU REACH ME.*** Sixth-grader Miranda receives mysterious notes that predict future tragic events in her New York neighborhood. She is convinced she must solve this time-defying mystery in order to save her friend Sal from an accident.

**WALDEN, MARK - *H.I.V.E.: THE HIGHER INSTITUTE OF VILLAINOUS EDUCATION. (\*SERIES).*** Thirteen-year-old Otto is kidnapped and taken to a secret academy where all of the top young minds are being trained as the next generation of super-villains.

**CLASSIC - FANTASY**

**TOLKIEN, J.R.R. - *THE HOBBIT.*** Hobbit Bilbo Baggins faces adventures in a land inhabited by dwarfs, elves, goblins, dragons, and humans.

**MYSTERY & ADVENTURE**

**BALLIETT, BLUE - *CHASING VERMEER.*** When seemingly unrelated and strange events start to happen and a precious Vermeer painting disappears, eleven-year-olds Petra and Calder combine their talents to solve an international art scandal.

**DOWD, SIOBHAN - *THE LONDON EYE MYSTERY.*** After Ted and Kat's cousin Salim vanish from the London Eye ferris wheel, the siblings investigate and solve the mystery of his disappearance.

**HOROWITZ, ANTHONY - *STORMBREAKER. (\*SERIES).*** After the death of the uncle who had been his guardian, fourteen-year-old Alex Rider continues his uncle's dangerous work for Britain's intelligence agency, MI6.

**NELSON, O. T. - *THE GIRL WHO OWNED A CITY.*** When a plague sweeps over the Earth killing everyone except children under twelve, ten-year-old Lisa organizes a group to rebuild a new way of life.

**VAN DRAANEN, WENDELIN - *SAMMY KEYES AND THE HOTEL THIEF. (\*SERIES)*** Thirteen-year-old Sammy gets in trouble when she involves herself in the investigation of a robbery at a hotel across the street from her apartment.

**NON-FICTION: BIOGRAPHY**

**FLEISCHMAN, SID - *ESCAPE! THE STORY OF THE GREAT HOUDINI.*** This Newbery Medalist presents an entertaining account of the magician and king of escape artists, Harry Houdini. *Local Author, Samohi Alumni.*

**SCIESZKA, JON - *KNUCKLEHEAD.*** In this comic-scrapbook biography, Jon recounts being one of six brothers, the class clown in catholic school, and his childhood in the turbulent sixties.