Recommended Summer Reading
Students Entering 6th Grade in 2012-2013

To prepare for unit 1, “Communicating Personal Experiences,” focus on memoir and personal narratives, by reading texts such as:

- When I Was Your Age, Volume Two: Original Stories About Growing Up, edited by Amy Ehrlich
- Marshfield Dreams: When I was a Kid by Ralph Fletcher
- Baseball in April and Other Stories by Gary Soto
- Guys Write for Guys Read by Jon Scieszka
- Journey by Patricia MacLachlan

To prepare for unit 2, “Painting Pictures with Words,” focus on descriptive language (including imagery and figurative language), by reading award-winning texts such as:

- Moon over Manifest by Clare Vanderpool
- One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia
- The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman
- Feathers by Jacqueline Woodson
- Olive’s Ocean by Kevin Henkes
- Hoot by Carl Hiaasen
- When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead

To prepare for unit 3, “Exploring Text Structures,” focus on unique text structures (including alternating perspectives, flashbacks), by reading texts such as:

- Flipped by Wendelin Van Draanen
- No More Dead Dogs by Gordon Korman
- Witness by Karen Hesse
- Bronx Masquerade by Nikki Grimes
- Westing Game by Ellen Raskin
- Bull Run by Paul Fleischman
- The Girls by Amy Goldman Koss

To prepare for unit 4, “Imagining Other Worlds,” focus on historical and science fiction and specifically the role of setting in non-realistic fiction, by reading texts such as:

- My Brother Sam is Dead by James Collier
- Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis
- Summer of My German Soldier by Bette Greene
- A Long Way from Chicago by Richard Peck
- Rodzina by Cushman
- A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L’Engel
- The Truth about Sparrows by Hale