

# Middle School Novel List

## Tried and True

Approved for Whole Class Instruction

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
A Christmas Carol	Charles Dickens
A Day No Pigs Would Die	Robert Newton Peck
A Long Way from Chicago	Richard Peck
A Thief in the Village	James Berry
A Year Down Yonder	Richard Peck
Across Five Aprils	Irene Hunt
Adventures of Tom Sawyer	Mark Twain
Airborn	Kenneth Oppel
Amah	Laurence Yep
An American Plague	Jim Murphy
Anne Frank	Anne Frank
Anne Frank Remembered	Miep Gies/Alison Leslie Gold
Anne of Green Gables	L.M. Montgomery
April Morning	Howard Fast
Arrival	Shaun Tan
Belle Prater's Boy	Ruth White
Black Pearl	Scott O'Dell
Black Potatoes: The Story of the Great Irish Famine	Susan Campbell Bartoletti
Blizzard: The Storm that Changed America	Jim Murphy
Blood on the River: Jamestown 1607	Elisa Carbone
Boy Who Dared	Susan Campbell Bartoletti
Breadwinner	Deborah Ellis
Bridge to Terabithia	Katherine Paterson/Donna Diamond
Call of the Wild	Jack London
Casting the Gods Adrift	Geraldine McCaughrean
Catch a Tiger By the Toe	Ellen Levine
Catherine, Called Birdy	Karen Cushman
Cay	Theodore Taylor
Chain of Fire	Beverley Naidoo
City of Ember	Jeanne DuPrau
Clay Marble	Minfong Ho
Climbing the Stairs	Padma Venkatraman
Codetalker: A Novel About the Navajo Marines of WWII	Joseph Bruchac

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Contender	Robert Lipsyte
Counting on Grace	Elizabeth Winthrop
Devil's Arithmetic	Jane Yolen
Dime a Dozen	Nikki Grimes
Dr. Franklin's Island	Ann Halam
Door in the Wall	Marguerite De Angeli
Dovey Coe	Frances O'Roark Dowell
Dragonwings	Laurence Yep
Ear,the Eye and the Arm	Nancy Farmer
Earthquake at Dawn	Kristiana Gregory
Ella Enchanted	Gail Carson Levine
Ender's Game	Orson Scott Card
Escape From Warsaw	Ian Serraillier
Esperanza Rising	Pam Munoz Ryan
Farewell to Manzanar	James A. Houston, Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston
Fearless Fernie: Hanging Out with Fernie and Me	Gary Soto
Fever 1793	Laurie Halse Anderson
Firegirl	Tony Abbott
Flight to Freedom	Ana Veciana-Suarez
Flush	Carl Hiaasen
Flying to the Moon: An Astronaut's Story	Michael Collins
Football Genius	Tim Green
Football Hero	Tim Green
Freak the Mighty	Rodman Philbrick
Freedom Riders: John Lewis and Jim Zwerg...	Ann Bausum
Gathering Blue	Lois Lowry
Girl Son	Anne E. Neuberger
Giver	Lois Lowry
Glory Field	Walter Dean Myers
Goodnight, Mr. Tom	Michelle Magorian
Green Angel	Alice Hoffman
Hatchet	Gary Paulsen
Hobbit	J.R.R. Tolkien
Holes	Louis Sachar
Homecoming	Cynthia Voigt
Hoot	Carl Hiaasen
House of Dies Drear	Virginia Hamilton
I, Juan de Pareja	Elizabeth Borton De Trevino
Invisible Allies: Microbes that Shape our Lives	Jeanette Farrell

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Jaguar	Roland Smith
Joel Pigza Loses Control	Jack Gantos
Johnny Tremain	Esther Forbes
Journey to Jo'burg	Beverley Naidoo
Journey to the River Sea	Eva Ibbotson
Kids at Work: Lewis Hine and the Crusade...	Russell Freedman
Kids on Strike!	Susan Campbell Bartoletti
Killer Angels	Michael Shaara
Let the Circle Be Unbroken	Mildred D. Taylor
Letters from Rifka	Karen Hesse
Life as We Knew It	Susan Beth Pfeffer
Light in the Forest	Conrad Richter
Lightning Thief	Rick Riordan
Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy	Gary D. Schmidt
Long Way from Chicago	Richard Peck
Lord of the Nutcracker Men	Ian Lawrence
Loud Silence of Francine Green	Karen Cushman
Maniac Magee	Jerry Spinelli
Maritcha: A Nineteenth Century American Girl	Tonya Bolden
Master Puppeteer	Katherine Paterson/Haru Wells
Max the Mighty	Rodman Philbrick
Midsummer Night's Dream	William Shakespeare
Midwife's Apprentice	Karen Cushman
Milkweed	Jerry Spinelli
Miracle Boys	Jacqueline Woodson
Miracle Worker	William Gibson
Mortal Engines	Philip Reeve
Moves Make the Man	Bruce Brooks
My Brother Sam is Dead	James Lincoln Collier/Christopher Collier
Mzungu Boy	Meja Mwangi
Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass	Frederick Douglass
Night of the Twisters	Ivy Ruckman
No More Dead Dogs	Gordon Korman
Nory Ryan's Song	Patricia Reilly Giff
Number the Stars	Lois Lowry
Other Side of Truth	Beverley Naidoo
Out of the Dust	Karen Hesse
Outsiders	S. E. Hinton
Park's Quest	Katherine Paterson

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Peak	Roland Smith
Pearl	John Steinbeck
Pigman	Paul Zindel
Prince and the Pauper	Mark Twain
Rascal	Sterling North
Red Badge of Courage	Stephen Crane
Red Moon at Sharpsburg	Rosemary Wells
Red Pony	John Steinbeck
Regarding the Fountain	Kate Klise
River Between Us	Richard Peck
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry	Mildred D. Taylor
Sadako	Eleanor Coerr
Schooled	Gordan Korman
Seedfolks	Paul Fleischman
Seekers	Erin Hunter
Shades of Gray	Carolyn Reeder
Shadow Spinner	Susan Fletcher
Shakespeare's Scribe	Gary L. Blackwood
Skin I'm In	Sharon Flake
Smiler's Bones	Peter Lerangis
So B. It	Sarah Weeks
Somewhere in the Darkness	Walter Dean Myers
Souder	William H. Armstrong
Stargirl	Jerry Spinelli
Starry Messenger	Peter Sis
Stormbreaker	Anthony Horowitz
Storm Warriors	Elisa Carbone
Strays Like Us	Richard Peck
Streams to the River, River to the Sea	Scott O'Dell
Summer of My German Soldier	Bette Greene
Taking Terri Mueller	Norma Fox Mazer
Talking Earth	Jean Craighead George
Team Moon: How 400,000 People Landed Apollo 11	Catherine Thimmesh
That Was Then, This Is Now	S. E. Hinton
The House of the Scorpion	Nancy Farmer
There's A Girl in My Hammerlock	Jerry Spinelli
Tracking Trash: Flotsam, Jetsam, and the Science..	Loree Griffin Burns
True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle	Avi
Tuck Everlasting	Natalie Babbitt

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Under a War Torn Sky	L.M. Elliott
Up Before Daybreak: Cotton and People in America	Deborah Hopkinson
View from Saturday	E. L. Konigsburg
Walk Two Moons	Sharon Creech
Walkabout	James Vance Marshall
Watsons Go to Birmingham	Christopher Paul Curtis
Wednesday Wars	Gary D. Schmidt
Weirdo	Theodore Taylor
Westing Game	Ellen Raskin
What Would Joey Do?	Jack Gantos
When My Name Was Keoko	Linda Sue Park
When Plague Strikes: The Black Death, Smallpox...	James Cross Giblin
Where the Lilies Bloom	Bill Cleaver/Vera Cleaver
Where the Red Fern Grows	Wilson Rawls
Wildlife Detectives: How Forensic Scientists...	Donna Jackson Kallner
Witch of Blackbird Pond	Elizabeth George Speare
Witness	Karen Hesse
Wolf Brother	Michelle Paver
Wrinkle in Time	Madeleine L'Engle
Year Down Yonder	Richard Peck
Year of Impossible Goodbyes	Sook Nyul Choi
Z for Zachariah	Robert C. O'Brien
Zlata's Diary	Zlata Filipovic

## Questionable Titles

Proceed with Caution (and with principal's approval)

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
The Mousetrap	Agatha Christie
Child of the Owl	Laurence Yep
David Copperfield ( adult literature)	Charles Dickens
Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie (mature content)	Jordan Sonnenblick
Everlost (mature content)	Neal Shusterman
Facing the Lion: Growing Up Maasai..(mature content)	Joseph Lekuton
Forged by Fire (mature content)	Sharon M. Draper
House on Mango Street (mature content)	Sandra Cisneros
I Am a Taxi (mature content)	Deborah Ellis

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Leon's Story (mature content)	Leon Walter Tillage
Make Lemonade (mature content)	Virginia Euwer Wolff
Marley and Me	John Grogan
Money Hungry (mature content)	Sharon Flake
Monster (mature content)	Walter Dean Myers
Othello (mature content)	William Shakespeare
Red Glass (mature content)	Laura Resau
Red Kayak (mature content)	Priscilla Cummings
Samurai Shortstop (mature content)	Alan Gratz
Slam (mature content)	Walter Dean Myers
Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes	Chris Crutcher
Tangerine (mature content)	Edward Bloor
Tears of a Tiger (grades 9 and up)	Sharon M. Draper
The Cage (mature content)	Ruth Minsky Sender
The Fellowship of the Ring	J.R.R. Tolkien
True Believer (mature content)	Virginia Euwer Wolff
War Without Friends	Evert Hartman

## NOT Recommended for Middle School Instruction

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
The Golden Compass (strong content)	Philip Pullman
The Boy in the Striped Pajamas (strong content)	John Boyne
The Good Earth (strong content) Chinese Stereotype	Pearl S. Buck
Touching Spirit Bear (strong content) Navtive American stereotype	Ben Mikaelson
Unwind (strong content)	Neal Shusterman
Darkness Before Dawn (XXX Strong content)	Sharon M. Draper
Education of Little Tree (Native Amer. Stereotype)	Forrest Carter
Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman (exerpts could be used strategically)	Ernest J. Gaines
Red Keep (strong content)	Allen French

\*\*\* Texts other than those from this list must have prior approval from the principal or designee before being assigned. WCPSS defines assigned reading as any text used by the whole class, by a group within the class, by a literature circle, and/or during summer reading.

# Middle School Novel List

The Request for Prior Approval (Assigning Supplemental Texts) form can be found on the WCPSS Intranet site.