

## Summer 2009 Reading List S.C.A.P.A. Seventh Graders

Students are required to read a total of four books during the summer. Choose two books from the language arts' list, one book from the science list, and one book from the social studies' list. Within two weeks of returning to school, students will be required to take Accelerated Reader (A.R.) tests on all of these books. In addition, students will prepare a quadraform book project on their science content book and write a book review on their social studies' book. The books listed below can be found at the Lexington Public Library and at local or on-line book stores. Enjoy!

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### LANGUAGE ARTS (Choose two from this list.)

1. **The Alchemist** by Paulo Coelho. "Santiago...journeys from Spain to Morocco in search of worldly success, and eventually to Egypt, where a fateful encounter with an alchemist brings him at last to self-understanding and spiritual enlightenment. The story ... is about becoming self-empowered, overcoming depression, and believing in dreams." (6.4 B.L.)
2. **And Then There Were None** by Agatha Christie. Considered the best mystery novel ever written by many readers, *And Then There Were None* is the story of 10 strangers, each lured to Indian Island by a mysterious host. Once his guests have arrived, the host accuses each person of murder. Unable to leave the island, the guests begin to share their darkest secrets--until they begin to die. (7.1 B.L.)
3. **Bad Boy: A Memoir** by Walter Dean Myers. (6.5 B.L.) This superb memoir begins simply with an account of Myers's family history and his boyhood. Vivid detail makes the Harlem of the '40s come alive, from the music and children's games to the everyday struggle for survival. As Myers grows older, however, his story also grows in complexity. Soon readers are caught up in his turbulent adolescence and his slow, painful development as a writer. (6.5 B.L.)
4. **Black Beauty** by Anna Sewell. "Every child loves a story about a horse, and *Black Beauty* remains one of the finest, most touching ever written. Set in Victorian London, the novel follows the shifting fortunes of a horse as he moves from owner to owner. Narrated by the noble *Black Beauty* himself, the tale offers an animal's perspective of the world, and highlights the thoughtless, even cruel treatment animals endured during that period." (7.3 B.L.)
5. **Bound-** Donna Jo Napoli. A young girl in ancient China must endure a life of servitude to her father's second wife and daughter. (5.4 B.L.)
6. **Buddha Boy** – Kathe Koja. No one in the rich, suburban high school likes the weird new kid who looks like a Buddhist monk and begs at lunch. One kid is drawn to the stranger and defends him against vicious school bullies. (5.6 B.L.)
7. **The Call of the Wild** by Jack London. This classic story is about a kidnapped dog and the Alaskan Gold Rush of 1896.(7.3 B.L.)
8. **Chinese Cinderella-** Adeline Yen Mah. Read this memoir to discover the challenges the author faces as she grows up in China. (5.7 B.L.)
9. **Downriver** by Will Hobbs. A group of troubled teenagers are brought together in an outward bound adventure whitewater rafting down the Grand Canyon. (6.6 B.L.)
10. **Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde** by Robert Louis Stevenson. "Spawned by a nightmare that Stevenson had, this classic tale of the dark, primordial night of the soul remains a masterpiece of the duality of good and evil within us all." (7.2 B.L.)
11. **Dragonwings** by Laurence Yep. "This Newbery Honor book (HarperCollins, 1975) offers insights into the lives of Chinese-Americans in early 20th century California. The story begins as eight-year-old Moon Shadow Lee journeys across the Pacific to join his proud and clever father at the family-owned laundry in San Francisco. The boy recounts their problems with prejudice, as well as the kindness of uncles and cousins." (6.6 B.L.)
12. **Eldest** – Christopher Paolini. As you might expect, this second book in *The Inheritance Trilogy*, is filled with new adventures for Eragon and his dragon

Saphira as they travel to the land of the elves where Eragon will receive further training as a Dragon Rider. (7.0 B.L.)

13. **Ender's Game** by Orson Scott Card. Intense is the word for Ender's Game. Aliens have attacked Earth twice and almost destroyed the human species. To make sure humans win the next encounter, the world government has taken to breeding military geniuses -- and then training them in the arts of war... The early training, not surprisingly, takes the form of 'games'... Ender Wiggin is a genius among geniuses; he wins all the games... He is smart enough to know that time is running out. But is he smart enough to save the planet? (5.5 B.L.)
14. **Eragon** – Christopher Paolini. A suspense-filled fantasy book about dragons, wizards, and heroes. The book details a boy's coming of age and his relationship with the first dragon born in over a century. (5.6 B.L.)
15. **The Fellowship of the Ring** by J.R.R. Tolkein. In ancient times, the Rings of Power were crafted by the Elvensmiths, and Sauron, the Dark Lord, forged the One Ring, filling it with his own power so that he could rule all others. But the One Ring was taken from him, and though he sought it throughout Middle-earth, still it remained lost to him. (7.5 B.L.)
16. **Flyte** by Angie Sage. Septimus Heap, Apprentice to the ExtraOrdinary Wizard, is back in this sequel to *Magyk*. The defeated, but not destroyed, DomDaniel is still bent on ruling the Castle as ExtraOrdinary Wizard by removing Jenna, the rightful heir to the throne. This time it's Simon Heap who, as the necromancer's new Apprentice, pursues Jenna through both new and familiar territory. (6.0 B.L.)
17. **The Goose Girl** by Shannon Hale. Ani, the Princess of Kildenree, is a character in the Cinderella tradition, but her story of betrayal, strength, and resilience has several twists. When her handmaiden, Celia, plots to replace her--the resulting deception, stolen identity, and danger transform Ani into The Goose Girl. This counterpoint experience teaches her about loyalty, friendship, and eventually, love. (5.9 B.L.)
18. **Harry Potter** (any book in the series) by J.K. Rowling.
19. **Heat** -Mike Lupica. When Michael Arroyo is on the baseball diamond, everything feels right. He's a terrific pitcher who dreams of leading his South Bronx All-Stars to the Little League World Series. It's a dream he shared with his father, one they brought with them as they fled Cuba and wound up living in the shadow of Yankee Stadium. Tragically, Papi died of a heart attack a few months back, leaving Michael and his older brother, Carlos, to struggle along on their own. Readers will find themselves rooting for Michael as he struggles with the loss of his father, stumbles into his first boy-girl relationship, and yearns to play baseball.
20. **The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy** by Douglas Adams. Join Arthur Dent as he travels the galaxy with his intrepid pal Ford Prefect, getting into horrible messes and generally wreaking hilarious havoc. Dent is grabbed from Earth moments before a cosmic construction team obliterates the planet to build a freeway. You'll never read funnier science fiction. (6.6 B.L.)
21. **The Hobbit: There and Back Again** by J.R.R. Tolkein. Bilbo Baggins, a well-to-do hobbit, lives comfortably in hobbit-hole until one day Gandalf chooses him to take part in an adventure from which he may never return. (7.2 B.L.)
22. **Magyk** by Angie Sage. Fantasy fans will find a good jolt of action, mystery and humor in this magyk-filled adventure. Infants switched at birth, spell casting, Brownies, boggarts, dastardly villains and wizards add lively scenery and action throughout. (6.0 B.L.)
23. **Murder on the Orient Express** by Agatha Christie. On the long train ride from Istanbul to Paris, detective Poirot must find the killer of a much-hated millionaire among 13 suspects with reasons to kill. (6.2 B.L.)
24. **National Velvet** by Enid Bagnold. "Fourteen-year-old Velvet is determined to turn her untamed horse into a champion and personally ride him to victory in the world's greatest

- steeplechase, the Grand National.” (7.1 B.L.)
25. **Nothing But the Truth** by Avi. Structured as a series of journal entries, memos, letters and dialogues, this highly original novel emerges as a witty satire of high school politics, revealing how truth can easily become distorted. After Philip Malloy, a clownish, rather unmotivated freshman, is punished for causing a disturbance (humming "The Star Spangled Banner"), facts about the incident become exaggerated until a minor school infraction turns into a national scandal. (6.9 B.L.)
  26. **Out of the Dust** by Karen Hesse. In a series of poems, fifteen-year-old Billie Jo relates to the hardships of living on her family's wheat farm in Oklahoma during the dust bowl years of the Depression. (5.6 B.L.)
  27. **The Outsiders** by S.E. Hinton. "S.E. Hinton's 1967 classic, published when she was a freshman in college, is as appropriate and realistic today as it was then. Fourteen-year-old Ponyboy, his brothers, and his friends are poor outcasts--"greasers." They have little but always stick together. After they're victims of the town's "socs (socials)--kids with lots of money, tough cars, and chips on their shoulders--everyone comes to realize how deep and serious their divide is." (6.7 B.L.)
  28. **Phyck** by Angie Sage. Few fans of the best-selling Septimus Heap series will be disappointed by this excellent third adventure, which counters the fraying novelty of the DomDaniel plotline with a brand new villain--a former queen whose malevolent spirit is accidentally released from an enchanted portrait. Along with a deadly epidemic, the spirit brings turmoil to the kingdom and to Septimus, who is forcibly apprenticed to an alchemist living many centuries earlier. (6.5 B.L.)
  29. **Pictures of Hollis Woods** by Patricia Reilly Giff. A realistic fiction book about a twelve-year-old girl's journey through the foster care system and how she finds love, friendship, and a sense of belonging. (4.4 B.L.)
  30. **The Princess Academy** by Shannon Hale. The thought of being a princess never occurred to the girls living on Mount Eskel. Most plan to work in the quarry like the generations before them. When it is announced that the prince will choose a bride from their village, 14-year-old Miri, who thinks she is being kept from working in the quarry because of her small stature, believes that this is her opportunity to prove her worth to her father. All eligible females are sent off to attend a special academy where they face many challenges and hardships as they are forced to adapt to the cultured life of a lowlander. (6.0 B.L.)
  31. **Red Scarf Girl** by Ji-Li Jiang. "Ji-Li has written a compelling memoir which reveals her gradual disillusionment with what she had been taught to believe about the Chinese communist government. A highly successful student, Ji-Li's life begins to unravel during the Cultural Revolution when her family wants her to turn down a chance to be trained by the government as a gymnast. Self-centered at first, the effects that propaganda have upon the lives of people she respects - including her own family - expand her concerns beyond her own. A unique yet universal coming-of-age story." (6.5 B.L.)
  32. **Redwall** ( any book in the series) by Brian Jacques. "As the inhabitants of Redwall Abbey bask in the glorious Summer of the Late Rose, all is quiet and peaceful. But things are not as they seem. Cluny the Scourge, the evil one-eyed rat warlord, is hell-bent on destroying the tranquility as he prepares to fight a bloody battle for the ownership of Redwall." (6.8 B.L.)
  33. **The Return of the King** by J.R.R. Tolkein. This is book three in The Lord of the Rings trilogy. (6.2 B.L.)
  34. **Ribbons** by Laurence Yep. When Robin's Chinese grandmother moves to America, Robin must give up her room and her ballet lessons. Will she always resent this foreign grandmother who has changed her life? (4.9 B.L.)
  35. **The Sea of Trolls** by Nancy Farmer. A tale set in A.D. 793, full of surprising twists and turns combining history, humor and Norse mythology to create adventure and action for

the reader. (4.7 B.L.)

36. **The Skin I'm In** by Sharon Flake. Thirteen-year-old Maleeka is dissatisfied because her skin is extremely dark until she meets a new teacher with a birthmark on her face. Through her teacher, Maleeka discovers who she is and what she looks like.
37. **Speaker for the Dead** by Orson Scott Card. Ender Wiggin, the hero and scapegoat of mass alien destruction in Ender's Game, receives a chance at redemption in this novel. Ender, who proclaimed as a mistake his success in wiping out an alien race, wins the opportunity to cope better with a second race, discovered by Portuguese colonists on the planet Lusitania. (6.1 B.L.)
38. **Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes** by Chris Crutcher. An obese boy and a disfigured girl suffer the emotional scars of years of mockery at the hands of their peers. They share a hard-boiled view of the world until events in their senior year hurl them in very different directions. A story about a friendship with staying power, written with pathos and pointed humor. (7.0 B.L.)
39. **The Sword in the Stone** by T.H. White. “*The Sword And The Stone* recreates, against the background of magnificent pageantry and dark magic that was medieval England, the education and training of young King Arthur, who was to become the greatest of Britain's legendary rulers.” (7.5 B.L.)
40. **Travel Team** by Mike Lupica. This exciting sports fiction book is about a seventh-grader, Danny, who is cut from his basketball team. Danny and his father start their own basketball team.
41. **The Two Towers** by J.R.R. Tolkein. This is book two in The Lord of the Rings trilogy. (6.3 B.L.)
42. **White Fang** by Jack London. London tells the story of a wolf-dog who endures great cruelty before he comes to know human kindness. (7.7 B.L.)
43. **The Year of Impossible Goodbyes** by Sook Nyui Choi. A ten-year-old girl describes her Korean family's experiences during the Japanese occupation of Korea as World War II comes to an end. (7.0 B.L.)

#### SCIENCE (Choose one from this list.)

1. **All Creatures Great and Small** by James Herriot. Here is the heartwarming true story of Dr. James Herriot, an English country veterinarian, whose humor and natural storytelling ability have captured the hearts of American readers in a very special way.
2. **All Things Bright and Beautiful** by James Herriot. “We meet an unforgettable cast of characters, animal and human, in the second volume of Herriot's memoirs. Herriot is now Siegfried's partner in the country veterinary practice, and we go with him on his rounds, cheering his successes, mourning his losses, and smiling at the humor he finds so often.” (6.7 B.L.)
3. **All Things Wise and Wonderful** by James Herriot. The third book in the series is set in the midst of WW II. James is training for the Royal Air Force, while going home to Yorkshire whenever possible to see his very pregnant wife, Helen. Musing on past adventures through the dales, visiting with old friends, and introducing scores of new and amusing characters--animal and human alike--Herriot enthralls readers once again with his uncanny ability to spin a most engaging and heartfelt yarn.
4. **The Lord God Make Them All** by James Herriot. This is the fourth in a series written by a Scottish veterinarian who takes a job in Yorkshire, England, working under Siegfried Farnon. James Herriot, Farnon and his brother Tristan work on all sorts of animals from parakeets to draft horses.
5. **The Apprenticeship of Lucas Whitaker** by Cynthia DeFelice. Lucas' entire family has died, one by one, of tuberculosis, known as consumption in the mid-1800s. Wandering through the Connecticut countryside in grief, Lucas ends up becoming the new apprentice to Dr. Uriah M. Beecher, also the local dentist, apothecary, barber, and undertaker. Lucas' new community is being decimated by consumption, and the local people want to try a technique rumored to work: digging up the remains of the first family member to die, removing and burning the heart, and

breathing in the smoke. Dr. Beecher is certain this is useless at best, but Lucas feels sure it is worth a try. DeFelice skillfully gives readers enough historical information to see the reasoning behind the macabre practice

6. **Born Free** by Joy Adamson. “Adamson recounts her adventures as the surrogate mother of an orphaned lion cub named Elsa (with parenting duties shared by her husband George and by a delightfully imperturbable rock hyrax named Pati), whom she raised as a welcome member of her human and animal family while painstakingly teaching Elsa the skills she would need to survive in the wild. Her teaching, against all odds, was effective: three years later, the Adamsons took Elsa to a place near that of her birth and set her loose, hoping that she would find her "real pride" among other lions of the Kenya grasslands--as she soon did.” (7.8 B.L.)
7. **Charles Darwin: The Life of a Revolutionary Thinker** by Dorothy Hinshaw Patent. “Drawing from published sources as well as the thousands of letters Darwin left behind, Patent creates a vivid picture of the man as a gregarious, loving father, beset by ill health for most of his life, as well as a probing thinker, careful observer, and gifted writer.” (9.1 B.L.)
8. **Code Orange** by Caroline Cooney. “Cooney leads a gregarious New York City teenager to a century-old sample of smallpox scabs. As dedicated to avoiding study as he is to getting closer to classmate Olivia, Mitty is oblivious to the danger he, she, and everyone else in the crowded city is in from his possible exposure to this hyper-contagious, utterly devastating disease--until he starts looking into smallpox for a school project. Drawing from several medical resources, which she lists at the end, Cooney lays out the illness's history and symptoms in precise, gruesome detail as a horrified Mitty writhes on the horns of a dilemma: Is the virus still active?” (6.2 B.L.)
9. **Demon in the Freezer** by Richard Preston. On December 9, 1979, smallpox, the most deadly human virus, ceased to exist in nature. After eradication, it was confined to freezers located in just two places on earth: the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta and the Maximum Containment Laboratory in Siberia. But these final samples were not destroyed at that time, and now secret stockpiles of smallpox surely exist. For example, since the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991, and the subsequent end of its biological weapons program, a sizeable amount of the former Soviet Union's smallpox stockpile remains unaccounted for, leading to fears that the virus has fallen into the hands of nations or terrorist groups willing to use it as a weapon. Scarier yet, some may even be trying to develop a strain that is resistant to vaccines. This disturbing reality is the focus of this fascinating, terrifying, and important book.
10. **Double Helix** by Nancy Werlin. “Eli Samuels struggles with the knowledge that he has a 50/50 chance of getting Huntington's disease as he has watched his mother disintegrate as a result of having the wrong gene. When Eli takes a job at Wyatt Transgenics, he makes a startling discovery that connects his family to the genetic engineering experiments of famous geneticist Quincy Wyatt.” (5.0 B.L.)
11. **The Greenhouse Effect: Warming the Planet** by Darlene Stille. Gases in the atmosphere, known as greenhouse gases, are causing Earth's temperature to rise. These gases let rays of heat and light through the atmosphere. The greenhouse gases trap some of these rays, which heat the atmosphere. While our planet needs a certain level of greenhouse gases to support life, too much can lead to global warming—the overheating of Earth's atmosphere. By understanding how the greenhouse effect works and identifying what pollutants are adding to the problem, we can help prevent the devastating effects of global warming.
12. **The Hot Zone** by Richard Preston. “The dramatic and chilling story of an Ebola virus outbreak in a suburban Washington, D.C. laboratory, with descriptions of frightening historical epidemics of rare and lethal viruses. More hair-raising than anything Hollywood could think of, because it's all true.” (7.3 B.L.)
13. **In the Shadow of Man** by Jane Goodall. First published in 1971, this book remains one of the most extraordinary observations of chimpanzee behavior in the wild. Goodall begins with the story of how she arrived in Africa and her first days there, but wisely switches the attention from herself to the endangered chimpanzees she studies. She not only recognizes individuals but learns their distinctive personalities, describing in compelling detail the smallest of moments that

illuminate who these great animals are.” (8.7 B.L.)

14. **Isaac Newton: Giants of Science** by Kathleen Krull. This second offering in the *Giants of Science* series profiles Sir Isaac Newton, the secretive, obsessive, and brilliant English scientist who invented calculus, built the first reflecting telescope, developed the modern scientific method, and discerned many of our laws of physics and optics. Engaging in limited speculation about Newton's personality, Krull recounts Newton's lonely childhood, his penchant for quiet reflection, and the difficulties that led to his feuding with other scientists.
15. **Life As We Knew It** by Susan Beth Pfeffer. The author tones down the terror, but otherwise crafts a frighteningly plausible account of the local effects of a near-future worldwide catastrophe. The prospect of an asteroid hitting the Moon is just a mildly interesting news item to Pennsylvania teenager Miranda, for whom a date for the prom and the personality changes in her born-again friend, Megan, are more immediate concerns. Her priorities undergo a radical change, however, when that collision shifts the Moon into a closer orbit, causing violent earthquakes, massive tsunamis, millions of deaths, and an upsurge in volcanism. In Miranda's day-by-day journal entries, however, Pfeffer keeps nearly all of the death and explicit violence offstage, focusing instead on the stresses of spending months huddled in increasingly confined quarters, watching supplies dwindle, and wondering whether there will be any future to make the effort worthwhile. The author provides a glimmer of hope at the end, but readers will still be left stunned and thoughtful.
16. **Rocket Boys** by Homer Hickam. “Inspired by Werner von Braun and his Cape Canaveral team, 14-year-old Homer Hickam decided in 1957 to build his own rockets. They were his ticket out of Coalwood, West Virginia, a mining town that everyone knew was dying--everyone except Sonny's father, the mine superintendent and a company man so dedicated that his family rarely saw him. Hickam's smart, iconoclastic mother wanted her son to become something more than a miner and, along with a female science teacher, encouraged the efforts of his grandiosely named Big Creek Missile Agency. He grew up to be a NASA engineer and his memoir of the bumpy ride toward a gold medal at the National Science Fair in 1960--an unprecedented honor for a miner's kid--is rich in humor as well as warm sentiment.” (5.9 B.L.)
17. **Tracking Trash: Flotsam, Jetsam, and the Science of Ocean Motion** by Loree Griffin Burns. While the subtitle leads one to believe that the heart of this book is about the science of ocean currents, it's actually about why we need to protect our marine environment. Burns tells the tale of Dr. Curtis Ebbesmeyer, an oceanographer who started to track trash (flotsam) that washed up on the shore near his Seattle home. Through floating sneakers and bath toys that accidentally fell off container ships and a computer program named OSCURS, Ebbesmeyer tracked the currents of the ocean. These experiments led to a discussion of how debris is polluting our oceans and causing harm to marine life. Burns introduces the work of several scientists who are working to clean up ghost nets and other dangerous debris. The well-written narration will keep readers engaged.

**SOCIAL STUDIES** (Choose one from this list. You will complete a book review when you return to school in the fall.)

1. **Anna of Byzantium** by Tracy Barrett. Anna is the daughter of an Emperor and the next heir to the Byzantine Empire, or is she? Anna knew when her little brother was born that he was going to cause trouble for her. Now, brother John has his eye on the throne, and Anna's Grandmother is poised to help him become the next Emperor. (6.4 B.L.)
2. **The Battle of the Labyrinth** (Percy Jackson and the Olympians, Book 4) by Rick Riordan. Percy Jackson isn't expecting freshman orientation to be any fun. But when a mysterious mortal acquaintance appears on campus, followed by demon cheerleaders, things quickly move from bad to worse. In this latest installment of the blockbuster series, time is running out as war between the Olympians and the evil Titan lord Kronos draws near. Even the safe haven of Camp Half-Blood grows more vulnerable by the minute as Kronos's army prepares to invade its once impenetrable borders. To stop the invasion, Percy and his demigod friends must set out on a quest through the Labyrinth--a sprawling underground world with stunning surprises at every turn.

3. **Catherine, Called Birdy** by Karen Cushman. The daughter of an English country knight keeps a journal in which she records the events of her life, particularly her longing for adventures beyond the usual role of women and her efforts to avoid being married off. (7.4 B.L.)
4. **City of Ember** by Jeanne DuPrau. The year is 241. Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a Messenger and finds part of an ancient message she feels sure will help save her decaying city. (5.0 B.L.)
5. **Cleopatra VII: Daughter of the Nile** by Kristianna Gregory. While her father is in hiding after attempts on his life, twelve-year-old Cleopatra records in her diary how she fears for her own safety and hopes to survive to become Queen of Egypt some day. 6.2 B.L
6. **Curse of the Pharaohs: My Adventures** by Zahi Hawass. Mr. Hawass, currently in charge of the Supreme Council of Antiquities in Egypt, tells true stories of archeology and Egypt's treasures(7.4 B.L.)
7. **The Dragon Throne** by Michael Cadnum. Although this adventure story can be enjoyed on its own, it will be most appreciated by those who have read *The Book of the Lion* (2000) and *The Leopard Sword* (2002, both Viking). This concluding volume in the trilogy finds squires Edmund and Hubert back in England achieving the honor of knighthood. They find themselves in the midst of turmoil caused by Prince John's desire to overthrow his brother King Richard. Eleanor of Aquitaine, the royals' mother, sends the new knights on a dangerous pilgrimage to Rome. During this journey through Europe, the dangers and unrest of the time period come alive. (BL 7.9)
8. **The Egypt Game** by Zilpha Keatly Snyder. It is only a game for six children, until an oracle tells the truth and a murderer appears. (5.5 B.L.)
9. **The Egyptian Box** by Jane Curry. When Tee Woodie's great-uncle died, he left his house and his musty old antique shop to her father, but he left his shabti box and doll to her. Her parents decide to leave Maine for the desert to run the antique store, thus making Tee resentful and friendless in a new school. While working on a report on hieroglyphics, her brother deciphers the characters scrawled across the shabti doll, and Tee realizes that it will do anything she commands. (B.L. 5.6)
10. **Goddess of Yesterday** by Caroline Cooney. The dramatic and bloody siege of Troy is one of the oldest and best of human stories, and in *Goddess of Yesterday* Caroline Cooney tells it afresh through the eyes of Anaxander, the daughter of the king of a tiny Greek island. As a child she is taken as a hostage to the island of King Nicander. When she is 13, marauding pirates sack the palace, killing everyone but her. Anaxander frightens them off by pretending to be the goddess Medusa, with the help of an octopus as a hairdo. When she is rescued by the ships of King Menalaus, she assumes the identity of a princess, Nicander's daughter, and becomes a royal guest. When Menalaus's cold and vain wife, Helen, runs off to Troy with her lover, Paris, Anaxander goes along to protect Helen's baby son. Within the walls of Troy, she is torn with conflicting loyalties as the bronze-clad warriors of Menalaus land their ships on the plains below the city and war is imminent. (B.L. 5.1)
11. **The Golden Goblet** by Jarvis McGraw. In this novel set in ancient Egypt, a young goldsmith's apprentice is forced to work as a stonecutter by a cruel stepbrother who is in the business of robbing tombs. (6.3 B.L.)
12. **The Great Pyramid of Giza** by Anne Millard. This book explores the origins and history of the Great Pyramid of Giza from the days of Khufu's father, Sneferu, to the Great Pyramid's status today as a landmark of world history. (8.4 B.L.)
13. **Hannibal** by Robert Green. This book presents the life and military exploits of the famous Carthaginian general. (6.9 B.L.)
14. **I am the Mummy Heb Nefert** by Eve Bunting. A mummy recalls her past life in ancient Egypt as the beautiful wife of the pharaoh's brother. BL 4.2
15. **The Lightning Thief** (Percy Jackson and the Olympians, Book 1) by Rick Riordan. The escapades of the Greek gods and heroes get a fresh spin in the first book in the Percy Jackson and the Olympians series, about a contemporary 12-year-old New Yorker who learns he's a demigod. Perseus, aka Percy Jackson, thinks he has big problems. His father left before he was born, he's been kicked out of six schools in six years, he's dyslexic, and he has ADHD. What a surprise when he

finds out that that's only the tip of the iceberg: he vaporizes his pre-algebra teacher, learns his best friend is a satyr, and is almost killed by a minotaur before his mother manages to get him to the safety of Camp Half-Blood--where he discovers that Poseidon is his father.

16. **Mary, Bloody Mary** by Carolyn Meyer. A story based on the life of Mary Tudor, half sister to Queen Elizabeth and daughter to Henry VIII. As a baby, Mary was adored by her father and was thought to be the next heir to the throne. But gradually the King decides that his heir must be male and begins an affair with Anne Boleyn. Follow Mary's story as she is separated from her Mother, stripped of her title and banished. (6.3 B.L.)
17. **Matilda Bone** by Karen Cushman. Fourteen-year old Matilda has spend most of her life in a manor house. But suddenly Matilda finds herself in Blood and Bone Alley apprenticed to Peg the Bonesetter. Bloodlettings, bone settings, foul remedies, and scary surgeries give the reader a taste of the practice of medicine in the Middle Ages. (5.7 B.L.)
18. **The Midwife's Apprentice** by Karen Cushman. In medieval England, a nameless, homeless girl is taken in by a sharp-tempered midwife, and in spite of obstacles and hardship, eventually gains the three things she most wants: a full belly, a contented heart, and a place in this world. (6.5 B.L.)
19. **The Mummy, the Will and the Crypt** by John Bellairs.(6.2 B.L.)
20. **Outside and Inside Mummies** by Sandra Markle. This book describes the high technology that is being used to uncover the many secrets of mummies, including how they died, their age, and their diet. (7.3 B.L.)
21. **The Ramsay Scallop** by Francis Temple. In 1300, 14-year-old Elenor of Ramsay's fiance, Thomas of Thornham, returns from the Crusades. The couple, uncertain of their roles in life and their feelings about each other, are reluctant to wed. Wise Father Gregory sends them on a pilgrimage to Spain; this not only buys them time but forces them to become better acquainted. Their journey is full of unexpected adventures, joys, and hardships. They see new sights, make new friends, and learn new things. By book's end, both are at peace with themselves and gracefully accept their lot. Temple writes fluently of the medieval era, smoothly weaving data on everyday life, religious attitudes, folklore, music, architecture, and crafts into her story. (BL 5.6)
22. **Richard the Lionheart and the Third Crusade** by David Hilliam. This book relates how King Richard I of England and his troops nearly wrested Jerusalem from Muslim leader Saladin and the Saracens during the Third Crusade in 1191 AD. (8.1 B.L.)
23. **The Sea of Monsters** (Percy Jackson and the Olympians, Book 2) by Rick Riordan. Thirteen-year-old Percy is just finishing up his school year and is looking forward to another great summer at Camp Half-Blood with all the other demigods. But even before school ends, things start happening, and soon Percy is at camp along with Tyson, a homeless kid adopted by Percy's school. At camp, Percy not only discovers that Tyson is a Cyclops and a son of Poseidon, which makes him Percy's half-brother, but also that the camp is in trouble. There's a quest to rescue Percy's friend, Grover the satyr, and to retrieve the Golden Fleece.
24. **Secret of the Sphinx** by James Giblin. This book discusses some of Egypt's most famous artifacts and monuments, including the pyramids, the Rosetta Stone, and, especially, the Great Sphinx, presenting research and speculation about their origins and their future. (8.2 B.L.)
25. **Short Walk around the Pyramids** by Philip Isaacson. An introduction to art that considers the quality and style of various objects. (7.9 B.L.)
26. **The Thief** by Megan Whalen Turner. Gen flaunts his ingenuity as a thief and relishes the adventure which takes him to a remote temple of the gods where he will attempt to steal a precious stone. (6.0 B.L.)
27. **The Titan's Curse** (Percy Jackson and the Olympians, Book 3) by Rick Riordan. In this installment, Riordan continues to enliven ancient mythology with wit, contemporary staging, and teenage heroics. Percy Jackson is now 14, a bit older and wiser, yet still entangled with the Fates. Friends, monsters, dysfunctional gods, and the romantic stirrings of all things natural and mythological are encountered. His good friend, if oft-time rival, Annabeth (daughter of Athena) is missing, as is Artemis, goddess of the hunt. Joined by best buddy Grover-the-goat-boy and an argumentative array of accomplices, Percy sets off to fulfill, and hopefully foil, the foreboding

prophecy of the Oracle.

28. **Tutankhamun: The Mystery of the Boy** by Zahi Hawass. He was crowned King of Egypt at about age nine and died abruptly and mysteriously at age 18. This book scrutinizes the artifacts found in King Tut's tomb 3,500 years after his death, and recreates his life and times.(6.6 B.L.)
29. **The Winged Cat: A Tale of Ancient Egypt** by Deborah Lattimore. In ancient Egypt to determine who is telling the truth about the death of the girl's sacred cat, a young servant girl and a High Priest must each find the correct magic spells from the Book of the Dead that open the 12 gates of the Netherworld. (BL 4.3)

**Note:** Book descriptions have been taken from a variety of sources including Amazon.com, "The School Library Journal, and the jackets of the books themselves.