

# Glen Meadow 2012 Summer Reading List:



7<sup>th</sup> Grade: \*Available in Glen Meadow's office

## *Hoot by Carl Hiaasen*

Middle-schooler Roy Eberhardt, new kid in Coconut Cove... teams up with some classic children's lit outsiders to save the home of some tiny burrowing owls... The story is full of offbeat humor, buffoonish yet charming supporting characters, and genuinely touching scenes of children enjoying the wildness of nature. - *American Library Association*

## *Al Capone Does My Shirts by Gennifer Choldenko\**

Twelve-year-old Moose moves to Alcatraz in 1935 so his father can work as a prison guard and his younger, autistic sister, Natalie, can attend a special school in San Francisco. It is a time when the federal prison is home to notorious criminals like gangster Al Capone. Depressed about having to leave his friends and winning baseball team behind, Moose finds little to be happy about on Alcatraz... With its unique setting and well-developed characters, this warm, engaging coming-of-age story has plenty of appeal. - *American Library Association*

## *Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins*

In a not-too-distant future, the United States of America has collapsed, weakened by drought, fire, famine, and war... Each year, two young representatives from each district are selected by lottery to participate in The Hunger Games... Collins's characters are completely realistic and sympathetic as they form alliances and friendships in the face of overwhelming odds; the plot is tense, dramatic, and engrossing. This book will definitely resonate with the generation raised on reality shows like 'Survivor' and 'American Gladiator.' - *School Library Journal*

## *The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan*

A teenager with special needs discovers that he has magical powers, when he realizes that he is Poseidon's son reborn in modern times. The story leads to an exciting series of novels where readers become captivated in a modern and fantastic world of ancient Greek mythology.

## *The Acorn People by Ron Jones*

Even though he knows the camp is for disabled children, Ron Jones anticipates sunny days of hiking, swimming, and boating as a counselor at Camp Wiggin. But he arrives and realizes how severely disabled the children are, it seems too much to bear. Until he meets his campers—The Acorn People. A group of

kids who teach him that, inside, they are the same as any average kid, and with encouragement, determination, and friendship, nothing is impossible. – *Barnes & Noble*

## The Year of Impossible Goodbyes *by Snook Nyul Choi*

In 1945, 10-year-old Sookan's homeland of North Korea is occupied by the Japanese. Left behind while her resistance-fighter father hides in Manchuria and her older brothers toil in Japanese labor camps... Drawn partly from Choi's own experiences, her debut novel is a sensitive and honest portrayal of amazing courage. In clear, graceful prose, she describes a sad period of history that is astonishing in its horror and heart-wrenching in its truth. Readers cannot fail to be uplifted by this account of the triumph of the human spirit in an unjust world. - *Publisher's Weekly*

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## Code Orange *by Caroline B. Cooney\**

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 [a] hyper-contagious, utterly devastating disease--until he starts looking into smallpox for a school project... Readers won't soon forget either the profoundly disturbing premise of this page-turner or its likable, ultimately heroic slacker protagonist. - *American Library Association*

## Anthem *by Ayn Rand\**

*Anthem* is the fictional diary of a young man living in a future society. Citizens of this future world have lost all sense of freedom or individuality. They must decide whether to risk their lives to oppose the society's leaders and very way of being, to find meaning and knowledge about the world in which they live.

## Torn Thread *by Anne Issacs*

Eva Buchbinder, 12 years old in 1943, has recently been forced into the Jewish ghetto in Bedzin, Poland, along with her father and sickly older sister, Rachel... The conditions are terrible: starvation rations, dangerous conditions at the textile factory where they work, rampant disease and, always, the threat of deportation to Auschwitz... Given its precise detail and sensitivity to unimaginable suffering, this gripping novel reads like the strongest of Holocaust memoirs. – *Publisher's Weekly*

## The Face on the Milk Carton *by Caroline B. Cooney*

The picture of a missing child printed on a milk carton attracts the attention of 15-year-old Jane Johnson. A glimpse of the girl's polka-dot dress causes memories to surface, and Jane begins to review her past and question her true identity... Cooney's skilled writing makes even the most unlikely events seem plausible. The roller-coaster ride Jane experiences with her emotions is both absorbing and convincing. Strong characterizations and suspenseful, impeccably-paced action add to this novel's appeal. - *Publisher's Weekly*

## Maximum Ride *by James Patterson*

Fourteen-year-old Max (short for Maximum Ride) leads an usual group of children, escapees from an institution that designed them by "grafting avian DNA onto human genes." Yup, these kids have wings.

When Angel, the smallest of the group, is kidnapped by mutants and taken back to the "school," Max and her family determine to get her back--no matter what. – *School Library Journal*

## *Touching Spirit Bear by Ben Mikaelson*

After his anger erupts into violence, fifteen year-old Cole, in order to avoid going to prison, agrees to participate in a sentencing alternative based on the Native American Circle Justice, and he is sent to a remote Alaskan Island where an encounter with a huge Spirit Bear changes his life.

## *Elephant Run by Roland Smith*

At the height of the London blitz, Nick's mother sends him to join his father on the family's remote, ancestral timber plantation in Burma. Her gambit turns out badly: The invading Japanese soon seize the plantation, imprisoning his father in a brutal POW camp, and leaving 13-year-old Nick to endure hardship under Japanese overseers... This offering's unusual setting deserves attention from historical fiction fans, who will appreciate the window on a rarely discussed theater of World War II. - *American Library Association*