

SCMS 2011 Summer Reading List

Rising 6th Grade:

Stargirl
by Jerry Spinelli (\$6)

OR

Hoot
by Carl Hiaasen (\$6)

Rising 7th Grade:

Surviving the Applewhites
by Stephanie S. Tolan (\$6)

OR

Nothing But the Truth
by Avi (\$6)

Rising 8th Grade:

*Chinese Cinderella: The True Story
of an Unwanted Daughter*
by Adeline Yen Mah (\$7)

OR

Slam by Walter Dean Myers (\$6)

Rising 6th Grade Bridge:

The Last Book in the Universe
by Rodman Philbrick (\$6)

Rising 7th Grade Bridge:

The Alchemyst
by Michael Scott (\$7)

Rising 8th Grade Bridge:

Red Kayak by Suzanne Cummings (\$6)

AND

Big Mouth & Ugly Girl
by Joyce Carol Oates (\$7)

For your convenience, books are available for purchase at SCMS while supplies last. It is to your advantage to buy from the school, because books are purchased at a volume discount saving you \$\$\$ and time.

Attention 5th graders:
Attention 6th & 7th graders:

Purchase books at 5th Grade Parent Night on May 3.
Purchase books before and after school starting May 3.

During the summer, you may inquire in the front office about purchasing a book.

Decision to make? Book summaries may be found on the back.

ONLY \$6 or \$7 at SCMS while supplies last

Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli

From the day she arrives at quiet Mica High in a burst of color and sound, the hallways hum with the murmur of "Stargirl, Stargirl." She captures Leo Borlock's heart with just one smile. She sparks a school-spirit revolution with just one cheer. The students of Mica High are enchanted...at first. Then, they turn on her. Stargirl is suddenly shunned for everything that makes her different, and Leo, panicked and desperate with love, urges her to become the very thing that can destroy her: normal. In this celebration of nonconformity, Newbery Medalist Jerry Spinelli weaves a tense, emotional tale about the perils of popularity and the thrill and inspiration of first love.

Hoot by Carl Hiaasen

Roy Eberhardt is the new kid--again. This time around it's Trace Middle School in humid Coconut Grove, Florida. But it's still the same old routine: table by himself at lunch, no real friends, and thick-headed bullies like Dana Matherson pushing him around. But if it wasn't for Dana Matherson mashing his face against the school bus window that one day, he might never have seen the tow-headed running boy. And if he had never seen the running boy, he might never have met tall, tough, bully-beating Beatrice. And if he had never met Beatrice, he might never have discovered the burrowing owls living in the lot on the corner of East Oriole Avenue. And if he had never discovered the owls, he probably would have missed out on the adventure of a lifetime. Apparently, bullies do serve a greater purpose in the scope of the universe.

Surviving the Applewhites by Stephanie S. Tolan

With his spiked hair and all-black clothing, 13-year-old Jake looks the part of the juvenile delinquent he's supposed to be. He's moved from Rhode Island to rural North Carolina to stay with his grandfather, and the only educational institution that will have him is the Creative Academy, the homeschool run by the zany Applewhite family. The Applewhites, from four-year-old Destiny to grandfather Zedediah, are all creative, talented, artistic types, and their haphazardly run school is more of a self-education opportunity. E.D., the almost 13-year-old daughter of the clan, feels like the odd one out--her talents lie in organization, not in art, writing, dance, or theater, like the rest of the family. But when her director father undertakes a local production of *The Sound of Music*, all the Applewhites throw themselves into making it a success. E.D. is indispensable as stage manager, and Jake gets a starring role in the play and discovers a passion for the stage. Just like the butterflies they hatch from caterpillars as part of a self-directed science project, the two adolescents find their wings.

Nothing But the Truth by Avi

Patriotism or practical joke? Harrison, NH — Ninth-grade student Philip Malloy was suspended from school for singing along to *The Star-Spangled Banner* in his homeroom, causing what his teacher, Margaret Narwin, called "a disturbance." But was he standing up for his patriotic ideals, only to be squelched by the school system? Was Ms. Narwin simply trying to be a good teacher? Or could it all be just a misunderstanding gone bad — very bad? What is the truth here? Can it ever be known? Heroism, hoax, or mistake, what happened at Harrison High changes everything for everyone in ways no one — least of all Philip — could have ever predicted.

Chinese Cinderella: The True Story of an Unwanted Daughter by Adeline Yen Mah

A riveting memoir of a girl's painful coming-of-age in a wealthy Chinese family during the 1940s. A Chinese proverb says, "Falling leaves return to their roots." In Chinese Cinderella, Adeline Yen Mah returns to her roots to tell the story of her painful childhood and her ultimate triumph and courage in the face of despair. Adeline's affluent, powerful family considers her bad luck after her mother dies giving birth to her. Life does not get any easier when her father remarries. She and her siblings are subjected to the disdain of her stepmother, while her stepbrother and stepsister are spoiled. Although Adeline wins prizes at school, they are not enough to compensate for what she really yearns for — the love and understanding of her family. Following the success of the critically acclaimed adult bestseller *Falling Leaves*, this memoir is a moving telling of the classic Cinderella story, with Adeline Yen Mah providing her own courageous voice.

Slam by Walter Dean Myers

Seventeen-year-old Greg "Slam" Harris can do it all on the basketball court. He's seen ballplayers come and go, and he knows he could be one of the lucky ones. Maybe he'll make it to the top. Or maybe he'll stumble along the way. Slam's grades aren't that hot. And when his teachers jam his troubles in his face, he blows up. Slam never doubted himself on the court until he found himself going one-on-one with his own future, and he didn't have the ball.