

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2016

Grade 6

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

- Abbott, Tony. ***The Copernicus Legacy: The Forbidden Stone***. Katherine Tegen, 2014. Wade, Lily, Darrell, and Becca fly from Texas to Germany for the funeral of an old family friend. But instead of just paying their respects, they wind up on a dangerous, mind-blowing quest to unlock an ancient, guarded secret that could destroy the fate of the world. *Series*
- Allen, Crystal. ***The Laura Line***. Balzar + Bray, 2013. When Laura Dyson's seventh grade history teacher schedules a class trip to the slave shack on her grandmother's farm, Laura is forced to come to terms with her family's past and what it means for her future.
- Auxier, Jonathan. ***The Night Gardener***. Amulet Books, 2014. Irish orphans, Molly, fourteen, and Kip, ten, travel to England to work as servants in a crumbling manor house where nothing is quite what it seems to be. Soon the siblings are confronted by a mysterious stranger and secrets of the cursed house. Spooky atmosphere abounds!
- Avi. ***Catch You Later, Traitor***. Algonquin, 2015. It's 1951, and twelve-year-old Pete Collison is a regular kid in Brooklyn, New York, who loves Sam Spade detective books and radio crime dramas. But when FBI agents show up at Pete's doorstep, accusing Pete's father of being a Communist, Pete is caught in a real-life mystery. Could there really be Commies in Pete's family?
- Balliett, Blue. ***Hold Fast***. Scholastic, 2013. On a cold winter day in Chicago, Early's father disappeared. Now she, her brother, and mother have been forced to flee their apartment and join the ranks of the homeless – leaving it up to Early to hold her family together and solve the mystery surrounding her father.
- Bauer, Joan. ***Close to Famous***. Viking, 2011. Twelve-year-old Foster dreams of growing up to become a celebrity chef despite her reading disability. Can the quirky townsfolk of tiny Culpepper help Foster succeed?
- Benjamin, Ali. ***The Thing About Jellyfish***. Little, Brown, 2015. Twelve-year-old Suzy Swanson wades through her intense grief over the loss of her best friend by investigating the rare jellyfish she is convinced was responsible for her friend's death.
- Blakemore, Megan Frazer. ***The Spy Catchers of Maple Hill***. Bloomsbury, 2014. Hazel Kaplansky and new student Samuel Butler investigate rumors that a Russian spy has infiltrated their small Vermont town, amidst the fervor of Cold War era McCarthyism, but more is revealed than they could ever have imagined.
- Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker. ***The War That Saved My Life***. Dial Books, 2015. A young disabled girl and her brother are evacuated from London to the English countryside during World War II, where they find life to be much sweeter away from their abusive mother.
- Bragg, Georgia. ***How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous***. Walker, 2011. "If you don't have the guts for gore, do not read this book." This caveat from the publisher warns the reader that they will encounter lots of gory details of the deaths of nineteen famous people . . . fun and informative too.

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- Brown, Don. ***The Great American Dust Bowl***. Houghton Mifflin, 2013. This graphic novel explores the American plains in the 1930's when millions of kinetic dust particles "rained down" causing the catastrophe known as the Dust Bowl.
- Creech, Sharon. ***The Boy on the Porch***. Joanna Cotler, 2013. One day a young couple finds a boy asleep on their porch. He is unable to speak or explain who he is, but they choose to care for the boy and embrace his exuberant spirit and talents. A simple tale that touches the heart and asks questions about the real meaning of family.
- DeFelice, Cynthia. ***Fort***. Farrar Straus Giroux, 2015. Wyatt and his friend Augie are enjoying the fort they built, but when two older boys mess with it and with another kid who can't fight back, they launch Operation Doom to get back at the bullies.
- Draper, Sharon. ***Out of My Mind***. Atheneum, 2010. Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient, young girl with cerebral palsy discovers a way for her to speak for the first time.
- Ellis, Leanne Statland. ***The Ugly One***. Clarion, 2013. At the height of the Incan Empire, a girl called the Ugly One because of a disfiguring scar on her face seeks to have the scar removed but finds a life path as a shaman instead.
- Flanagan, John. ***The Outcasts***. Philomel, 2011. In this action-packed companion series to Flanagan's *Rangers Apprentice* books, a sixteen-year-old Skandian-Araluen named Hal and his group of misfit friends compete against two other, more powerful, brotherbands, enduring three months of grueling training in seamanship, weapons, and battle tactics to determine who will win the coveted prize. *Series*
- Frederick, Heather Vogel. ***Absolutely Truly***. Simon & Schuster, 2014. Twelve-year-old Truly Lovejoy's family moves to a quaint town in New Hampshire to take over her grandparents' bookstore, and soon, she and her new friends have to solve two mysteries involving a missing book and an undelivered letter.
- Freedman, Russell. ***Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass: The Story Behind an American Friendship***. Clarion, 2012. This fascinating account focuses on the lives of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln, including their friendship and its effect on emancipation and the Civil War.
- Gibbs, Stuart. ***Space Case: a Moon Base Alpha Novel***. Simon & Schuster, 2014. You'd think it would be awesome to be the first people to live on the moon, right? For 12-year old Dashiell Gibson and the other civilians on the base, however, life is extremely dull until the base's top scientist is found dead. Dash takes it upon himself to solve the mystery and find out what exactly happened to the doctor.
- Graff, Lisa. ***Tangle of Knots***. Philomel, 2013. Destiny leads eleven-year-old Cady to a peanut butter factory, a family of children searching for their own Talents, and a Talent Thief who will alter her life forever.
- Greenberg, Jan. ***The Mad Potter: George E. Ohr, Eccentric Genius***. Roaring Brook, 2013. Filled with historical photographs and over fifty color reproductions of Ohr's ceramics, this fifty three page biography takes an interesting look into the development of a larger-than-life artist

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- Haskell, Merrie. ***Handbook for Dragon Slayers***. Harper, 2013. Yearning for life in a cloistered scriptorium, thirteen-year-old Princess Matilda, whose lame foot brings fear of the evil eye, escapes her scheming cousin Ivo and joins her servant Judith and an old friend, Parz, in hunting dragons and writing about them. Schneider Family Book Award for 2014.
- Hiaasen, Carl. ***Chomp***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2012. A combination of wild animals and reality TV is mixed with a dose of humor, adventure, and mystery when the fame-seeking star of the show disappears in the Florida Everglades and Wahoo Cray, the young animal wrangler, and his new friend Tuna are the only ones who can find him.
- Hoffman, Alice. ***Nightbird***. Wendy Lamb, 2015. Due to a 200-year-old curse on her family and an enormous secret, twelve-year-old Twig and her mother avoid people and certainly do not have friendships in their quaint hometown of Sidwell, Massachusetts; yet when the descendants of the witch who placed the curse moves into the house next door, big changes begin to blossom.
- Hoose, Phillip. ***Moonbird: A Year on the Wind With the Great Survivor B95***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2012. Documents the survival tale of an intrepid shorebird who has endured annual migrations between Argentina and the Canadian Arctic throughout the course of a long lifetime while his species continues to decline.
- Hopkinson, Deborah. ***The Great Trouble: a Mystery of London, the Blue Death, and a Boy Called Eel***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2013. Eel, an orphan, and his best friend Florrie must help Dr. John Snow prove that cholera is spread through water, and not poisonous air, when an epidemic sweeps across their London neighborhood in 1854.
- Jamieson, Victoria. ***Roller Girl***. Dial Books, 2015. Twelve-year-old Astrid decides she wants to try something new this summer and signs-up for a Roller Derby Camp, but her long time best friend Nicole makes a different choice. How will this summer change Astrid and her friendship with Nicole?
- Johnson, Jaleigh. ***The Mark of the Dragonfly***. Delacorte, 2014. Since her father's death in a factory in the Dragonfly territories, thirteen-year-old Piper has eked out a living as a scrapper in Merrow Kingdom, but the arrival of a mysterious girl sends her on a dangerous journey to distant lands.
- Kadohata, Cynthia. ***The Thing About Luck***. Atheneum, 2013. Just when twelve-year-old Summer thinks nothing else can possibly go wrong in a year of bad luck, an emergency takes her parents to Japan, leaving Summer to care for her little brother while helping her grandmother cook and do laundry for harvest workers.
- Kennedy, Caroline, ed. ***Poems to Learn by Heart***. Disney-Hyperion, 2013. A wonderful selection of poems -- some old favorites, some new -- arranged by everyday subjects like school, family, self, sports, etc., accompanied by watercolor illustrations so charmingly done by Jon J. Muth. A book to treasure and share!
- Kidd, Chip. ***Go: a Kidd's Guide to Graphic Design***. Workman, 2013. This is an appealing introduction to graphic design with chapters covering: form, typography, content, and concepts, including 10 design projects for you to try.

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- Kirby, Matthew. ***Spell Robbers***. Scholastic, 2014. Ben Warner is invited to join a "science camp" led by a quantum physicist. With his new friend Peter he discovers the secret art of Actuation--the ability to change reality by imagining it differently--but he also finds that there are people willing to kill for that secret. Book One of the exciting spy, sci-fi adventure, *The Quantum League*.
- Korman, Gordon. ***Masterminds***. Balzer + Bray, 2015. The tiny town of Serenity, New Mexico, appears to be the most perfect town in the world, however, when thirteen-year-old Eli and his friend try to leave the city limits for the first time, Eli gets his first clue that all may not be as it seems, and that something sinister is going on all around them. *Series*
- LeGrand, Eric. ***Believe: the Victorious Story of Eric LeGrand***. HarperCollins, 2012. Eric LeGrand reflects on his life, discussing his childhood, family, success in high school and college sports, and the football injury which resulted in paralysis, rehabilitation, and more.
- Levine, Kristin. ***The Lions of Little Rock***. Putnam, 2012. In 1958 Little Rock, Arkansas, painfully shy twelve-year-old Marlee sees her city and family divided over school integration, but her friendship with Liz, a new student, helps her find her voice and fight against racism.
- Leyson, Leon. ***The Boy on the Wooden Box: How the Impossible Became Possible...on Schindler's List***. Antheneum, 2013. This memoir recounts the life and perseverance of the youngest survivor on Schindler's list. Mr. Leyson's incredible remembrances remind us of the atrocities of war and the humanity that one person can show to make a difference.
- Loftin, Nikki. ***Nightingale's Nest***. Razorbill, 2014. In this twist on "The Nightingale," Little John, despite his own poverty and grief, reaches out to Gayle, an unhappy foster child living next-door who sings beautifully and hides a great secret.
- Lopez, Diana. ***Ask My Mood Ring How I Feel: a Novel***. Little Brown, 2013. A genius young sister and keeping up with a boyfriend wish list are the biggest problems in Chia's life when she learns her mom has cancer. Will God help her keep a big promise?
- Lupica, Mike. ***Fantasy League***. Philomel, 2014. Twelve-year-old Charlie gets a chance to work with a real NFL owner once his skills for picking Fantasy Football winners is discovered. On the field, the game is much more challenging.
- Napoli, Donna Jo. ***Treasury of Egyptian Mythology: Classic Stories of Gods, Goddesses, Monsters & Mortals***. National Geographic, 2014. Presents illustrated retellings of Egyptian myths, sharing the stories of Ra, Isis, Osiris, Anubis, and Bastet with sidebars for each god, goddess, monster and mortal that link the tales to history, geography, and culture, and includes a timeline and other resources.
- O'Connor, George. ***Athena: Grey-Eyed Goddess***. First Second, 2010. Action and adventure are in store for the Greek goddess Athena in this graphic portrayal that is told through five myths. *Series*

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- Pearsall, Shelly. ***Jump into the Sky***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2012. In 1945, thirteen-year-old Levi is sent to find the father he has not seen in three years. He travels from Chicago to segregated North Carolina and finally to Pendleton, Oregon, where he learns that his father's unit, the all-Black 555th paratrooper battalion, will never see combat but finally has a mission. Includes historical notes.
- Riordan, Rick; adapted by Orpheus Collar. ***The Red Pyramid: Graphic Novel***. Disney-Hyperion, 2012. Brilliant Egyptologist Dr. Julius Kane accidentally unleashes the Egyptian god Set who banishes the doctor to oblivion and forces his two children to embark on a dangerous journey, bringing them closer to the truth about their family and its link to a secret order that has existed since the time of the pharaohs.
- Sachar, Louis. ***Fuzzy Mud***. Delacorte, 2015. Two kids take a shortcut home from school through forbidden woods to escape a bully and discover what looks like fuzzy mud but is actually a substance with potential to wreak havoc on the entire world.
- Shusterman, Neil and Eric Elfman. ***Tesla's Attic***. Disney-Hyperion, 2014. With a plot combining science and the supernatural, four kids are caught up in a dangerous plan concocted by the eccentric inventor, Nikola Tesla. *Series*
- Sloan, Holly Goldberg. ***Counting by 7s***. Dial, 2013. Twelve-year-old genius and outsider Willow Chance must figure out how to connect with other people and find a surrogate family for herself after her parents are killed in a car accident.
- Smith, Roland. ***The Edge***. Houghton Mifflin, 2015. Fifteen-year-old Peak Marcello is invited to participate in an "International Peace Ascent" in the Hindu Kush, with a team made up of under-eighteen-year-old climbers from around the world--but from the first something seems wrong, so when the group is attacked, and most of the climbers are either killed or kidnapped, Peak finds himself caught up in a struggle to survive, shadowed by the Shen, a mysterious snow leopard. *Series*
- Stone, Tanya Lee. ***Courage Has No Color: the True Story of the Triple Nickles: America's First Black Paratroopers***. Candlewick, 2013. Examines the role of African-Americans in the military through the history of the Triple Nickles, America's first black paratroopers, who fought against attacks perpetrated on the American West by the Japanese during World War II.
- When on Earth: History as You've Never Seen it Before***. DK, 2015. Divided into four sections covering the ancient, medieval, and modern worlds, this book features beautiful illustrations, 3-D graphics, clear text boxes, and fun facts that bring history to life and show how it fits into the world at large.
- Wiles, Deborah. ***Revolution***. Scholastic, 2014. It's 1964 in Greenwood, Mississippi, and Sunny's town is being invaded by people from up north who are coming to help people register to vote. Her personal life isn't much better, as a new stepmother, brother, and sister are crowding into her life, giving her little room to breathe. *Series*

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Woodson, Jacqueline. ***Brown Girl Dreaming***. Nancy Paulsen, 2014. The author shares her childhood memories and reveals the first sparks that ignited her writing career in free-verse poems about growing up in the North and South. *National Book Award Winner, Newbery Honor Book, Sibert Honor Book, The Coretta Scott King Author Award Winner*

Compiled by:

Grace Littlefield (Chair), *Second Baptist School*

Jenny Filardo, *Presbyterian School*

Diane King, *Westbury Christian School*

Laura Leib, *Duchesne Academy of the Sacred Heart*

Judann Luening, *Kinkaid School*

Gina Lunsford, *The Woodlands Christian Academy*

Desiree McConnell, *St. Francis Episcopal Day School*

Aria Tatelman, *formerly at Duchesne Academy*

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