



# Mendham Township Middle School

## Core Reading List By Grade Level – Thematic/Genre



5/9/2016

All Mendham Township Middle School students will read at least **six core novels per grade level** in language arts class. Teachers will select no less than five **highlighted** books from the list below and the sixth is selected from the remaining grade level list. There are four fundamental themes (Tolerance, Courage, Maturation, and Adventure) that spiral through our reading selections. In addition, the books marked **INCLUSIVE SCHOOL** are part of a program to support anti-bullying initiatives and ultimately, a more inclusive school-learning environment. As it is our school community's mission to lead our students to becoming life-long learners and to lead responsible productive lives, these themes are fundamentally essential to in-class discussions, writing prompts, homework assignments, and assessments. See grade level selections approved by the Mendham Township Board of Education below:

**One School / One Book Summer 2013 – *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio**

**One School / One Book Summer 2015 – *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Parks**

Grade	Title	Author	Genre	Theme
<b>F I F T H</b>	<i>Island of the Blue Dolphins</i> 1000L	Scott O'Dell 1000	Historical Fiction	<b>Courage</b> 1. Friendship 2. Values 3. Decisions
	<i>Number The Stars</i> 670L	Lois Lowry 670	Historical Fiction	<b>Tolerance</b> 1. Courage / bravery 2. Learning from history 3. Values (pride/human decency) 4. Prejudice
	<i>Holes</i> 660L	Louis Sachar 660	Realistic Fiction	<b>Tolerance/Courage/ Maturation/Adventure</b> 1. Diversity 2. Friendship 3. Perseverance 4. Values
	<i>A Week In the Woods</i> 820L	Andrew Clements 820	Realistic Fiction	<b>Maturation</b> 1. Responsibility 2. Confronting challenges 3. Coping 4. Courage
	<i>Love that Dog</i> 1010L	Sharon Creech	Prose	<b>Maturation</b> 1. Identity 2. Values 3. Responsibility
	<i>Gorilla Doctors: Saving Endangered Great Apes</i> 910L	Pamela Turner	Non-Fiction/ Expository	<b>Adventure</b> 1. Confronting challenges 2. Responsibility 3. Learning from History
	<i>Rules</i> <b>INCLUSIVE SCHOOL</b> 780L	Cynthia Lord	Realistic Fiction	<b>Tolerance/Courage/ Maturation</b> 1. Diversity 2. Friendship 3. Perseverance 4. Values

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<i>The Cay</i> 860L	Theodore Taylor	Realistic Fiction	<b>Maturation</b> 1. Confronting challenge 2. Coping 3. Responsibility 4. Identity
<i>The Watsons Go to Birmingham</i> 1000L	Christopher Paul Curtis	Historical Fiction	<b>Tolerance</b> 1. Prejudice 2. Learning from History 3. Values 4. Coping
<i>The Adventures of Ulysses</i> 860L	Bernard Evsli	Fantasy	<b>Adventure</b> 1. Hero 2. Courage 3. Decisions
<i>Mockingbird: (Mok'ing-burd)</i> <i>INCLUSIVE SCHOOL</i>	Kathryn Erskine 630L	Realistic Fiction	<b>Tolerance/Courage</b> <b>Maturation</b> 1. Diversity 2. Confronting Challenges 3. Perseverance 4. Coping
<i>The View From Saturday</i> 870L	E.L. Konigsburg	Realistic Fiction	<b>Tolerance/Maturation</b> 1. Values 2. Confronting challenge 3. Identity 4. Cooperation
<i>Coraline</i> 740L	Neil Gaiman	Fantasy	<b>Adventure</b> 1. Decisions 2. Courage 3. Values 4. Bravery 5. Overcoming Obstacles
<i>The Hounds of Bakersville</i> 980L	Arthur Conan Doyle	Classic Lit./Mystery	<b>Adventure</b> 1. Hero 2. Courage 3. Decisions
<i>Weedflower</i> 750L	Cynthia Kadohata	Historical Fiction	<b>Tolerance</b> 1. Prejudice 2. Learning from History 3. Values 4. Coping

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<i>Farewell to Manzanar</i> 1040L	Houston & Houston	Memoir	<b>Tolerance</b> 1. Prejudice 2. Courage 3. Values
<i>The Witch of Blackbird Pond</i>	E. Speare 850L	Historical Fiction	<b>Courage</b> 1. Identity 2. Decisions 3. Values 4. Responsibility
<i>The Giver</i> 760L	Lois Lowry	Fantasy	<b>Maturation</b> 1. Confronting challenge 2. Values 3. Responsibility
<i>Treasure Island</i> 760L	R. Stevenson	Classic Lit.	<b>Adventure</b> 1. Courage 2. Decisions 3. Values
<i>Stargirl</i> 590L /A <i>Midsummer Night's Dream</i> <i>INCLUSIVE SCHOOL</i>	Jerry Spinelli/ Shakespeare 1080L	Realistic Fiction/ Prose	<b>Tolerance</b> 1. Diversity 2. Courage 3. Values 4. Prejudice and identity
<i>The Maze Runner</i> 770L	James Dashner	Fantasy	<b>Courage/Adventure</b> 1. Courage 2. Loyalty 3. Friendship 4. Survival
<i>Out of Dust</i> 1040L	Karen Hesse	Prose/ Historical	<b>Maturation</b> 1. Coping 2. Confronting Challenge 3. Responsibility 4. Identity
<i>The Schwa Was Here</i> 790L	Neal Shusterman	Realistic Fiction	<b>Friendship</b> 1. Family 2. Values 3. Responsibility 4. Identity

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<b>Lord of The Flies</b> 770L	<b>William Golding</b>	<b>Classic Lit.</b>	<b>Courage</b> 1. Integrity 2. Values 3. Responsibility 4. Decisions
<b>Call of the Wild</b> 1120L	<b>Jack London</b>	<b>Classic Lit.</b>	<b>Adventure</b> 1. Courage 2. Loyalty 3. Friendship 4. Survival
<b>Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry</b> 920L	<b>Mildred Taylor</b>	<b>Historical Fiction</b>	<b>Tolerance</b> 1. Responsibility 2. Prejudice 3. Values 4. Learning from history
<b>Romeo and Juliet/Hamlet</b> 1370L	<b>Shakespeare</b>	<b>Prose</b>	<b>Maturation</b> 1. Decisions/consequences 2. Confronting challenge 3. Self-determination 4. Identity
<b>Fahrenheit 451</b>	<b>Ray Bradbury</b>	<b>Fantasy</b>	<b>Courage</b> 1. Decisions 2. Responsibility 3. Values 4. Learning from History
<b>I am the Cheese</b> 810L	<b>Robert Cormier</b>	<b>Realistic Fiction</b>	<b>Maturation</b> 1. Identity 2. Individuality 3. Courage 4. Coping
<b>My Thirteenth Winter 1050L</b> <i>INCLUSIVE SCHOOL</i>	<b>Samantha Abeel</b>	<b>Non-Fiction/ Memoir</b>	<b>Maturation / Tolerance</b> 1. Identity 2. Confronting challenges 3. Self-determination 4. Overcoming Obstacles
<b>Uglies</b> 790L	<b>Scott Westerfeld</b>	<b>Fantasy</b>	<b>Adventure Courage</b> 1. Prejudice & identity 2. Confronting challenge 3. Self-determination 4. Values
<b>To Kill A Mockingbird</b> 870L	<b>Harper Lee</b>	<b>Classic Lit./ Historical Fiction</b>	<b>Maturation / Tolerance</b> 1. Decisions 2. Responsibility 3. Values 4. Prejudice & identity

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