

WAMOGO 8TH GRADE SUMMER READING LIST 2011

Sports



Samurai Shortstop by *Alan Gratz*

A son of a samurai must deal with the challenges of school bullies, baseball and his father's wish to die like a samurai.



Dairy Queen by *Catherine Gilbert Murdock*

DJ Schwenk spends most of her time, tending to the family dairy farm, while her father recovers from surgery, her mother is at work non-stop and her brothers are away from home. She's recruited to help train the quarterback from the rival football team, while she works on her farm. When DJ decides that she is going to try out for the football team, her family and the town, have a lot to say about it.



Summer Ball by *Mike Lupica*

Danny heads to basketball camp after winning the travel-team championship. He's an excellent player, but still the smallest in his group. Can he match-up against some of the best players in his age group?

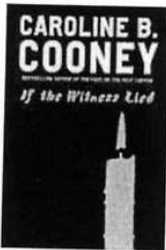
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Mystery/Historical Fiction



Peeled by Joan Bauer

Hildy Biddle, high school reporter, must get to the bottom of the mystery that is haunting her town. The local newspaper is having a field day, terrifying local residents with tales of ghost. Will anyone believe a high school reporter?



If the Witness Lied by Caroline Cooney

When Jack's evil aunt turns their family tragedy into a reality show, Jack and his sisters reunite to save their youngest sibling. They realize that their aunt is behind a lie that will change their lives forever.



Killer Pizza by Greg Taylor

Toby hopes to be a chef someday and thinks his new job at Killer Pizza will be great preparation for his future. When he finds out that the pizza place is actually a training ground for a secret monster hunting organization, he's not sure if this is the job he was looking for! Fast paced action-thriller!



Woods Runner by Gary Paulsen

The setting is the American Revolution. Sam, a 13 year old boy prides himself on his ability to survive in the wilderness. This skill becomes essential when he comes home one day to find his house has been burned, and his family has been taken prisoner by the enemy. Sam is determined to find his parents, but he must survive the terrors of war first.

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Fantasy/SciFi



Gathering Blue by Lois Lowry

A companion book to *The Giver*. Kira is orphaned and left to survive on her own, until her gift of weaving is discovered.



Compound by S.A. Bodeen

When the world was destroyed by nuclear attack, Eli and his parents moved underground to a safe shelter and they have been living there ever since. Eli starts to doubt his father's plan and finds himself in danger as he puts together clues that his father may have been lying all along. *Nutmeg Nominee 2012*



Elsewhere by Gabrielle Zevin

Liz gets hit by a taxi and finds herself in Elsewhere. She struggles with the loss of her past life. She finds it hard adjust to her new "life" where she gets younger (and never gets her license!) and coming to terms with her future, as strange as it may be.



Unwind by Neal Shusterman

Parents have the right to "unwind" their children before they turn 18. Unwinding your teen means that you donate all usable parts to those in need. What happens when you don't agree with your parents' decision? Great book! *Nutmeg winner 2011*



The Maze Runner by James Dashner

Thomas wakes up and realizes he has no idea where he is. He's in a place called the Glade. Every 30 days a boy is "delivered." There's a maze that all of the boys are trying to escape during the day. Many don't come back from their explorations. At night they must lock themselves in to survive the part animal, part machines called "Grievers."

Can Thomas figure out how to get out of the maze?

Nutmeg Nominee 2012



I am a Genius of Unspeakable Evil and I want to be you Class President by Josh Lieb

Evil genius Oliver Watson pretends to be dumb to get through life quietly as he plans world domination! :)

Once he decides to run for class President though, he needs to use all of his powers to convince his classmates he can do it and for once, get his father's approval. An outlandish, funny book!

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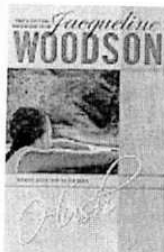
Realistic



Hit the Road by *Caroline Cooney*
Brit just got her license, and wishes she had a car to drive. Her dreams come true when her grandmother invites her on a wild road trip which includes kidnapping some of her elderly friends! This story is based in Connecticut.



Home and Other Big Fat Lies by Whitney Young
is on her 12th foster family and not looking forward to moving to a town in the woods. She uncovers a mystery about the town as she tries to figure out if this could be her home forever.



Hush by *Jacqueline Woodson*

When her father testifies in a murder case, Toswiah's family goes into hiding, with new identities. Can she get used to this life as a new person? Is her family still in danger?



Alabama Moon by *Watt Key*
Moon Blake has only lived in the woods. Deep in the woods, hiding from the Government with his Dad. . When his father dies, he plans to continue to live on his own, until he gets caught by the authorities. Moon's later escape, with new found friends causes him a heap of trouble and he finds himself



Antsy Does Time by *Neal Shusterman*
The follow-up to *The Schwa was Here*, Antsy decides to give a month of his time to his "dying" classmate which leads to comical results. Antsy and his neighborhood gang are back!