



2017 Summer Reading Lists

Entering 4th Grade

Do you want to star in a commercial about your favorite summer reading book?

Ask about our exciting Video Booktalk After School Activity!

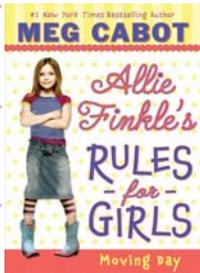
See Mrs. Phethean or Amy Kaplan (B.M.P.L.) for details.

Go to www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/ to see the videos!

Prepared by Todd School Library Media Center and Briarcliff Manor Public Library librarians

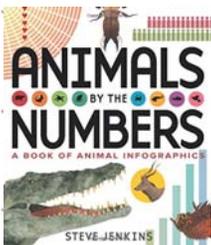
It is important to note that the titles on this list span a range of reading levels for students entering fourth grade. The Briarcliff Public Library and Todd Library Media Center librarians have selected these books to help you and your child develop a lifetime habit and enjoyment of reading.

Individual Titles:



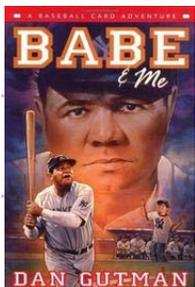
Allie Finkle's Rules for Girls: Moving Day [Allie Finkle series] by Meg Cabot

Allie is not happy about her family moving from a nice house and state-of-the-art school to some creepy old house and rundown school. Allie is sure her life is over.



Animals by the Numbers by Steve Jenkins

How many species are there across the globe? How much do all of the insects in the world collectively weigh? How far can animals travel? Steve Jenkins answers these questions and many more with numbers, images, innovation, and authoritative science in his latest work of illustrated nonfiction. The level of scientific research paired with Jenkins creativity and accessible infographics is unmatched and sure to wow fans old and new.



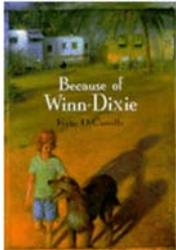
Babe and Me [Baseball Card Adventure series] by Dan Gutman

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/ With their ability to travel through time using vintage baseball cards, Joe and his father have the opportunity to find out whether Babe Ruth really did call his shot when he hit that homerun in the third game of the 1932 World Series against the Chicago Cubs.



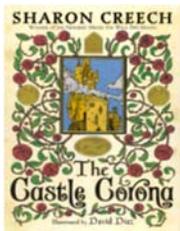
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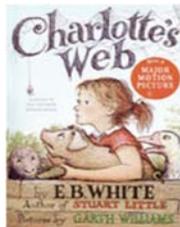
Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo

Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog Winn-Dixie.



The Castle Corona by Sharon Creech

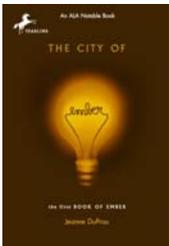
Newbery Medalist Sharon Creech spins an imaginative tale about a glittering castle and the royal — and very spoiled — family who lives there, and of two peasants who are in possession of a stolen pouch that has the power to unlock secrets and transform lives.



Charlotte's Web by E.B. White

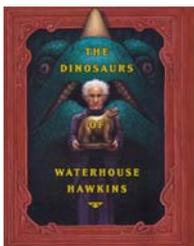
Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

An affectionate, sometimes bashful pig named Wilbur befriends a spider named Charlotte who lives in the rafters above his pen. Wilbur is desolate when he discovers that he's destined to be the farmer's Christmas dinner, until Charlotte helps him.



City of Ember by Jeanne DuPrau

It is the year 241 and the great lamps that light the city are beginning to flicker. When Lina finds part of an ancient message, she's sure it holds a secret that will save the city.



The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins by Barbara Kerley

This is a true and inspirational story of the man who built the world's first life sized models of dinosaurs. The text is complemented by amazing illustrations from Caldecott medalist Brian Selznick.



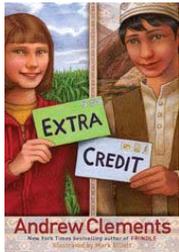
Dragon Rider by Cornelia Funke

Firedrake is a dragon on an adventurous journey to find the hidden city at the Rim of Heaven so that he might be able to live happily ever after and out of danger. Ben, an orphaned boy, and Sorrell, a wise-cracking fairy, join him on his quest.



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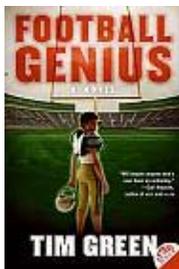
Extra Credit by Andrew Clements

Three young middle school aged children, Abby, Amira and Sadeed, exchange letters back and forth between Illinois and Afghanistan, bridging the gaps in their culture along the way.



Flashback Four, The Lincoln Project by Dan Gutman

Miss Z, a mysterious billionaire and a collector of rare photographs, is sending her four recruits back in time on a mission to capture, for the first time, one of the most important moments in American history-- Abraham Lincoln giving his famous Gettysburg address.



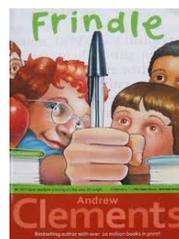
Football Genius by Tim Green

Troy White can predict any football play before it happens. And when his single mom gets a job with the Atlanta Falcons, Troy knows it's his big chance to help them out of their slump—and finally prove his football genius.



Fort by Cynthia DeFelice

A middle-grade summer adventure about two boys who build an awesome fort and tangle with two older bullies.



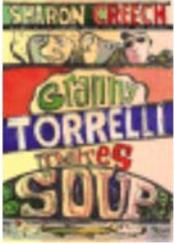
Frindle by Andrew Clements

When he decides to turn his fifth-grade teacher's love of the dictionary around on her, clever Nick Allen invents a new word and begins a chain of events that quickly moves beyond his control.



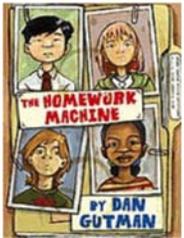
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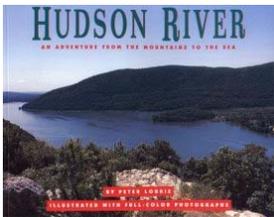
Granny Torrelli Makes Soup by Sharon Creech

With the help of her wise grandmother, twelve-year-old Rosie manages to work out some problems in her relationship with her best friend, the boy next door.



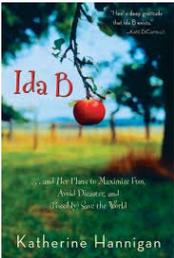
The Homework Machine by Dan Gutman

Four kids share a secret — a homework machine. Everything is great for a while, but soon the machine becomes more powerful than they ever imagined, and not even its inventor can stop it.



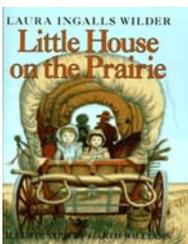
Hudson River: An Adventure from the Mountains to the Sea by Peter Lourie

An account of the author's 315 mile canoe trip down the Hudson River.



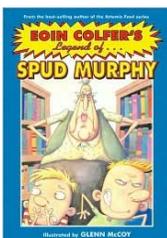
Ida B. by Katherine Hannigan

Life is perfect for Ida B., playing and planning on her farm and being home-schooled by her parents, until her mother gets sick and everything changes. Ida B. is determined to hate every minute of everything new, but her heart just can't help but soften in spite of herself.



Little House on the Prairie by Laura Ingalls Wilder

Author Laura Ingalls Wilder writes of her experiences growing up in the 1800s. Follow Laura's life from the glorious days spent tucked in the Big Woods of Wisconsin, all the way through to her marriage to Almanzo and the birth of her own little girl in this series.



Legend of Spud Murphy by Eoin Colfer, illus. by Glenn McCoy

When their mother starts dropping them off at the library several afternoons a week, nine-year-old William and his brother dread boredom and the mean old librarian Spud Murphy, but they are surprised at how things turn out.



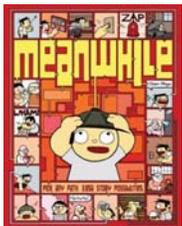
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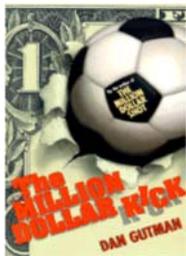
The Library Card by Jerry Spinelli

Four mystical tales of how a small blue library card changes the life of the children who discover it.



Meanwhile by Jason Shiga

In this choose-your-own adventure graphic novel, a boy stumbles on the laboratory of a mad scientist who asks him to choose between testing a mind-reading device, a time machine, and a doomsday machine.



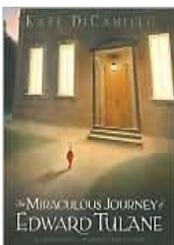
The Million Dollar Kick by Dan Gutman

Thirteen-year-old Whisper, who hates sports, is torn when she gets a chance to win a million dollars by kicking against a local soccer hero.



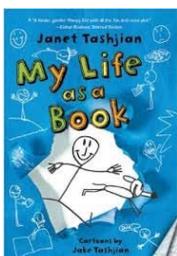
Minn and Jake by Janet S. Wong

Fifth-grader Minn, the tallest girl in school, begins a rocky friendship with Jake, a new student who is afraid of the Minn worms and lizards that Minn likes to collect.



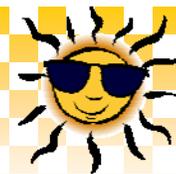
The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate DiCamillo, illus. by Bagram Ibatoulline

Edward Tulane, a cold-hearted and proud toy rabbit, loves only himself until he is separated from the little girl who adores him. He travels across the country, acquiring new owners and listening to their hopes, dreams, and histories.



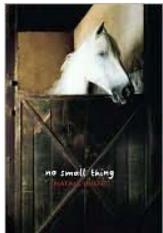
My Life as a Book by Janet Tashjian, illustrated by Jake Tashjian

Dubbed a "reluctant reader" by his teacher, twelve-year-old Derek spends summer vacation learning important lessons even though he does not complete his summer reading list.



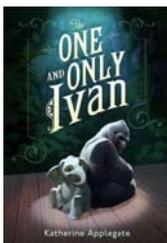
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No Small Thing by Natale Ghent

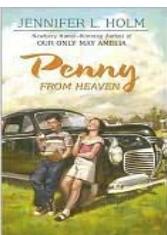
They can barely afford food for themselves, how could they feed a horse? Somehow Nat and his sisters find a way when they get a horse for free and their lives change forever.



The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate

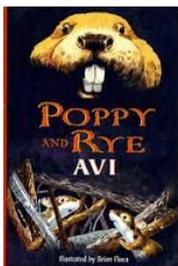
Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

Ivan, a gorilla who has lived in a cage in a mall for most of his life as part of an "act," meets Ruby, a baby elephant who has been added to the show. Ivan decides that Ruby deserves a better life and aims to make it happen.



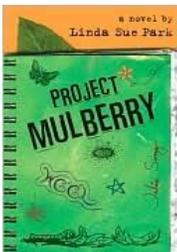
Penny from Heaven by Jennifer L. Holm

As she turns twelve during the summer of 1953, Penny gains new insights into herself and her family while also learning a secret about her father's death.



Poppy and Rye by Avi

When their home next to a brook is destroyed by beavers, a large family of golden mice is aided by Poppy the deer mouse and her grumpy porcupine friend, who in the process forges a relationship with the son he had abandoned.



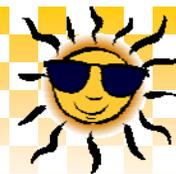
Project Mulberry by Linda Sue Park

Julia doesn't want to raise silkworms like her mother suggested, but Patrick does. When she doesn't say anything it all snowballs. Best friends Julia and Patrick learn a lot about prejudice, patience, and silkworms throughout the project, and Julia changes her attitude.



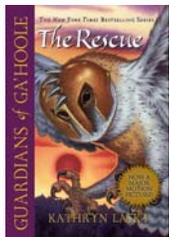
Quiz Whiz: 1,000 Super Fun Mind-Bending Totally Awesome Trivia Questions by National Geographic Kids

Presents one thousand trivia questions and answers on various subjects, from biology and technology to mathematics, history, and popular culture.

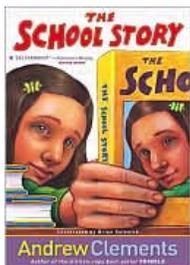


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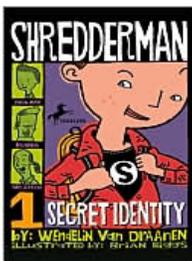
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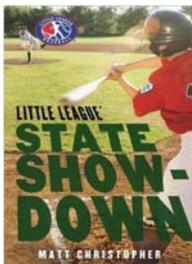
The Rescue [Guardians of Ga'Hoole series] by Kathryn Lasky
Soren, a barn owl, and his owl friend Gylfie must work together to figure out how to save the entire owl world from the evil owls of St. Aegolius Academy.



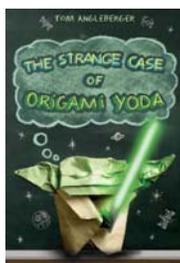
The School Story by Andrew Clements
Twelve-year-old Natalie writes a novel and her best friend, another twelve-year-old, acts as her editor to get it published. No one can know that they are twelve and no one can know that it is Natalie because it's her mom's publishing firm.



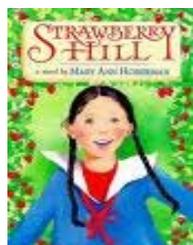
Shredderman by Wendelin van Draanen
Fifth-grader Nolan Byrd has had enough of suffering at the hands of Bubba Bixby the bully. He creates a super cyberhero, Shredderman, who hosts a top-secret web page that exposes the truth...and then a truth-exposing hero is born!



State Showdown by Matt Christopher
Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/
Eleven-year-old cousins Carter Jones and Liam McGrath must both deal with grudges that threaten to break apart their All-Star teams during post-season play.



The Strange Case of Origami Yoda [Origami Yoda series] by Tom Angleberger
Dwight is a weird kid who talks through an origami yoda on his finger. What's even stranger is how wise this yoda-Dwight seems to be when real-Dwight isn't wise at all. Tommy chronicles all of the events surrounding this mysterious phenomenon in his humorous account of the school year.



Strawberry Hill by Mary Ann Hoberman
Ten-year-old Allie's family moves from a city to a country town, and a street called Strawberry Hill, in the midst of the Great Depression. She meets two neighbor girls, and learns about loyalty, jealousy, friendship and rejection.



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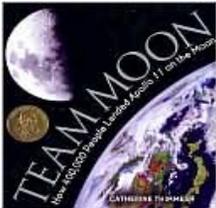
Swindle by Gordon Korman

After unscrupulous collector S. Wendell Palamino cons him out of a valuable baseball card, sixth-grader Griffin Bing puts together a band of misfits to break into Palomino's heavily guarded store and steal the card back, planning to use the money to finance his father's failing invention, the SmartPick fruit picker.



A Tangle of Knots by Lisa Graff

All of the characters in this book fit together like a puzzle in a slightly magical world where everyone has a Talent, and an orphan with a cake-baking Talent finds her way home.



Team Moon by Catherine Thimmesh

Chronicles the Apollo 11 mission, the spaceflight that landed the first man on the Earth's moon on July 20, 1969, emphasizing the contributions and reactions of the thousands of people who made the mission successful.



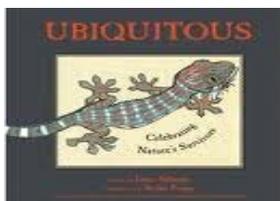
Touch Blue by Cynthia Lord

When the state of Maine threatens to shut down their island's one-room schoolhouse because of dwindling enrollment, eleven-year-old Tess, a strong believer in luck, and her family take in a trumpet-playing foster child to increase the school's population.



Tracks in the Snow by Lucy Bledsoe

Tiffany and Erin's survival skills are tested when they are stranded in the woods in a snowstorm.



Ubiquitous: Celebrating Nature's Survivors by Joyce Sidman, illustrated by Beckie Prange

"Well-researched science facts are paired with vivid poems to describe how these very special life-forms avoided extinction to become nature's survivors...stunning illustrations..." –*School Library Journal*



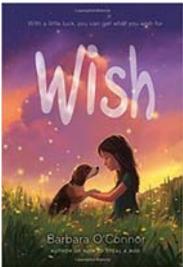
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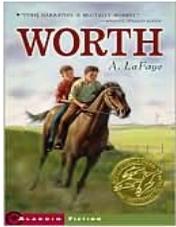
Where the Sidewalk Ends by Shel Silverstein

A boy who turns into a TV set and a girl who eats a whale are only two of the characters in a collection of humorous poetry illustrated with the author's own drawings.



Wish by Barbara O'Connor

A story about a girl who, with the help of the dog of her dreams, discovers that family doesn't always have to be related--they are simply people who love you for who you are.



Worth by A. LaFaye

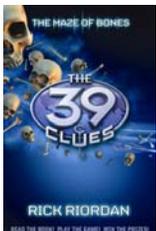
Nate feels worthless with his broken leg and he only feels worse when his family gets an orphan boy to live with them and do his share of work on the family farm.



Zeus: King of the Gods by George O'Connor

A fictionalized retelling, in graphic novel format, of the Greek myth that details the story of Zeus, describing his boyhood through the beginning of his reign as the ruler of the Olympian Pantheon.

Series Titles:



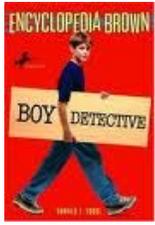
The 39 Clues and *The 39 Clues: Unstoppable* series by Various Authors

The Cahills are the most powerful family in history—but the source of their power is lost. Young teens Dan and Amy must risk their lives time and again to follow the clues and get it back.



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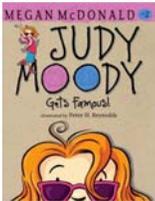
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Encyclopedia Brown series by Donald J. Sobol
America's "Sherlock Holmes in sneakers" fights crimes by solving mysteries.



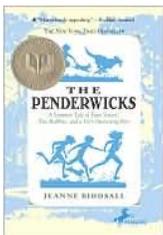
I Survived series by Lauren Tarshish
Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/
Each book in the series goes back in history to a real disaster and follows a fictional person or family surviving the life-threatening events.



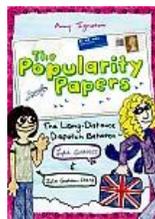
Judy Moody series by Megan McDonald
Each *Judy Moody* book offers a different hilarious episode in the life and adventures of Judy.



Julia Gillian series by Alison McGhee
Nine-year-old Julia Gillian learns a lot as she and her St. Bernard, Bigfoot, observe and explore their Minneapolis neighborhood.



The Penderwicks series by Jeanne Birdsall
Follow the adventures of four sisters and their widowed father in four humorous stories featuring lovable characters.



The Popularity Papers series by Amy Ignatow
In these humorous stories two best friends embark on a project to study the behavior and taste of the popular girls at their elementary school so that by the time they get to middle school they too will be in the right crowd. Their findings are recorded in the form of a scrapbook.



Sherlock Files series by Tracy Barrett
Xena and Xander Holmes, an American brother and sister living in London, discover that Sherlock Holmes is their great-great-great-grandfather and are given his unsolved case book. In the first book they attempt to solve the case of a missing painting.



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A Series of Unfortunate Events series Lemony Snickett

After the sudden death of their parents, the three Baudelaire children must depend on each other and their wits when it turns out that their guardian is determined to use any means necessary to get their fortune.

SUGGESTED AUTHORS:

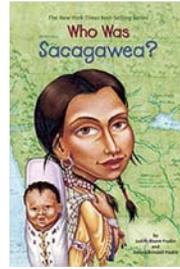
Andrew Clements
Matt Christopher
Beverly Cleary
Sid Fleischman

Cornelia Funke
Dan Gutman
Dick King-Smith
James Howe

Louis Sachar
Betty Ren Wright

Peer Recommended Video Booktalk Titles

Please note that these titles below are NOT a part of the Todd School official summer reading list. However, students at Todd School enjoyed them and created video booktalks to recommend them to their peers.



***Camp Confidential: Natalie's Secret* by Melissa J. Morgan**

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

When her mother makes her leave Manhattan to attend a summer camp in Pennsylvania, eleven-year-old Natalie tries to overcome her aversion to nature and makes new friends while, at the same time, keeping a major secret about her family.

***No Talking* by Andrew Clements**

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

The noisy fifth grade boys of Laketon Elementary School challenge the equally loud fifth grade girls to a "no talking" contest.

***Who Was Sacagawea* by Judith Bloom Fraden**

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

A brief biography of Sacagawea, the Shoshoni woman who accompanied explorers Lewis and Clark on their expedition in the early 1800s.