

**Summer Reading 2009:**  
**Incoming Sixth Grade**

***Our White House*** (Candlewick Press)

More than one hundred leading authors and illustrators donate their talents to a collection of essays, personal accounts, historical fiction, and poetry which looks at America's history through the prism of the White House.

**Appelt, Kathi: *The Underneath***

An old hound that has been chained up at his hateful owner's run-down shack and two kittens born underneath the house endure separation, danger, and many other tribulations in their quest to be reunited and free.

**Bradley, Timothy J.: *Paleo Bugs: Survival of the Creepiest*** (non-fiction)

Introduces young readers to the large creatures that crawled upon the earth over 500 million years ago and were the ancestors of the insects and other arthropods that we have today.

**Broach, Elise: *Masterpiece***

After Marvin, a beetle, makes a miniature drawing as an eleventh birthday gift for James, a human with whom he shares a house, the two new friends work together to help recover a Durer drawing stolen from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

**Erdrich, Lois: *The Porcupine Year***

In 1852, forced by the United States government to leave their beloved Island of the Golden Breasted Woodpecker, fourteen-year-old Omokayas and her Ojibwe family travel in search of a new home.

**Hardinge, Frances: *Well-Witched***

Three friends fall prey to the demands of the Well Witch when they trespass in her wishing well and steal some coins.

**Horvath, Polly: *My One Hundred Adventures***

Twelve-year-old Jane, who lives at the beach in a run-down old house with her mother, two brothers, and sister, has an eventful summer accompanying her pastor on Bible deliveries, meeting former boyfriends of her mother's, and being coerced into babysitting for a family of ill-mannered children.

**Kehret, Peg: *The Ghost's Grave***

Apprehensive about spending the summer in Washington State with his Aunt Ethel when his parents get an overseas job, twelve-year-old Josh soon finds adventure when he meets the ghost of a coal miner.

**Kelsey, Marybeth: *Tracking Daddy Down***

Daredevil eleven-year-old Billie has an exciting summer, in spite of her overprotective stepfather, when she figures out where her father and uncle are hiding after robbing a bank and enlists her cousin's help in convincing them to surrender.

**Law, Ingrid: *Savvy***

Recounts the adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her “savvy” – a magical power unique to each member of her family – just as her father is injured in a terrible accident.

**Mass, Wendy: *11 Birthdays***

After celebrating their first nine same-day birthdays together, Amanda and Leo, having fallen out on their tenth and not speaking to each other for the last year, prepare to celebrate their eleventh birthday separately but peculiar things begin to happen. The day of their birthday begins to repeat itself over and over again.

**McKay, Hilary: *Forever Rose* (series)**

As Christmas approaches, eleven-year-old Rose, the youngest member of the eccentric Casson family, discovers that life is filled with both catastrophic problems and wonderful surprises.

**Murphy, Pat: *The Wild Girls***

When twelve-year-old Joan moves to California in 1972, she becomes friends with Sarah, who is timid at school but an imaginative leader when they play in the woods, and after winning a writing contest together they are recruited for an exclusive summer writing class that gives them new insights into themselves and others.

**Nelson, Kadir: *We Are the Ship* (non-fiction)**

Using an "Everyman" player as his narrator, Kadir Nelson tells the story of Negro League baseball from its beginnings in the 1920s through the decline after Jackie Robinson crossed over to the majors in 1947

**Wynne-Jones, Tim: *Rex Zero, King of Nothing***

In 1962 Ottawa, eleven-year-old Rex Norton-Norton faces several confusing mysteries, including his father's troubling secrets from World War II, the problems of a beautiful but unhappy woman named Natasha, what to do about his mean and vindictive teacher, and whether or not he should even be concerned about these things.