Sixth Grade Suggested Reading

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Andrews, Ryan - This was our Pact

When their community celebrates the annual Autumn Equinox Festival by lighting paper lanterns and floating them in the river, Ben and the school misfit, Nathaniel, embark on a bicycle trip to discover what happens to the lanterns.

Avi - The Button War: A Tale of the Great War

Running with a group of friends who entertain themselves by coming up with increasingly risky dares, 12-year-old Patryk watches as their tiny Polish village is occupied by a series of hostile nations throughout the Great War, before his friends begin looting the bodies of soldiers as part of an increasingly dangerous competition.

Clements, Andrew - The Losers Club

Alec, a sixth-grade bookworm, always in trouble for reading instead of listening and participating in class, starts a book club, solely to have a place to read, and discovers that real life can be as exciting as the stories in his favorite books.

Cotter, Charis – The Ghost Road

A story about ghosts, a family curse, buried secrets, and two girls who have to figure it all out.

Craft, Jerry - New Kid

Instead of sending Jordan to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color. Can Jordan navigate his new school culture while staying true to himself?

Cummings, Pat - Trace

An African-American middle schooler who has recently lost both his parents sees a ghost wearing old-fashioned clothing in the basement of the New York Public Library.

Draper, Sharon – Blended

Piano-prodigy Isabella, eleven, whose black father and white mother struggle to share custody, never feels whole, especially as racial tensions affect her school, her parents both become engaged, and she and her stepbrother are stopped by police.

Ecton, Emily - The Ambrose Deception

Three Chicago students, Melissa, Wilf, and Bondi, are unlikely participants in a competition for a ten thousand dollar scholarship, unaware that there is much more at stake.

Foxlee, Karen - Lenny's Book of Everything

Lenny and her younger brother, Davey, who suffers from a rare form of gigantism, cope with his declining health by poring over each installment of Burrell's Build-It-at-Home Encyclopedia Set.

Frank, Steven - Armstrong and Charlie

During the pilot year of a Los Angeles school system integration program, two sixth grade boys, one black, one white, become best friends as they learn to cope with everything from first crushes and playground politics to the loss of loved ones and racial prejudice.

Haydu, Corey Ann – Eventown

To Elodee, eleven, things seem a little too perfect in Eventown when she moves there with her parents and identical twin, Naomi, especially since forgetting the past is so highly valued.

Hiranandani, Veera - The Night Diary

Shy twelve-year-old Nisha, forced to flee her home with her Hindu family during the 1947 partition of India, tries to find her voice and make sense of the world falling apart around her by writing to her deceased Muslim mother in the pages of her diary.

Jamieson, Victoria - All's Faire in Middle School

Homeschooled by Renaissance Fair enthusiasts, eleven-year-old Imogene has a hard time fitting in when her wish to enroll in public school is granted.

Lloyd, Natalie - A Snicker of Magic

The Pickles are new to Midnight Gulch, Tennessee, a town which legend says was once magic. Felicity is convinced the magic is still there. With the help of her new friend Jonah the Beedle, she hopes to bring the magic back.

Messner, Kate – Breakout

From multiple perspectives, tells of a time capsule project and the middle schoolers who contribute, including future journalist Nora Tucker and newcomer Elidee Jones, whose brother is in the local prison.

Murphy, Julie - Dear Sweet Pea

Struggling to adjust to her parents' sudden divorce at the same time she is forced to sit next to her former best friend in class, a teen finds herself in the unlikely role of a community advice columnist.

Philbrick, Rodman - Wildfire: A Novel

Thirteen-year-old Sam is at summer camp, but when camp is evacuated ahead of a fast moving wildfire, he finds himself running for his life. Will he survive?

Reynolds, Jason – Look Both Ways: A Tale Told in Ten Blocks

A collection of ten short stories that all take place in the same day about kids walking home from school.

Ruby, Laura - York: The Shadow Cipher

In an alternate history of New York, three kids try to solve a modern-world puzzle and complete a treasure hunt laid into the streets and buildings of the city. Try also: York: The Clockwork Ghost.

Stead, Rebecca - When You Reach Me

As her mother prepares to be a contestant on the 1980s game show, "The \$20,000 Pyramid," a twelve-year old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seems to defy the laws of time and space.

Warga, Jasmine - Other Words for Home

Sent with her mother to the safety of a relative's home in Cincinnati when her Syrian hometown is overshadowed by violence, Jude worries for the family members who were left behind as she adjusts to a new life.