This summer, the teachers at EJD are excited to keep you engaged! What better way to do that than with BOOKS?! Teachers are sharing their favorite titles for you to choose from.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teachers:</th>
<th>Picks:</th>
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| Mrs. Ariola  
Principal | Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters  
By Rick Riordan |

Dear EJD Students,

As we are getting closer to summer vacation, I wanted to encourage you all to continue to read while you are enjoying the nice weather and time away from school. Check out some of the books your favorite staff here at EJD have read and are recommending! I hope you have a great end of the school year, and enjoy your summer. See you all in September!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Ariola

So, as you grab some vitamin D this summer, also take some time to grab some mental vitamins from a good book or two, or three or more!

Sora has free ebooks! [https://soraapp.com/welcome](https://soraapp.com/welcome)

Use our online graphic novel collections for all your graphic novel and manga needs! [https://ejdmiddleschoolny.librarypass.com](https://ejdmiddleschoolny.librarypass.com)
| **Ms. Lewis** | **The Heroes of Olympus**  
by Rick Riordan |
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>These books make me excited about being a mythology geek, and are great if you loved Percy Jackson because this is considered a spin-off series!</td>
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| **Mrs. Barton** | **Restart**  
by Gordan Korman |
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<td>Chase doesn't remember falling off the roof! When he returns to school, some kids treat him like a hero and some kids are clearly afraid of him!</td>
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<td>Reading Age 10-12, lexile level 730.</td>
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| **Mr. Szyikowski** | **The Way Things Work**  
by David Macauley |
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This is my favorite book of all time. It has great illustrations of how things work mechanically.</td>
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| **Mrs. Barnwell** | **Frank Einstein and the Antimatter Motor: Book One**  
by Joe Scieszka |
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<td>In his Grandpa Al's garage workshop, child genius Frank Einstein tries to invent a robot that can learn on its own, and after an accident brings wisecracking Klink and overly expressive Klank to life, they set about helping Frank perfect his Antimatter Motor until his archnemesis, T steals his idea and Klink and Klank!</td>
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| **Mrs. Barnwell** | **Eight Keys**  
by Suzanne LaFleur |
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<td>Eight Keys follows the struggles of Elise Bertrand as she begins sixth grade, deals with a bully named Amanda, and does her best to make new friends while keeping old friends.</td>
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| **Mrs. Barnwell** | **Ungifted**  
by Gordon Korman |
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<td>Ungifted is told with chapters of alternating perspectives. The plot revolves around Donovan Curtis, a troublemaker that gets wrapped up in a major prank gone wrong.</td>
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</table>
| Mrs. Hunter | The Cruel Prince  
|           | By Holly Black  
|           | This book is most appropriate for my seventh and eighth grade students. I love the fantasy genre of this book, as well as its strong, intelligent female main character - Jude Duarte. It's the perfect mix of action/adventure, the struggle of family dynamics, and romance all set within the enticing world of Faerie. |
| Mrs. Mastine | Shadow and Bone  
|           | by Leigh Bardugo  
|           | The Shadow Fold, a swathe of impenetrable darkness crawling with monsters that feast on human flesh, is slowly destroying the once-great nation of Ravka. Alina, a pale, lonely orphan, discovers a unique power that thrusts her into the lavish world of the kingdom's magical elite—the Grisha. |
| Mrs. Pritchard | El Deafo  
|           | By Cece Bell  
|           | When Cece unexpectedly goes deaf, she is sent to a deaf school until she gets a really good hearing aid and goes back to her old school. But her hearing aid looks strange, making it hard to meet friends and everything in her old world is new, again. |
| Mrs. Gould | Wonder  
|           | By RJ Palacio  
|           | Born with facial differences that, up until now, have prevented him from going to a mainstream school, Auggie Pullman is an unlikely hero when he enters the local fifth grade. As his new classmates struggle to discover their compassion and acceptance, Auggie's extraordinary journey will unite them and prove you can't blend in when you were born to stand out. |
| Mrs. Gould | The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane  
|           | By Kate DiCamillo  
|           | This novel contains several themes including loss and recovery, kindness and compassion, and the journey to self discovery. |
| Mrs. Smart | **Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus**  
Aven (who happens to be armless) must start life anew, with struggles at school, making new friends, and a mystery to solve. This is a wonderful, inspiring story about friendship, fearlessness, and acceptance. |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Mrs. Wilson | **Chomp**  
By Carl Hiaasen  
Wahoo Cray and his dad, Mickey, take care of wild animals from the Florida Everglades. They keep the animals in their own backyard, and make money by training them to appear on television. Mickey hasn't been working due to a concussion from a dead iguana that fell from a tree and hit him. Wahoo picks up a lot of the slack when it comes to taking care of their animals, and agrees to take a job renting out animals for a reality TV show called *Expedition Survival!* The star of the show, Derek Badger, has been living it up in Paris but flies into Florida for an Everglades episode.  
Everything by Carl Hiaasen is great! |
| Mr. Conklin | **In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson**  
By Bette Bao Lord  
*In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson* is a children's novel by Bette Bao Lord and illustrator Marc Simont about a young girl named Shirley Temple Wong who leaves a secure life within her clan in China following World War II. |
| Mrs. Mainville | **In These Girls, Hope Is A Muscle**  
By Madeline Blais  
*In These Girls, Hope Is A Muscle*, a nonfiction book by Madeleine Blais, chronicles a year in the lives of a high school basketball team, the Amherst Lady Hurricanes. Beginning at a low point of choking during a regional play-off, the book follows a year of training and changes that led to a resounding win as the team took the state championship. |
| Mrs. Marriott | House Arrest  
By K.A. Holt  
The main character is relatable as a middle school student, the choices you might make and the reasons behind them. Sometimes life is more complicated than adults realize. |
|---|---|
| Guts  
By Raina Telgemeir  
Raina’s journey through middle school dealing with friends, coping with anxiety and all the in-between is one that most of us can relate to. Learn how Raina overcomes her stomach troubles and learns to love middle school. |
| Mrs. Lunn | Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key  
By Jack Gantos  
*Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key* is a story of a young boy who suffers through his daily life fighting to keep control over his racing mind and exploding behaviors. His tragic life story began with his parents walking out, leaving him with nothing but his uncontrollable grandma. |
| Mr. Rizza | The Richest Man In Babylon  
By George Samuel Clason  
TINY Reason: This book will make you rich. |
| Mr. Wieczorek | If We Were Giants  
By Dave Matthews and Clete Barrett Smith  
“If We Were Giants,” muses a child, “we could win against these ruthless foes.” Fourteen-year-old tree-dweller Kirra, whose home has already been destroyed, has to rise above her survivor’s (and other) guilt to help the people who’ve taken her in – and maybe help them become giants for real. |
| Mrs. Simpson | The Thief Lord  
By Cornelia Funke  
Orphaned brothers Prosper and Bo run away to Venice, Italy. Living on the street, they fall in with a group of child thieves and their charismatic young leader, The. From the gang’s hideout in an old movie theater, the brothers embark on a series of adventures throughout the city that lead to long-held secrets and magical treasures. |
| **Mrs. Finnis** | **We Were Liars**  
By E. Lockhart  
Recommended for 7th and 8th Graders.  
A group of four friends, the liars, whose friendship turns into destruction. |
| **Mr. LaRosa** | **The Book Thief**  
By Markus Zuszak  
The Book Thief is a story narrated by a compassionate Death who tells us about Liesel, a girl growing up in Germany during World War II. She steals books, learns to read, and finds comfort in words. |
| **Mr. Diglio** | **The Mamba Mentality: How I Play**  
By Kobe Bryant  
The Mamba Mentality describes how Kobe Bryant mastered the game and teaches how to achieve the legendary mindset. Mamba never accepted losing as an option and was known for his laser-sharp focus, xacting preparation, diligent attention to details, and extreme competitiveness. |
| **Mrs. Silky** | **Touching Spirit Bear**  
by Ben Mikaelson  
Award winning book, Touching Spirit Bear, is a heartfelt story of a troubled young 15 year old who learns to change his heart and his ways in a Circle Justice experience. |
| Mrs. McCaffrey | *Because of Winn Dixie*  
By Kate DiCamillo  
I love the characters in this funny, sad, happy, and heartwarming book about a girl and a stray dog she comes to own when she moves to a new town, and the new friends they make together. |
| Mrs. Ryan | *Among the Hidden*  
By Margaret Peterson Haddix  
I love the suspense in this book about Luke, an illegal third child under a population law, who must always stay hidden in his family's home. When he discovers there is a kid next door, living isolated like he is, Luke must decide what risks he is willing to take. |
| Mrs. Matlock | *New Kid*  
By Jerry Craft  
Jordan is the *new kid* in his private school, which is much different than his public school on the other side of the city. This Newbery winning graphic novel shows Jordan's struggles (and victories) between two very different worlds. |
| Mrs. Scalisi | *The Great Gilly Hopkin*  
By Katherine Patterson  
Gilly struggles through the adoption process; living in multiple foster homes. She is a very witty eleven year old, and has many different experiences throughout the story. |
|  | *Fever, 1793*  
By Laurie Halse Anderson  
The Yellow Fever outbreak in 1793 was a very real epidemic. *Fever, 1793* tells the story of 14-year-old Mattie who works in her family's coffee shop one day and is caring for sick people the next. Read how a young girl lives through an epidemic in the 1700s! |
|  | *Running Out of Time*  
By Margaret Peterson Haddix  
Jessie lives with her family in Indiana (1840), or so she thinks. It turns out that her village is a tourist site and it is really 1996. She has to escape the village to save her family/friends when sickness strikes, all while trying to navigate the "new world." |
| Mrs. Zeger | The Watsons Go to Birmingham: 1963  
| By Christopher Paul Curtis |
Enter the hilarious world of 10-year-old Kenny and his family, the Weird Watsons of Flint, Michigan. There's Momma, Dad, little sister Joetta, Kenny, and Byron, who's 13 and an official "juvenille delinquent." When Momma and Dad decide it's time for a visit to Grandma the Watsons set out on a trip like no other. They're heading south. They're going to Birmingham, Alabama, toward one of the darkest moments in American history.

| Mrs. George | The Missing: Found (Book #1)  
| By Margaret Peterson Haddix |
Looking to get hooked on a new science-fiction book series? Then check out The Missing series by Margaret Peterson Haddix. The first book entitled Found will keep you on the edge of your seat. It was even made into a movie, so you know it has to be good! Plus as an extra bonus, there are 8 books in the series to keep you reading all summer. You never know what you might "find" when you get "lost" in this series.

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*This list is a suggested list. We encourage students to read during the summer to build upon skills they worked on this year, and to maintain the growth they have achieved as a reader. There will be no evaluation of their reading, rather this is a way to stay connected to their EJD community through common books. When we all return to school, we can participate in conversations based around shared books, thus building our sense of our school community!