

Great Reads for Middle School

*Selected by librarians from Milwaukee Public Library
and Milwaukee Public Schools*

All of the Above by Shelley Pearsall. FIC PEA.

Inner-city teens build a record-setting giant tetrahedron to prove the worth of their impoverished neighborhood.

Click Here: (to Find out How I Survived Seventh Grade) by Denise Vega. FIC VEG.

When Erin's secret blog lands on the school website, all of her personal thoughts and feelings end up on the Internet for the world to read.

Dairy Queen by Catherine Gilbert Murdock. FIC MUR.

After spending her summer training the quarterback for her school's rival football team, D.J. decides to go out for the sport herself, not anticipating the reactions of those around her.

Emil and Karl by Yankev Glatshteyn; translated by Jeffrey Shandler. FIC GLA.

Best friends Emil, a Jew, and Karl, a Christian, vow to remain inseparable though they both suffer from the cruelty of the Nazis.

Escape!: The Story of the Great Houdini by Sid Fleischman. 92 H836F.

An entertaining profile of the famous magician.

Fairest by Gail Carson Levine. FIC LEV.

Aza would give anything to be truly beautiful—and she almost does. A reworking of the Snow White tale.

Freedom Walkers: The Story of the Montgomery Bus Boycott by Russell Freedman. 323.1196 F85465.

Freedman presents the key personalities and issues surrounding this critical event of the Civil Rights Movement.

How Ya Like Me Now by Brendan Halpin. FIC HAL.

Eddie moves from the suburbs to Boston where he gradually adjusts to being one of the few white kids in a progressive private school and learns how to feel like a normal teenager.

Jane Addams: Champion of Democracy by Judith Bloom Fradin. 92 A222F.

The force behind Hull-House, one of the first settlement houses in the United States, Jane Addams is celebrated as a suffragist, civil rights activist, and pacifist.

Kimchi & Calamari by Rose Kent. FIC KEN.

Korean adoptee Joseph Calderaro is stymied when his teacher assigns an ancestry essay, so he pretends that Olympic marathoner Sohn Kee Chung was his grandfather. Then his teacher picks his essay to enter in a contest.

La Línea by Ann Jaramillo. FIC JAR.

When 15-year-old Miguel's time finally comes to leave his poor Mexican village, cross the border illegally, and join his parents in California, his younger sister's determination to join him soon imperils them both.

Miracle on 49th Street by Mike Lupica. FIC LUP.

What would you do if you discovered that the most famous basketball star in the world was your father?

November Blues by Sharon Draper. FIC DRAPER.

In this sequel to *The Battle Of Jericho*, a young girl finds herself pregnant two months after her boyfriend's death in a pledge stunt gone wrong.

Rules by Cynthia Lord. FIC LOR.

Catherine devises a set of rules to regulate her autistic brother's behavior. After meeting a boy who is paralyzed at her brother's clinic, she realizes her rules may be flawed.

Runaway by Wendelin Van Draanen. FIC VAND.

When 12-year-old Holly runs away from her latest foster home she takes with her, without quite understanding why, the journal an English teacher had been requiring her to keep.

Saving the World and Other Extreme Sports by James Patterson. FIC PAT.

The team faces their ultimate challenge as they fight the evil science experiment, "Re-evolution," designed to engineer a master race.

The Sea of Monsters by Rick Riordan. SF RIO.

In this sequel to *The Lightning Thief*, Percy's school year is strangely uneventful until man-eating giants from the Odyssey attack him on the dodgeball court.

Team Moon: How 400,000 People Landed Apollo 11 on the Moon by Catherine Thimmesh. 629.454 T443.

Celebrates the people behind the scenes of Apollo 11 and provides research about all the people responsible for landing the first man on the moon.

The Trap by John Smelcer. FIC SME.

Johnny Least-Weasel worries about his missing grandfather, and the grandfather, Albert Least-Weasel, struggles to survive after being caught in his own steel trap during an Alaskan winter.

The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain by Peter Sis. 92 S622.

A look at growing up on the communist side of the Iron Curtain through annotated illustrations, journals, maps and dreamscapes.



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