

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Suggested Reading List

WE ENCOURAGE ALL STUDENTS AT DURHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL TO READ A VARIETY OF MATERIALS. STUDENTS MAY CHOOSE TO READ ANY BOOK THAT INTERESTS THEM; IF A STUDENT NEEDS SOME SUGGESTIONS, THIS LIST CONTAINS SOME GOOD BOOKS TO TRY. **THIS LIST IS NOT REQUIRED READING!**

### NONFICTION

Ardley, Neil. *MUSIC (Eyewitness)* (not listed)

This book details how music is made by playing instruments, from the most primitive to the most modern.

Armstrong, Jennifer. *SHIPWRECK AT THE BOTTOM OF THE WORLD.* (1090L)

During a 1914 Antarctic expedition, the waters freeze and crush Shackleton's ship, the *Endurance*, forcing his crew to make a long, perilous journey across ice and stormy seas to reach inhabited land

Ballard, Robert. *EXPLORING THE TITANIC* (980L)

This book describes the large luxury liner that sank in 1912 and the discovery and exploration of its underwater wreckage.

Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. *BLACK POTATOES* (1040L)

Through the voices of Irish People, these eyewitness accounts and memories combine with devastating facts: one million died from starvation and disease; two million emigrated; the famine could have been avoided; the legacy was a bitter resentment against the English, who owned most of Ireland

Bell, David. *AWESOME CHESAPEAKE* (not listed)

This children's guide to the Chesapeake Bay explores and identifies life in and around the bay.

Bradley, James. *FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS.* (950L)

This is the story behind the immortal photograph that has come to symbolize the courage and indomitable will of America. The author captures the glory, triumph, heartbreak and legacy of the six men who raised the flag at Iwo Jima.

Brester, Hugh. ANASTASIA'S ALBUM (1010L)

This book is a fascinating look at the real Anastasia, one of Russia's last princesses, through diaries, letters, and unforgettable photographs.

Cummins, Julie. TOMBOY OF THE AIR: DAREDEVIL PILOT BLANCHE STUART SCOTT. (1090L)

The life of daredevil Blanche Stuart Scott, the first woman to fly a plane in public in America, is described.

Driscoll, Michael A CHILD'S INTRODUCTION TO POETRY (1110L)

Colorful illustrations and poems introduce the reader to poetry, teaching them about different types of poems and the most popular poets from history.

Dyson, Marianne J. SPACE STATION SCIENCE. (910L)

Satisfy your curiosity with this book which includes photographs and facts from the Space Station. What is daily life really like for astronauts?

Eastaway, Rob; Jeremy Wyndham; and Tim Rice. WHY DO BUSES COME IN THREES?: THE HIDDEN MATHEMATICS IN EVERYDAY LIFE. (not listed)  
Why can't I find a four-leaf clover? How can I win without cheating? How many people watch Friends? This intriguing book explains how math and the laws of probability are at work in our lives.

Ferris, Jeri. NATIVE AMERICAN DOCTOR (1110L)

This is the biography of the young Omaha woman who became the first Native American woman to graduate from medical school.

Fradin, Dennis Brindell THE PLANET HUNTERS (1180L)

A history of the planets and the men and women who have hunted for undiscovered ones.

Freedman, Russell. INDIAN CHIEFS (1030L)

This is the story of six Native American chiefs who led their people in a historic moment of crisis as the pioneers migrated west.

Freedman, Russell. *IN THE DAYS OF THE VAQUEROS: AMERICA'S FIRST COWBOYS*. (1180L)

The vaqueros began riding in Spanish Mexico in the 1500s, long before cattle came to Texas. Illustrations, stories, and research combine to tell their story.

Freedman, Russell. *THE LIFE AND DEATH OF CRAZY HORSE*. (1100L)

The reader follows Crazy Horse as he grows up, meets Sitting Bull, and leads his people in the Battle of Big Horn.

Fritz, Jean. *AROUND THE WORLD IN A HUNDRED YEARS FROM HENRY THE NAVIGATOR TO MAGELLAN* (1050L)

This book examines the great wave of European exploration during the 1400s in a way that brings to life the explorers who changed the world map.

Godfrey, Neale. *ULTIMATE KID'S MONEY BOOK*. (not listed)

This book has everything you need to know about money - how to earn, save, spend, and share it.

Harding, R. R., and R. F. Symes. *CRYSTAL & GEM* (1070L)

This book provides interesting facts and colorful pictures to increase understanding of these wonders of nature.

Hoose, Philip. *WE WERE THERE TOO: YOUNG PEOPLE IN U.S. HISTORY*. (not listed)

This book contains stories of real children and teens who contributed to important events in American history from Columbus' arrival right up to the 1990s.

Jones, Charlotte. *MISTAKES THAT WORKED* (1040L)

The author presents the stories of 40 items that were invented or named by accident, including aspirin, X-rays, Frisbees, Silly Putty, and Velcro.

Kaminsky, Mary and Bobby Valentine. *UNCOMMON CHAMPIONS: FIFTEEN ATHLETES WHO BATTLED BACK*. (1090L)

This book tells the stories of courageous athletes who battled adversity to find success.

Krull, Kathleen HARVESTING HOPE: THE STORY OF CESAR CHAVEZ (AD 800L)

A biography of Cesar Chavez, from age ten when he and his family lived happily on their Arizona ranch, to age thirty-eight when he led a peaceful protest against California migrant workers' miserable working conditions.

Lasky, Kathryn. SURTSEY: THE NEWEST PLACE ON EARTH. (1100L)

This is a description of the formation, naming, and colonization of the 27-year-old volcanic island Surtsey, and how the first animals and plants established themselves there.

Lasky, Kathryn. THE MAN WHO MADE TIME TRAVEL. (840L)

John Harrison, an eighteenth-century clock maker solved the problem of tracking longitude in shipboard navigation. A shipwreck begins the story and explains how longitude was a life and death question for those who sailed the seas.

Leroe, Ellen. DISASTER! THREE REAL-LIFE STORIES OF SURVIVAL. (870L)

Children looking for exciting, real-life survival stories will be attracted by the cover of this collection of first-person accounts of three disasters: the 1914 shipwreck of the Empress of Ireland, the 1928 crash of the airship Italia, and the 1930 crash of the dirigible R-101.

Macaulay, David. SHIP (1250L)

This book follows a group of modern-day underwater archaeologists as they search for a long-lost ship in the reefs of the Caribbean.

O'Grady, Scott, and Michael French. BASHER FIVE-TWO.

Capt. Scott O'Grady, F-16 fighter pilot, was shot down, struggled to survive, and rescued in Bosnia.

Pfetzner, Mark, and Jack Galvin. WITHIN REACH: MY EVEREST STORY\* (970L)

In this suspenseful first-person narrative, sixteen-year-old Mark Pfetzner relates his experiences as the youngest climber to attempt Everest.

Prelutsky, Jack (ed.). THE BEAUTY OF THE BEAST: POEMS FROM THE ANIMAL KINGDOM (not listed)

Whether you are looking for a poem about a mosquito or a polar bear, you will find it and many more in this collection of animal poems selected for your enjoyment by Jack Prelutsky.

Simon, Seymour. EARTHQUAKES (1010L)

The phenomenon of earthquakes is examined, including descriptions of how and where they occur, how they can be predicted, and how much damage they can inflict.

Stanley, Diane. MICHAELANGELO. (not listed)

This is a picture book biography of the Renaissance sculptor, architect, and poet.

Viorst, Judith. IF I WERE IN CHARGE OF THE WORLD AND OTHER WORRIES (NP)

This book of 41 poems reveals a variety of secret thoughts, worries, and wishes for children and their parents.

Webb, Sophie. MY SEASON WITH PENGUINS: AN ANTARCTIC JOURNAL. (not listed)

Through watercolor sketches and journal entries, Webb tells the story of her summer expedition

Wulffson, Don. THE KID WHO INVENTED THE POPSICLE. (1080L)

Brief, factual stories of how various familiar things were invented, many by accident, make for an informative read. Also, THE KID WHO INVENTED THE TRAMPOLENE.