

Pioneer Middle Incoming Seventh Grade Nonfiction Summer Reading List

Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass: The Story Behind an American Friendship

Russell Freedman

Reading level 8.3, Fountas & Pinnell level Y, 119 pages

This book looks at the lives of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln, including their friendship and impact on emancipation and the Civil War.

Biology

Dan Green

Lexile level 960, Fountas & Pinnell level Z, 128 pages

Biology provides a colorful and friendly overview of biological topics, discussing cells and the building blocks of life; describing the characteristics of living creatures, from viruses to mammals; and examining body parts and plants.

Buried Alive! How 33 Miners Survived 69 Days Deep Under the Chilean Desert

Elaine Scott

Reading level 7.3, 80 pages

This book shares the experiences of thirty-three Chilean miners who were trapped two thousand feet below the surface of the earth in August 2010.

Byrd & Igloo: A Polar Adventure

Samantha Seiple

Reading level 6.7, 186 pages

Author Samantha Seiple provides a narrative account of the daring adventures of the legendary polar explorer and his lovable dog companion. The book recounts their dramatic and history-making achievements in the North and South Poles.

Chasing Lincoln's Killer

James L. Swanson

Reading level 7.5, Fountas & Pinnell level Z, 194 pages

Chasing Lincoln's Killer recounts the twelve-day pursuit and capture of John Wilkes Booth, covering the chase through Washington D. C., Maryland, and Virginia.

Chew on This: Everything You Don't Want to Know about Fast Food ****contains mature content****

Eric Schlosser

Reading level 8.1, 318 pages

Author Eric Schlosser reveals the truth about what lurks between those sesame seed buns, what a chicken "nugget" really is, and how the fast food industry has been feeding children for generations.

A Child Called "It" ****contains mature content****

Dave Pelzer

Reading level 5.8, Fountas & Pinnell level Z+, 184 pages

This is the story of one of the most unforgettable cases of severe child abuse in California history. It is the story of Dave Pelzer, who was brutally beaten and starved by his emotionally unstable, alcoholic mother.

The Civil War

Kerry A. Graves

Reading level 6.0, Fountas & Pinnell level V, 48 pages

The Civil War describes the events leading up to the Civil War, the major conflicts, the lives of the soldiers, and the outcome of the war.

Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice

Phillip M. Hoose

Reading level 6.8, Fountas & Pinnell level Z, 150 pages

This book presents an account of fifteen-year-old Claudette Colvin, an African-American girl who refused to give up her seat to a white woman on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama, nine months before Rosa Parks, and covers her role in a crucial civil rights case.

Girls Gone Green

Lynn Hirschfield

192 pages

Lynn Hirschfield profiles eco-conscious women and girls and discusses their contributions to the environment, providing tips that girls can utilize during their own efforts to become more eco-conscious.

Guts: The True Stories behind Hatchet and the Brian Books

Gary Paulsen

Reading level 6.5, 148 pages

The author relates incidents in his life and how they inspired parts of his books about the character Brian Robeson.

Honey Bees: Letters from the Hive

Stephen Buchmann

Reading level 9.0, 212 pages

Honey Bees traces the natural history of bees and honey, focusing on how they have impacted the lives of humans from prehistory to the present.

How Angel Peterson Got His Name – And Other Outrageous Tales about Extreme Sports

Gary Paulsen

Reading level 6.0, Fountas & Pinnell level U, 111 pages

Author Gary Paulsen relates tales from his youth in a small town in northwestern Minnesota in the late 1940s and early 1950s, such as skiing behind a souped-up car and imitating daredevil Evel Knievel.

Malala Yousafzai and the Girls of Pakistan

David Aretha

64 pages

This book is a biography of Malala Yousafzai, a Muslim teenage girl from Pakistan, who advocates for education of women and children, and whom the Taliban attempted to assassinate on October 9, 2012.

Man on the Moon: How a Photograph Made Anything Seem Possible

Pamela Dell

Reading level 7.6, Fountas & Pinnell level Y, 64 pages

Discusses the photos associated with the moon landing, a historic event which remains one of the most powerful and inspiring representations of the achievements of humankind.

Moonbird: A Year on the Wind with the Great Survivor B95

Phillip M. Hoose

Reading level 7.9, 148 pages

Moonbird chronicles a year in the life of rufa red knot B95, also called Moonbird, following him through his migration pattern and discussing the environmental problems that caused the rufa population to collapse by nearly eighty percent.

Primates: The Fearless Science of Jane Goodall, Dian Fossey, and Biruté Galdikas

Jim Ottaviani and Maris Wicks

Reading level 3.6, 133 pages

In graphic novel format, this book explores the lives and work of scientists who lived with and studied chimpanzees, gorillas, and orangutans in their natural habitats.

Remix: Conversations with Immigrant Teenagers

Marina Tamar Budhos

Lexile level 780, 145 pages

Remix presents profiles of fourteen teenagers from countries around the world, revealing their struggles to fit into American society and their personal triumphs.

We've Got a Job: The 1963 Birmingham Children's March

Cynthia Levinson

Reading level 7.4, Fountas & Pinnell level Y, 176 pages

Author Cynthia Levinson discusses the 1963 Birmingham Children's March in Birmingham, Alabama.

World Without Fish

Mark Kurlansky

Reading level 7.9, 183 pages

This highly-illustrated book describes what is happening to fish, the oceans, and the environment in the early twenty-first century.