

# Summer Reading Log

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

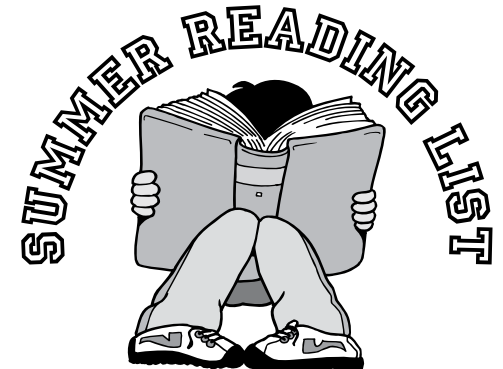
Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents:** Your child should write a short description of their favorite part of the story in the space provided below. This log will be collected by their teacher during the first week of school in September. In September the children will also complete an assignment in class about their reading.

| Title/Author | Write a Summary | Good | Fair | Poor |
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**YONKERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



*“Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.”*

- Margaret Fuller

**8th Grade  
June 2011**

A copy of this list can also be found on the web at <http://yonkerspublicschools.org/summerreading.php>

## Summer Reading Information

Students are required to read a minimum of three books over the summer. You may choose two titles from the list or another title by the same author with the approval of the librarian or your parent/guardian.

### **Required Author - Gary Paulsen**

All incoming 8th graders are required to read any book by Gary Paulsen.

**Please maintain a reading log of all books read (on reverse) and return to your teacher in September. You should be prepared to discuss this author in class and work on related assignments the first week of school.**

## 8th Grade Summer Reading List 2011

(For students entering Grade 8 in September 2011)

### Title - Author

#### ADVENTURE

- Journey to Jo'Berg - Beverly Naidoo  
○ Hatchet - Gary Paulsen  
Voyage of the Frog - Gary Paulsen  
The Gypsy Game - Zipha Snyder

#### FANTASY

- \*Inkheart (series) - Cornelia Funke  
The Eye, the Ear and the Arm - Nancy Farmer  
Ella Enchanted - Gail Carson Levine  
○ Eragon (series) - Christopher Paolini  
○ \*Harry Potter (series) - J.K. Rowling  
Midnighters (series) - Scott Westerfield

#### HISTORICAL FICTION

- Fever, 1793 - Laurie Anderson  
○ Catherine, Called Birdy - Karen Cushman  
○ Esperanza Rising - Pam Munoz Ryan  
○ Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry - Mildred Taylor

## NONFICTION-BIOGRAPHY-AUTOBIOGRAPHY

- Escape – The Story of the Great Houdini - Sid Fleischman  
○ The Autobiography of a Slave - Juan Francisco Manzano  
An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793 - Jim Murphy  
Woodsong - Gary Paulsen  
Knots in My Yo-Yo String - Jerry Spinelli

## POETRY-SHORT STORIES

- Laughing Tomatoes and Other Spring Poems - Francisco Alarcon  
A Kick in the Head - Paul Janeczko  
○ Where the Sidewalk Ends - Shel Silverstein  
○ Baseball in April and Other Stories - Gary Soto

## CLASSICS

- The Secret Garden - Frances Burnett  
\*Robinson Crusoe - Daniel Defoe  
○ White Fang - Jack London  
Anne of Avonlea (series) - Lucy Montgomery  
○ \*Treasure Island - Robert Louis Stevenson

## MYSTERY-SUSPENSE

- Crispin - Avi  
The Man Who Was Poe - Avi  
Flight #116 Is Down - Caroline Cooney  
○ Walk Two Moons - Sharon Creech  
Nancy Drew (series) - Carolyn Keene

## CONTEMPORARY FAVORITES

- Summer of the Swans - Betsy Byars  
Children of the River - Linda Crew  
Double Dutch - Sharon M. Draper  
○ Breadwinner - Deborah Ellis  
Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key - Jack Gantos  
Day of Tears - Julius Lester  
Sing Down the Moon - Scott O'Dell  
○ Small Steps - Louis Sachar

- **Available in Spanish**  
**\*Challenging**

## Suggested Activities for Children and Parents

These activities are **optional** for you and your child to enjoy together after reading the book.

### Letter to the Author

Write a letter to the author of the book asking why the main character acted like she/he did or why the author developed a particular idea and thought it was important.

### Create a Diary/Journal

Create a diary/journal for a character in the novel.

**Include the following:** Several entries explaining your character's feelings about the events and other characters in the book.

Create a cover for your journal/diary.

### You're the Author!

You are the author. You have decided to write an additional chapter to the book you just read.

### **Required Author - Gary Paulsen**

All incoming 8th graders are required to read any book by Gary Paulsen.

*Lawn Boy*

*Hatchet*

*My Life in Dog Years*

*Nightjohn*

## Online Books/Resources

For supplemental Summer Reading resources, visit [www.yonkerspublicschools.org](http://www.yonkerspublicschools.org) and click on the "Summer Reading List" icon.

Families are encouraged to listen to one of the books as a family activity. Many books are available in audio or for download at the public library's website - <http://www.ypl.org>

## Yonkers Public Libraries - 377-1500

### Riverfront Library

1 Larkin Center, Yonkers, NY 10701

Mon., Wed., Thurs.: 10:00AM - 8:00PM

Tuesday, Friday & Saturday: 10:00AM - 5:00PM

### Grinton I. Will Library

1500 Central Park Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10710

Mon.-Wed.: 10:00AM - 8:00PM

Thurs.-Sat.: 10:00AM - 5:00PM

### Crestwood Branch

16 Thompson Street, Yonkers, NY 10707

Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat.: 10:00AM - 5:00PM

Tuesday: 1:00PM - 5:00PM

Thursday: 1:00PM - 8:00PM