

**MORTON MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**SUMMER READING LIST**  
**GRADE 7 - 2021**  
**Mustangs Who Read Succeed!**

There will be no mandatory reading requirement at Morton for summer 2021. However, for those of you who want to enrich and exercise your brain this summer, please find below some great, diverse options from our seventh grade level list. Happy reading!

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1. **Babysitting is a Dangerous Job** (6 points) - Roberts, Wilo Davis. This thrilling suspenseful novel keeps the reader entertained with a story about an ordinary babysitting job that turns into a nightmare for the main character, Darcy. The three children she sits for are "bratty," but that is nothing compared to the kidnappers who invade the house and carry off the children.
2. **Everless** (14 points) - Holland, Sara. Readers will love this thrilling story filled with action, suspense, and mystery. The Gerlings, rich aristocracy, tax the poor through blood extractions, which in return allows them to live for centuries. Jules, the main character, embarks on a journey to save her dying father by going to work for the Gerlings at Everless. As a result, she learns deep, dark family secrets from the past that forever change her.
3. **Game Changer** (4 points) - Greenwald, Tommy. A sports fiction book about a star football player who is in a coma due to a mysterious football injury. Through a series of text messages and conversations among characters, the truth surrounding the injury is revealed.
4. **Little Women (unabridged)** (15 points) - Alcott, Louisa May. This favorite classic novel gives the reader a glimpse into the life of a nineteenth-century family in New England during the Civil War. Four sisters share their lessons of poverty, dreams, pranks, and courtships.
5. **The Lightning Catcher** (13 points) - Cameron, Anne. Angus uncovers that his parents have been kidnapped because they're famous lightning catchers, and that he and his friends have the ability to control the weather. Join Angus and his friends on their action-packed humorous adventure to stop the villains from achieving world domination.
6. **The Lions of Little Rock** (10 Points) - Levine, Kristin. Marlee, an unbearably shy math whiz, narrates this historical fiction book about the struggle to integrate Little Rock, Arkansas schools in 1958. When Lizzie, Marlee's new friend, is kicked out of school because local leaders refuse to follow the federal integration order, Marlee finds her voice.
7. **The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl** (7 points) - McAnulty, Stacy. Lucy, the main character, is struck by lightning causing her to become a quirky math genius. Although Lucy could begin college classes at age 12, her grandmother decides that Lucy could use some socialization, so she enrolls Lucy in the seventh grade instead. At her new school, Lucy realizes that learning does not always come from a textbook as she learns the power of friendship and accepting her own uniqueness.

8. **The Mother-Daughter Book Club Series** (AR points vary based on each book in the series.) - Frederick, Heather Vogel. Read **any** of the **seven** books in this delightful series about a few mothers who force their daughters to join a book club to the dismay of their daughters who are not even friends. The humorous twists and turns, pranks, and struggles in the lives of the book club daughters are highly entertaining! The club members mature from middle school to the end of high school throughout the series, and each book focuses on a different Classic novel as the topic of book club.
9. **The Season of Styx Malone** (7 points) - Magoon, Kekla. In the woods behind their home, two brothers, Caleb and Bobby Gene, meet an older new "cool" neighbor named Styx. The three friends become involved in a Great Escalator Trade (exchanging one small thing for something better) adventure causing their humdrum lives to be turned upside down for the summer.
10. **C.C. Payne Collection of Stories: Lula Bell on Geekdom, Freakdom, and the Challenges of Bad Hair (7 points); The Thing About Leftovers (10 points); Something to Sing About (4 points)** - Read **any** of the **three** touching and humorous novels by local novelist and former Morton student, C.C. Payne. Through a cast of quirky characters, readers explore many themes such as friendship, family, and forgiveness.
11. **Rush for Gold: Mystery at the Olympics** (11 Points) - Feinstein, John. This sports mystery novel is set in London during the summer Olympics. The mystery unfolds as a teen reporter becomes concerned about the safety of his friend, an Olympic swimmer.
12. **Soldier Athletes** (3 points) - Stout, Glenn. A book filled with human-interest stories that spotlight the bravery and self-sacrifice of professional athletes who also served in the United States military.
13. **Theodore Boone Series** (AR points vary based on each book in the series) - Grisham, John. Read **any of the seven** books in this series about a thirteen-year-old kid lawyer extraordinaire who has a knack for uncovering clues and solving high profile cases involving crimes in his hometown.
14. **My Thirteenth Winter: A Memoir** (9 points) - Abeel, Samantha. This memoir recounts Samantha's difficult school years due to her struggles with a learning disability called dyscalculia. Readers will be amazed by her ability to succeed despite her obstacles.
15. **Titanic: Voices from the Disaster** (7 points) - Hopkinson, Deborah. A nonfiction book that movingly shares real voices of Titanic survivors and actual witnesses to the tragic disaster.
16. **Twelve Rounds to Glory: The Story of Muhammad Ali** (1 point) - Smith Jr., Charles R. This book details the amazing life of the heavyweight champion through a rap-inspired verse.
17. **Yes! We are Latinos** (2 points) - Ada, Alma Flor. A nonfiction collection of beautifully written stories celebrating Latino culture and includes details of important events in the history of the Latino American people.