

# WEST SIDE SCHOOL BOOK CLUB LIST

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Choose one book from this list for the Summer Reading Book Club. If you decide to change your choice during the summer, please refer to the updated list on the school website. There may be eliminated books, if students did not select them.

Books marked with \* are new to our list.

**1. \*Once I Ate a Pie, Patricia MacLachlan – poetry**

It's a dog's life. Filled with squeaky toys, mischief, and plenty of naps. Every dog has a tail to wag and a tale to tell. A collection of canines speak up with their own words, barks, and yips.

**2. \*Hi Fly Guy!, Tedd Arnold – fantasy**

When Buzz captures a fly to enter in The Amazing Pet Show, his parents and the judges tell him that a fly cannot be a pet, but Fly Guy proves them wrong.

**3. \*The Fastest Animal, Catherine Ipcizade - informational**

Learn about the world's fastest animals, such as the cheetah and ostrich.

**4. \*Bones and the Big Yellow Mystery, David Adler – mystery**

Mr. Green has lost his school bus. Sometimes, big things are hard to find. Maybe Mr. Green's bus was stolen. Detective Bones gets out his pad, notes the clues, and the search begins. . .

**5. Mercy Watson to the Rescue, Kate diCamillo – realistic fiction**

After Mercy the pig snuggles to sleep with the Watsons, all three awaken with the bed teetering on the edge of a big hole in the floor.

**6. Yummy, Lucy Cousins – fantasy**

Beware - these fairy tales are not for the faint of heart! Eight classic stories take on new energy in this bold, funny, and unflinching collection: the heroes are courageous, the villains are horrible, and the children are tasty.

**7. Lulu and the Brontosaurus, Judith Voirst - fantasy**

Lulu's parents refuse to give in when she demands a brontosaurus for her birthday and so she sets out to find her own, but while the brontosaurus she finally meets approves of pets, he does not intend to be Lulu's.

**8. \*The Mystery in Venice, Geronimo Stilton – mystery**

Geronimo Stilton receives a crystal figurine of a boat as a gift from his crush Petunia Pretty Paws, and when he discovers a mysterious message inside the gift asking for help in Italy, he immediately travels to Venice to save the day.

**9. I Survived: The Sinking of the Titanic, Lauren Tarshis – historical fiction**

Ten-year-old George Calder's life changes forever as he, his little sister, Phoebe, and their Aunt Daisy set out across the ocean on the "Titanic" in 1912.

**10. *No Talking!* Andrew Clements – realistic fiction**

The noisy fifth grade boys of Laketon Elementary School challenge the equally loud fifth grade girls to a "no talking" contest.

**11. *A Tale Dark and Grimm*, Adam Gidwitz – fantasy/fairy tale**

This story follows Hansel and Gretel as they walk out of their own story and into eight more tales, encountering such wicked creatures as witches, along with kindly strangers and other helpful folk. Based, in part, on the Grimms' fairy tales: Faithful Johannes, Hansel and Gretel, The Seven Ravens, Brother and Sister, The Robber Bridegroom, and The Devil and His Three Golden Hairs.

**12. *Strange Case of Origami Yoda*, Tom Angleberger – realistic fiction**

Sixth-grader Tommy and his friends describe their interactions with a paper finger puppet of Yoda, worn by their classmate Dwight, as they try to figure out whether or not the puppet can really predict the future. Includes instructions for making Origami Yoda.

**13. *Don't Touch That Toad and Other Strange Things Adults Tell You*, Catherine Rondina - informational**

This book, examines the truth as well as the false premises behind a variety of things children are told by their parents, covering warnings about crossed eyes, the causes of acne, whether an elephant can actually forget, and more.

**14. *Lizards*, Nic Bishop – informational**

Photographer Nic Bishop introduces the beauty and diversity of lizards. This book presents both basic information and fun, quirky facts about the appearance, habits, and life cycle of these amazing reptiles.

**15. *Inside out & Back Again*, Thanna Lai – historical fiction**

Ha and her family are forced to flee Vietnam as Saigon falls, and they board a ship headed toward hope. In America, Ha discovers the foreign world of Alabama. A story of one girl's year of change, dreams, grief, and healing as she journeys from one country to another, one life to the next.

**16. *Keeper*, Kathi Appelt - realistic fiction (with a touch of fantasy)**

Keeper was born in the ocean and she believes she is part mermaid. So she goes out looking for her mother, who swam away when Keeper was three, and heads right for the sandbar by the ocean where mermaids are known to gather. But her boat is too small for the surf and much too small for the storm that is brewing on the horizon.

**17. *Magician's Elephant*, Kate DiCamillio - fiction**

When ten-year-old orphan Peter Augustus Duchene encounters a fortune teller in the marketplace one day who tells him that his sister, who is presumed dead, is in fact alive, he embarks on a remarkable series of adventures in an attempt to find her.

**18. *Bystander*, James Preller – realistic fiction**

Thirteen-year-old Eric discovers there are consequences to not standing by and watching as the bully at his new school hurts people. Although school officials are aware of the problem, Eric may be the one with a solution.

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**19. \*No Passengers Beyond This Point, Gennifer Choldenko – fantasy**

With their house in foreclosure, sisters India and Mouse and brother Finn are sent to stay with an uncle in Colorado until their mother can join them. When the plane lands, the children are welcomed by cheering crowds to a strange place where each of them has a perfect house and a clock that is ticking down the time.

**20. \*Secret Science Alliance and the CopyCat Crook, Eleanor Davis – graphic novel**

Eleven-year-old Julian Calendar thought changing schools would mean leaving his "nerdy" persona behind, but instead he forms an alliance with fellow inventors Greta and Ben and works with them to prevent an adult from using one of their gadgets for nefarious purposes.

**21. \*Deadend in Norvelt, Jack Gantos – memoir**

In the historic town of Norvelt, Pennsylvania, twelve-year-old Jack Gantos spends the summer of 1962 grounded for various offenses until he is assigned to help an elderly neighbor with a most unusual chore involving the newly dead, molten wax, twisted promises, Girl Scout cookies, underage driving, lessons from history, typewriting, and countless bloody noses.