

OC 6th - 8th Grade Summer Reading 2017-2018 Louisiana Young Readers' Choice (LYRC) List

Jr. High students do not come to school to test on summer books (no AR).

Students are required to read any TWO books from the LYRC list below. They will have to complete a written assignment on each book read. Please check RenWeb and/or the OCS website later for further details and a handout. For titles on the current LYRC list ONLY, students may read books that are not within their lexile reading level. Students will be required to read an additional book from the LYRC list by January in order to vote for their favorite LYRC book. Parents are encouraged to use review sites (<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/> or <http://www.compassbookratings.com/>) to get more information about the books in order to choose appropriate selections with their student.

LYRC 2018 6th-8th Nominated Annotated Title List

1. **5 to 1** by Holly Bodger, 256 pgs.
In a dystopian future when gender selection has led to girls outnumbering boys 5 to 1, marriage is arranged based on a series of tests. It is Sudasa's turn to pick a husband, but she is not sure she wants to be a part of it. IL: **MG+** - BL: **4.7** [HALF PROSE/HALF POETRY; contains profanity]
2. **Awkward** by Svetlana Chmakova, 224 pgs.
After shunning Jaime, the school nerd, on her first day at a new middle school, Penelope Torres tries to blend in with her new friends in the art club, until the art club goes to war with the science club, of which Jaime is a member. IL: **MG** - BL: **2.8** [GRAPHIC NOVEL, realistic fiction, school]
3. **Backlash** by Sarah Darer Littman, 336 pgs.
When Christian, a boy 15-year-old Lara knows only through Facebook, posts a lot of nasty comments on her page, she tries to kill herself, but that is only the beginning of the backlash for her sister, Sydney, her former friend Bree, and her classmates. IL: **MG+** - BL: **4.8** [BULLYING, MEDIA]
4. **The Blackthorn Key** by Kevin Sands, 348 pgs. *CSM recommends for 10+
In 1665 London, 14-year-old Christopher tries to uncover the truth behind a mysterious cult by following a trail of puzzles, codes, and danger toward an unearthly secret with the power to tear the world apart. BOOK #1 IL: **MG** - BL: **4.6** [historical fiction-fantasy, MYSTERY; violence]
5. **A Blind Guide to Stinkville** by Beth Vrabel, 264 pgs. *CBR recommends for 9+
Leaving her best friend and the familiarity of Seattle for the paper mill town of Sinkville, twelve-year-old Alice, who lives with albinism and blindness, takes on the additional challenge of entering the Sinkville Success Stories essay contest. IL: **MG** - BL: **4.5** [female, DISABILITIES]
6. **Book Scavenger** by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman, 368 pgs. *CSM recommends for 9+
When 12-year-old Emily teams up with James to follow clues in an odd book, they hope to figure out its secrets before the men who attacked Emily's hero, publisher Garrison Griswold, solve the mystery or come after them. IL: **MG** - BL: **5.5** [female protagonist, books and reading]
7. **Charlie and the Grandmothers** by Katy Towell, 240 pgs.
When fearful twelve-year-old Charlie and his bolder younger sister are sent to visit a grandmother they never knew they had, they discover a dark secret. IL: **MG** - BL: **5.5** [horror, mystery, siblings, supernatural, ACTION & ADVENTURE, FANTASY]
8. **The Disappearance of Emily H.** by Barrie Summy, 256 pgs.
Eighth-grader Raine, a new girl at Yielding Middle School, uses her supernatural ability to see other people's memories to solve the disappearance of a teenaged girl. IL: **MG** - BL: **4.1** [magical realism: extrasensory abilities, female protagonist, FANTASY, MYSTERY]
9. **Ferals** by Jacob Grey, 288 pgs. *CSM recommends for 8+
A street kid, whose only friends are crows, saves a girl from a vicious attack only to discover the existence of other wild kids like himself who possess the ability to communicate with animals. BOOK #1 IL: **MG** - BL: **4.7** [male protagonist, can speak to animals; plot contains violence]
10. **Fuzzy Mud** by Louis Sachar, 192 pgs. *CSM recommends for 10+
Two middle-grade kids take a shortcut home from school and discover what looks like fuzzy mud but is actually a substance with the potential to wreak havoc on the entire world. IL: **MG** - BL: **5.0** [boy/girl, BULLYING, HUMAN IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT, MYSTERY]
11. **How Lunchbox Jones Saved Me from Robots, Traitors, and Missy the Cruel** by Jennifer Brown, 240 pgs.
Luke's school is the losingest school in the history of losing, and that's just fine. He'd rather be at home playing video games. Now he's being forced to join the robotics team, where surely he will help uphold the school's losing streak. IL: **MG** - BL: **4.9** [realistic fiction, STEM, robotics]
12. **Lost in the Sun** by Lisa Graff, 304 pgs. *CSM recommends for 9+
As Trent Zimmerman struggles to move past a traumatic event that took place several months earlier, he befriends class outcast Fallon Little, who helps him understand that he can move on. IL: **MG+** - BL: **4.5** - AR Pts: **11.0**. [death, GRIEF & LOSS, REALISTIC; contains profanity /violence]

*CSM = COMMONSEMEDIA.ORG

*CBR = COMPASSBOOKRATINGS.COM