



SUMMER READING SUGGESTIONS

- MIDDLE SCHOOL -



Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtis

Elijah lives in a free slave town of Buxton, Canada. This historical fiction book gives us Elijah's adventures as a child living a "grown up" life. He was born into freedom and is learning all the struggles of slavery from others. - "Excellent historical fiction book!! This book has you laughing one minute and crying the next, helping students relate the historical issues of slavery with a child their own age. One of my favorites - this author is amazing!" - Mrs. Woodruff

(Grades: 4th - 8th)

Content Warning: One use of a racial slur, used as a teachable moment

Refugee by Alan Gratz



This book follows three characters from different parts of the world as they journey to find refuge in another country. - "I like that this is an action-packed book about three very different characters that all share the same courage and hope for survival. This is a book that you don't want to put down. Each character tells an important story about their search for freedom." - Mrs. Carter

(Grades: 5th - 8th)

Number the Stars by Lois Lowry

This is a historical fiction book about the escape of a Jewish family from Denmark during World War II. - "I like that this book is based on historical events. It is very engaging and leaves you wanting to read more. The details of the story and the way it is written makes this an enjoyable book to read." - Mrs. Carter



(Grades: 5th - 8th)

Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

Ally has dyslexia and has moved schools several times. She tries very hard to keep people from knowing her learning problems. She finally gets a teacher that understands that her behavior issues just mask her struggles. He finds ways to help her cope with her issues. Mr. Daniels helps her to find her real gifts and talents. - "No one thinks or learns exactly alike. This book helps kids see differences in others and be accepting, learn or think alike. Great read!!" - Mrs. Woodruff



(Grades: 5th - 8th)

The Watsons Go to Birmingham, 1963 by Christopher Paul Curtis

A family living in Flint, Michigan decides to take their oldest son, Byron, for an extended stay with his Grandma Sands in Birmingham to help straighten him out. - "This book is humorous, but also deals with serious Civil Rights issues in Birmingham, AL." - Mrs. Tolleson

(Grades: 5th - 8th)

Content Warning: Some mild language



Daring to Hope by Katie Davis Majors

"This is the second book written by the author of *Kisses from Katie*, and a continuation of Katie's story and family in Uganda." - Mrs. Tunnell

(Grades: 6th - 8th)

Crazy Love: Overwhelmed by a Relentless God by Francis Chan

"Francis Chan writes a great book to describe God's 'crazy' love. It's a great book for growing Christians." - Mr. Chapman

(Grades: 6th - 8th)



Kennedy - A Story of God's Grace by Dr. Craig Buettner and J.C. Buckstreet

"This is the story of Kennedy Buettner drowning in a pool and what follows as he is taken to the hospital and miraculously healed. Reading about the strength and trust in God that Kennedy's family had in the midst of something horrible. Knowing that this is my doctor made this book mean even more since this was a story that I knew didn't completely know." - Ms. Robyn Whinery

(Grades: 7th - 8th)

The Hiding Place by Corrie Ten Boom

"This is a true story about a Christian family that gets imprisoned for hiding Jews during WWII. Corrie and her family's dependence on The Lord are truly inspirational. I will never forget how the sisters were able to give thanks to the Lord in ALL circumstances!" - Mrs. Spath

(Grades: 8th)

Content Warning: Holocaust literature



Hatchet by Gary Paulson

Hatchet is an intense, fast-paced read. The main character is a 13-year-old boy whose parents are divorced. He survives a plane crash in the Canadian wilderness en route to visit his father and must use the hatchet his mother once gave him to stay alive. - "This was one of the first school assignments that helped me fall in love with reading. It's a great adventure story with plenty of tension!" - Mrs. Hill

(Grades: 8th)

Content Warning: Some violence; alludes to divorce due to unfaithfulness

