

## (MORE) EPS MIDDLE SCHOOL FUN SUMMER READING!

If you are looking for more great books  
to help occupy your time this summer, your hunt is over!

Eastside Prep students and teachers recommended these books!

### *Hatchet*

By Gary Paulsen

Favorite Part: Hatchet is a great book for young readers. It gets really interesting after a couple chapters in!

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>

### *Maximum Ride (the first book in the series)*

By James Patterson

Favorite Part: All of it!

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>

### *Counting by 7s*

By Holly Goldberg Sloan

Favorite Part: The whole book.

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>

*The Girl Who Drank the Moon*

By Kelly Barnhill

Favorite Part: When the baby drinks the moon on accident- it's very funny.

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>

*Jinxed*

By Amy McCulloch

Favorite Part: When Lacey does her first Baku battle at Profectus Academy.

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>

*Children of Eden*

By Joey Graceffa

Favorite Part: The whole thing.

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>

*Wonder*

By R. J. Palacio

Favorite Part: How people stick up for Auggie.

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>

*The 13-Story Treehouse*

By Andy Griffiths

Favorite Part: All of it!

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>

*The 39 Clues (series)*

By Rick Riordan

Favorite Part: Book 10- *Into the Gauntlet*, when Dan finds the serum.

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>

*Keeper of the Lost Cities (series)*

By Shannon Messenger

Favorite Part: I like the whole series!

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>

*The Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell*

By Chris Colfer

Favorite Part: The climax of the story.

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>

*Ranger's Apprentice (Book 1)*

By John Flanagan

Favorite Part: When Tug (the horse) bucks-off Will (the main character), but then they become a very good pair.

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>

### *The Book Thief*

By Markus Zusak

Favorite Part: When the air raid alarm goes off and everyone rushes into government-approved air raid shelters (someone's basement) and everyone is frightened and nervous. At the time, Liesel (the main character) just learned to read and didn't yet know how to read in her head, so she read out loud and everyone started quietly listening to her read during the air raid.

Recommended for: 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>

### *Graphic Science*

By Darryl Cunningham

Favorite Part: The fun graphics in the book.

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

### *Moo*

By Sharon Creech

Favorite Part: When they move to Maine.

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

### *The Outsiders*

By S.E. Hinton

Favorite Part: I liked the time frame, how that affected the characters' interactions/speech, and how the book's ending connected to the beginning.

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*The Summer I Turned Pretty*

By Jenny Han

Favorite Part: When Belly goes to her first Bonfire.

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*The Lost Years of Merlin*

By T.A. Barron

Favorite Part: I love that this novel is rich with magic.

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*The Voyages of Dr. Dolittle*

By Hugh Lofting

Favorite Part: All parts of the book!

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*Blended*

By Sharon M. Draper

Favorite Part: When her family comes together as she is in the hospital. (I also think this is a really good example of a book for the theme of identity).

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*Eragon*

By Christopher Paolini

Favorite Part: Saphira hatching.

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*An Ember in the Ashes*

By Sabaa Tahir

Favorite Part: When they escape at the very end.

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*Sting*

By Jude Watson

Favorite Part: When they steal a gem.

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*Sophia's War: A Tale of the Revolution*

By Avi

Favorite Part: How they take pieces of detail that could or might not happen and make them seem so real.

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*Five Kingdoms*

By Brandon Mull

Favorite Part: When Cole meets Mira.

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*Summer of the Monkeys*

By Wilson Rawls

Favorite Part: When he catches the monkeys by helping them.

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

### *Chess Tactics for Kids*

By Murray Chandler

Favorite Part: All the good ideas!

Recommended for: 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

### *Radio Silence*

By Alice Oseman

Favorite Part: In this book, one of the characters hosts a story podcast and I just think the world that he creates for Universe City (the podcast) is so special. The friendship between the two characters is so nice, and I think the fact that they don't end up together, while still acknowledging that everybody expects that to happen, is also really special. In addition, the discussion of bisexuality is fantastic. It's really hard for me to say more about that without spoiling, but you should definitely read this book.

Recommended for: 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

### *I Wish You All the Best*

By Mason Deaver

Favorite Part: Wow, there's so much I love about this book! The main character is non-binary and I think my favorite thing about this book was how much it opened my eyes to this unique experience/the struggle of non-binary people. Also, Ben is such a great character, I absolutely love the way that they use art as an outlet, and I love the way we see their relationship with their sister progress as they open-up to her about their identity.

Recommended for: 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

### *On a Sunbeam*

By Tillie Walden

Favorite Part: EVERYTHING! This is a graphic novel and the ART is just so good, the coloring and the line art are both so, so amazing. I also just love the universe that the author created and the relationships within them.

Recommended for: 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

### *The Gravity of Us*

By Phil Stamper

Favorite Part: This book is about space, growing up, and reality TV. I think the way that this book pairs them together is really creative and so fitting for the age of social media. As an overview, it's about the second space age and the different players within that. It is so special and has such a fantastic character arc for our protagonist.

Recommended for: 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

### *The Inexplicable Logic of My Life*

By Benjamin Alire Sáenz

Favorite Part: This genuinely might be my favorite book (this and *Ari and Dante...* are closely contested) and I do not say that lightly. The CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT, the relationships between friends, and also the relationship that the main character has with his father all come together into a phenomenal book. I have no words, just the highest level of recommendation that there is.

Recommended for: 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

### *Nyxia*

By Scott Reintgen

Favorite Part: When they finally understand how Nyxia works.

Recommended for: 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>



*Everything I Never Told You*

By Celeste Ng

Favorite Part: I like the end!

Recommended for: 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*Jurassic Park*

By Michael Crichton

Favorite Part: When they all get eaten!

Recommended for: 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*And Then There Were None*

By Agatha Christie

Favorite Part: The ending, since everything is revealed, and the mystery comes to an end.

Recommended for: 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*Divergent*

By Veronica Roth

Favorite Part: All of it is really good!

Recommended for: 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*Throne of Glass*

By Sarah J. Maas

Favorite Part: King.

Recommended for: 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*The Book of Basketball*

By Bill Simmons

Favorite Part: The whole book!

Recommended for: 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*Digital Fortress*

By Dan Brown

Favorite Part: All parts!

Recommended for: 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe*

By Benjamin Alire Sáenz

Favorite Part: Oh my, everything about this book. The writing is poetry, the relationships are so well-developed, and the characters are real and touching.

Recommended for: 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter*

By Erika L. Sánchez

Favorite Part: The character development.

Recommended for: 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*We Are Okay*

By Nina LaCour

Favorite Part: So much about this book is so beautiful. I think the way that it's written with flashbacks and a "now vs. then" narrative is really special.

Recommended for: 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

### *The Meaning of Birds*

By Jaye Robin Brown

Favorite Part: The way we learn a lot about Vivi's character.

Recommended for: 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

### *Juliet Takes A Breath*

By Gabby Rivera

Favorite Part: The story arc and character development! I think that this book discusses intersectionality in such an effective way, as well as the way that feminism hasn't always been and isn't always inclusive to women of color.

Recommended for: 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

### *I'll Give You the Sun*

By Jandy Nelson

Favorite Part: This book- I love everything about it. The alternating perspectives between the two twins is so special, I love the way the author dissects the complexities of their relationship. Furthermore, the jump between the two times, so where one twin is telling a story from age thirteen and the other from age sixteen makes this a really great story to watch unfold. And the CHARACTERS, I just have to express my love for Noah.

Recommended for: 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

### *They Both Die at the End*

By Adam Silvera

Favorite Part: There is no way I can describe this book that will do it justice. I love the way that it has this almost sci-fi-esque element, but the story doesn't deal with that. It's hard to explain, but it's basically magical realism but with sci-fi. Then at the same time, it's over the course of one day, but the story and the relationships progress so well. I absolutely love this book.

Recommended for: 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*The Land of Mehula*

By Amish Tripathi

Favorite Part: When Shiva realizes he's the savior when he enters the land.

Recommended for: 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*Congo (the series)*

By Michael Crichton

Favorite Part: The detail throughout the first book makes the story seem very real.

Recommended for: 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*The Starless Sea*

By Erin Morgenstern

Favorite Part: I am not too sure what my favorite part of the book was- the whole time it was mysterious and whimsical, and I really enjoyed reading it.

Recommended for: 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*Refugee*

By Alan Gratz

Favorite Part: Just the overall story!

Recommended for: 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

*One of Us is Lying*

By Karen M. McManus

Favorite Part: The climax scene when they find out the killer.

Recommended for: 8<sup>th</sup>

### *Like a Love Story*

By Abid Nazemian

Favorite Part: Oh, this is such a hard question to answer. The characters are fantastic, and the friendships/relationships are so poignant. It takes place during the '80s, and surrounds HIV/AIDS during that time, and just the world that the author portrays is so real and special. This is such a great representation of the queer experience during that time, and also the experience of queer people of color (Reza is Iranian). This book is just such a fantastic story that I haven't really seen much like it in terms of YA LGBTQ+ literature. Honestly, this is one of my favorite books! I highly recommend it. I read it in seventh grade, but it's slightly more mature so I'd say do your research before you read.

Recommended for: 8<sup>th</sup>

### *The Miseducation of Cameron Post*

By Emily M. Danforth

Favorite Part: There's a cathartic, more bitter than sweet ending which is so fitting for the story and I really appreciate that. I both love and hate this book because it's a fantastic book, but it can be really hard to read because it deals with some really intense issues (conversion "therapy," etc.) but in such important and touching ways.

Recommended for: 8<sup>th</sup>

### *The Wisdom of Crowds: Why the Many Are Smarter Than the Few and How Collective Wisdom Shapes Business, Economies, Societies and Nations*

By James Surowiecki

Favorite Part: The good insights!

Recommended for: 8<sup>th</sup>

