

**Port Angeles School District
Summer Reading Lists
Titles for Intermediate Students
2009**

**The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain is the classic story of a mischievous 19th-century boy in a Mississippi River town and his friends, Huck Finn and Becky Thatcher, as they run away from home, witness a murder, and find treasure in a cave.

The BFG by Roald Dahl is a novel about a BFG (Big Friendly Giant), who spends his life blowing happy dreams to children. Sophie concocts with him a plan to save the world from nine other man-gobbling cannybull giants.

The Big Field by Mike Lupica is a novel about Hutch, a fourteen-year-old baseball player who feels threatened by the arrival of a new teammate named Darryl. Hutch tries to work through his insecurities about both Darryl and his remote and silent father, who was once a great ballplayer too.

* *A Boy at War* by Harry Mazer is a novel about teenaged Adam who, while fishing with his friends off Honolulu on December 7, 1941, is caught in the midst of the Japanese attack and through the chaos of the subsequent days tries to find his father, a naval officer who was serving on the U.S.S. Arizona when the bombs fell.

The *Captain Underpants* Series by Dav Pilkey are comic novels (the eighth one was published in 2006) about George and Harold and their adventures.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney is a novel about Greg, who records his sixth grade experiences in a middle school where he and his best friend, Rowley, undersized weaklings amid boys who need to shave twice daily, hope just to survive. When Rowley grows more popular, Greg must take drastic measures to save their friendship.

How to Steal a Dog by Barbara O'Connor is a novel about Georgina who lives in the family car in their small North Carolina town after their father leaves them virtually penniless. Desperate to improve their situation and unwilling to accept her overworked mother's calls for patience, she persuades her younger brother to help her in an elaborate scheme to get money by stealing a dog and then claiming the reward that the owners are bound to offer.

The Indian in the Cupboard by Lynn Reid Banks is a novel about nine-year-old boy who receives a plastic Indian, a cupboard, and a little key for his birthday and finds himself involved in adventure when the Indian comes to life in the cupboard and befriends him.

Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell is a novel about a young Indian left alone on a beautiful but isolated island off the coast of California, where she spends eighteen years, not only merely surviving through her enormous courage and self-reliance, but also finding a measure of happiness in her solitary life.

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The Last Place Sports Poems of Jeremy Bloom by Gordon Korman and Bernice Korman is a collection of poems about winning, losing, and being a good sport (sometimes).

The Lemonade War by Jacqueline Davis is a novel about Evan and his younger sister Jesse who react very differently to the news that they will be in the same class for fourth grade and as the end of summer approaches, they battle it out through lemonade stands, each trying to be the first to earn 100 dollars.

The Liberation of Gabriel King by K. L. Going is a novel set in Georgia during the summer of 1976. Gabriel, a white boy who is being bullied, and Frita, an African American girl who is facing prejudice, decide to overcome their many fears together as they enter fifth grade.

Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli is a novel that tells the story Jeffrey Lionel Magee, whose life becomes legendary after his parents die, as he accomplishes athletic and other feats which awe his contemporaries.

Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt is a fantasy novel about ten-year-old Winnie Foster who stumbles upon the Tuck family's disturbing secret and is forced to come to terms with her conflicting emotions. She feels drawn to the loving, gentle and rather eccentric Tucks, but what they tell her is too incredible to be believed.

These authors have written several books that have proved popular with students.

Gary Paulsen

Laura Ingalls Wilder

Sharon Creech

Louis Sachar

Anna Claybourne (nonfiction)

* C. S. Lewis (Narnia series)