Wood-Ridge Intermediate School
Summer Reading Suggested titles.

Lexile: 600 and below

FICTION

*City of Orphans* by Avi
Maks fights the gangs trying to shake him down and tries to clear his sister when she's framed for stealing.

*Eleven* by Patricia Reilly Giff
Sam has alarming questions about his past, but needs a friend to help him piece it all together.

*Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson
When the fever breaks out in her hometown of Philadelphia, Mattie must flee the city with her grandfather.

*Buzz Boy and Fly Guy* By Tedd Arnold (380)
The excitement is jam packed in Fly Guy's newest episode which features a comic book within the story. Buzz and Fly Guy are superheroes! The dynamic duo must battle a fiery dragon and a band of pirates. Will Fly Guy and Buzz Boy defeat their enemies and save their home?

NON FICTION

*Ancient Greeks* by Pat Taylor
The series examines the lives, culture, and contributions of ancient civilizations through clear, informative text, colorful photographs, original source materials, and easy-to-interpret maps and diagrams. Great source material for student research projects!

*The Inca Empire* by L.L. Owens
The Incas were an ancient people. Scholars try to understand how the Incas lived. But that can be hard. The Incas had no written language. Most of what we know about Incas comes from artifacts and from the Spanish. They conquered the Inca Empire in the 16th century A.D. Then they wrote down the stories they heard. Today, people still travel to the ancient Incan ruins in Peru to try to unravel the secrets of this ancient civilization.

*What is an Ocean?* by Bobbie Kalman
Introduces oceans, discusses icy and warm oceans, and describes the animals found in them.

*Mountain Disasters* by Ann Weill
This series of nonfiction readers will grab a student's interest from the very first page! Designed with struggling readers in mind, these riveting 92-page softcover books offer short chapters on significant disasters. Each chapter is its own mini-book, which includes a timeline, key terms, and interesting facts. Fascinating black and white photographs keep the pages turning.

**The Number Devil: A Mathematical Adventure** by Hans Magnus Enzensberger
A fascinating fantasy for adults and children alike explores the world of mathematics as it recounts how math-hater Robert has twelve dreams in which a “Number Devil” demonstrates the delights of mathematical concepts.

**The Story of Columbus** By Anita Ganeri (540)
Find out how explorer Christopher Columbus survived great danger on the high seas on his voyages to the New World.

**Slinky, Scaly Snakes** By Jennifer Dussling (550)
An introduction to the physical characteristics and habits of snakes.

**Lexile: 600 – 800**

**FICTION**

**The People Could Fly** by Virginia Hamilton
American Black Folktales 24 stories including: animal tales, supernatural tales, fanciful and cautionary tales, and slave tales of freedom.

**The Lions of Little Rock** by Kristin Levine
Marlee and Liz are willing to take on segregation and the danger their friendship could bring to their families.

**Pictures of Hollis Woods** by Patricia Reilly Giff
Hollis has been in too many foster homes to count. When she's sent to Josie, she wants to make sure she stays.

**Crispin: The Cross of Lead** by Avi
A boy flees town after he is falsely accused of a crime and slowly learns about his history in order to break free.

**The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn** by Mark Twain
When Huck runs away and meets Miss Watson's slave, Jim, the two embark on some memorable adventures.
Any Small Goodness: A Novel of the Barrio by Tony Johnston
In eleven-year-old Arturo's Los Angeles community, acts of generosity and goodwill improve lives.

A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle
An unexpected visitor changes the lives of Meg, her younger brother Charles, and their scientist mother.

Esperanza Rising by Pam Muñoz Ryan
Esperanza thought she'd always live with her family in Mexico. Then a tragedy changed everything.

Moon Over Manifest by Clare Vanderpool
Abilene Tucker heads off to her father's hometown to uncover stories and secrets of his past.

NON FICTION
Social Studies
Mummies by Elizabeth Carney Why were mummies mummified? These mysterious corpses provide a fascinating window on the past of cultures worldwide. Mummies has plenty of ghoulish intrigue to keep young readers reading.

Hands Around the Library by Susan L. Roth
Susan L. Roth and Karen Leggett Abouraya is an informational book, in picture book format, that I recommend for a wide range of ages. With the exuberant textured collages of illustrator Susan L. Roth and a minimum of story text, but a great deal of supplemental information, the dramatic story of how the Alexandria library was saved from violence during the January 2011 protests is told.

If the World Were a Village by David J. Smith
This eye-opening book has since become a classic, promoting "world-mindedness" by imagining the world's population, all 6.8 billion of us, as a village of just 100 people.

Science
Ocean Sunlight by Molly Bang
In this timely book, award-winner Molly Bang uses her signature poetic language and dazzling illustrations to introduce the oceanic world. From tiny aquatic plants to the biggest whale or fish, Bang presents a moving, living picture of the miraculous balance sustaining each life cycle and food chain deep within our wondrous oceans. The book is co-authored by award-winning M.I.T. professor Penny Chisholm, a leading expert on ocean science.

Volcano by Patricia Lauber
This book studies the eruption of Mount St. Helens, its impact on scientific knowledge, and the gradual return of life to its barren slopes.
What Makes a Magnet by Franklyn Branley
Will a magnet pick up a paper clip or a feather? The answer is, just the paper clip. Magnets only pick up things that contain bits of iron. In this new addition to the Let's-Read-and-Find-Out Science series, veteran author Franklyn Branley explains the properties and behavior of magnets. True Kelley's charming illustrations will entertain readers as they discover for themselves what makes a magnet. Hands-on activities include making a magnet and compass.

LEXILE: 801 – 1000

FICTION

The Shakespeare Stealer by Gary Blackwood
Widge has been sent to steal Shakespeare's new play, but he must decide whether to betray his trusting friends.

Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie by Jordan Sonnenblick
Steven is a typical eighth grader. Then his younger brother is diagnosed with leukemia, and life begins to unravel.

Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer
Artemis is a criminal mastermind, but he doesn't know what he's taken on when he kidnaps a fairy.

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows by J. K. Rowling
Harry faces more danger than ever before in his search for the Horcruxes.

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by C. S. Lewis
Four children find their way into Narnia, where they come to the aid of a golden lion in a battle.

A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park
An orphan in 12th-century Korea accidentally breaks a pot; his servitude to the potter begins a life-changing journey.

The Wednesday Wars by Gary D. Schmidt
Holling meets a teacher who makes every dream seem possible.

NON FICTION

LEXILE: 801-1200

Social Studies:
Confucius by Michael Burgan
A biography of the Ancient Chinese philosopher Confucius, whose teachings greatly influenced Chinese culture.

Emperor’s Silent Army by Jane O’Connor
Describes the archaeological discovery of thousands of life-sized terracotta warrior statues in northern China in 1974, and discusses the emperor who had them created and placed near his tomb.

Ancient Inca by Michael Burgan
Looks at the ancient Inca civilization, discussing daily life, social structure, and contributions made to later civilizations.

Kubla Khan: The Emperor of Everything by Kathleen Krull
An introduction to the thirteenth-century Chinese emperor which offers a more complete picture of the man than books which treat him as just a supporting player in Marco Polo's adventures.

Science:
Weather by Penelope Arlon
Provides an introduction to the weather that exists on Earth and explains how it occurs and includes eyewitness accounts from people who have experienced some of the world's dangerous weather events.

Into the Volcano by Donna Omeara
The author describes some of the world's most dangerous volcanoes and the work she does as a volcano researcher.

Coral Reefs by Jason Chin
A young girl gets quite a surprise when the text of a library book she is reading transforms her surroundings into those of a teeming-with-life coral reef.

Heroes of the Environment by Harriet Rohmer
This inspiring book presents the true stories of 12 people from across North America who have done great things for the environment.

Blizzard by Jim Murphy
Presents a history, based on personal accounts and newspaper articles, of the massive snow storm that hit the Northeast in 1888, focusing on the events in New York City.