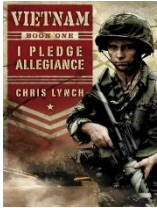


Guys Read

Action and Adventure:



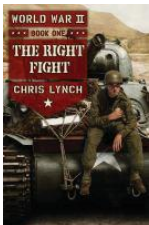
I Pledge Allegiance by Chris Lynch

Four best friends serving in the Vietnam War make a pledge to one another that they will do all they can to return home safely together.

Y FICTION Lynch

Recommended for Grades 7+

Series: Vietnam



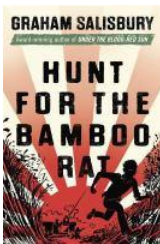
The Right Fight by Chris Lynch

When the draft board calls on the eve of World War II, Roman leaves behind a career in minor-league baseball to join the army, and finds himself driving a tank in the North African campaign.

Y FICTION Lynch

Recommended for Grades 8+

Series: World War II



Hunt for the Bamboo Rat by Graham Salisbury

Zenji Watanabe, seventeen, is sent from Hawaii to the Philippines to spy on the Japanese during World War II and, after he is captured and tortured, must find a way to survive months of being lost in the jungle behind enemy lines.

Y FICTION Salisbury

Recommended for Grades 5+

Series: Prisoner of the Empire

Fantasy and Science Fiction:



Things Not Seen by Andrew Clements

When fifteen-year-old Bobby wakes up and finds himself invisible, he and his parents and his new blind friend Alicia try to find out what caused his condition and how to reverse it. Y FICTION Clements

Recommended for Grades 6+

Series: Things Not Seen



The Seventh Son by Joseph Delaney

Young Tom, the seventh son of a seventh son, starts work as an apprentice for the village spook, whose job is to protect ordinary folk from "ghouls, boggarts, and all manner of wicked beasties."

Y FICTION Delaney

Recommended for Grades 5-8

Series: The Last Apprentice



The Ruins of Gorlan by John Flanagan

When fifteen-year-old Will is rejected by battleschool, he becomes the reluctant apprentice to the mysterious Ranger Halt, and winds up protecting the kingdom from danger.

Y FICTION FANTASY Flanagan

Recommended for Grades 4-8

Series: Ranger's Apprentice



The False Prince by Jennifer A. Nielsen

In the country of Carthya, a devious nobleman engages four orphans in a brutal competition to be selected to impersonate the king's long-missing son in an effort to avoid a civil war.

Y FICTION Nielsen

Recommended for Grades 5-8

Series: The Ascendance Trilogy



Mister Monday by Garth Nix

Arthur Penhaligon is supposed to die at a young age, but is saved by a key that is shaped like the minute hand of a clock. The key causes bizarre creatures to come from another realm, bringing with them a plague. A man named Mister Monday will stop at nothing to get the key back. Arthur goes to a mysterious house that only he can see, so that he can learn the truth about himself and the key.

Y FICTION Nix

Recommended for Grades 5-8

Series: Keys to the Kingdom



Grasshopper Jungle by Andrew Smith

"Austin Szerba narrates the end of humanity as he and his best friend Robby accidentally unleash an army of giant, unstoppable bugs and uncover the secrets of a decades-old experiment gone terribly wrong"-- Provided by publisher.

Y FICTION Smith

Recommended for Grades 10+

Humor:



Ungifted by Gordon Korman

Due to an administrative mix-up, troublemaker Donovan Curtis is sent to the Academy of Scholastic Distinction, a special program for gifted and talented students, after pulling a major prank at middle school.

Y FICTION Korman

Recommended for Grades 5-8



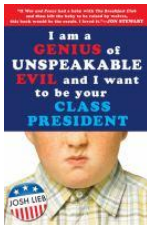
The Loser List by Holly Kowitt

When Danny gets caught trying to cross his name off the "Geek" list in the girls' bathroom, he's sent to detention. Bullies torment him mercilessly -- until they discover that Danny can draw. He enjoys his new "bad boy" status, supplying tattoos and graffiti, until he's unknowingly drawn into a theft. Turns out the bullies took a comic book from Danny's favorite store. Can he steal it back before they get caught -- and break off with the bullies before he gets in too deep?

Y FICTION Kowitt

Recommended for Grades 4-7

Series: Loser List



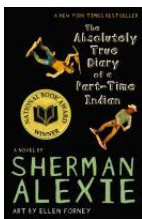
I Am a Genius of Unspeakable Evil and I Want to Be Your Class President by Josh Lieb

Omaha, Nebraska, twelve-year-old Oliver Watson has everyone convinced that he is extremely stupid and lazy, but he is actually a very wealthy, evil genius, and when he decides to run for seventh-grade class president, nothing will stand in his way.

Y FICTION Lieb

Recommended for Grades 7-9

Realistic:

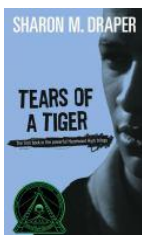


The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian by Sherman Alexie

Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Indian is the school mascot.

Y FICTION Alexie

Recommended for Grades 8+



Tears of a Tiger by Sharon M. Draper

The death of high school basketball star Rob Washington in an automobile accident affects the lives of his close friend Andy, who was driving the car, and many others in the school.

Y PB Draper

Recommended for Grades 9+

Series: Hazelwood High Trilogy

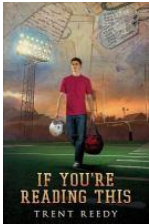


Reality Boy by A. S. King

"An emotionally damaged seventeen-year-old boy in Pennsylvania, who was once an infamous reality television show star, meets a girl from another dysfunctional family, and she helps him out of his angry shell"-- Provided by publisher.

Y FICTION King

Recommended for Grades 9+



If You're Reading This by Trent Reedy

For a responsible sixteen-year-old, Michael Wilson has a lot of problems--his father was killed in Afghanistan in 2005, his overworked and overprotective mother will not talk about their situation, and does not want him playing football, and he has suddenly started to receive letters that his father wrote before his death.

Y FICTION Reedy

Recommended for Grades 6-8

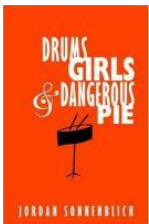


A Kid from Southie by John "Red" Shea and Michael Harmon

Desperate to help his unemployed mother, seventeen-year-old Aiden O'Connor reluctantly begins working for the Irish mob in tough South Boston, despite his coach's efforts to convince him he could be a professional boxer.

Y FICTION Shea

Recommended for Grades 8+

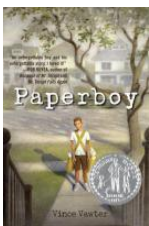


Drums, Girls & Dangerous Pie by Jordan Sonnenblick

When his younger brother is diagnosed with leukemia, thirteen-year-old Steven tries to deal with his complicated emotions, his school life, and his desire to support his family.

Y FICTION Sonnenblick

Recommended for Grades 6-9

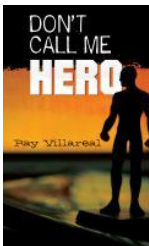


Paperboy by Vince Vawter

When an eleven-year-old boy takes over a friend's newspaper route in July, 1959, in Memphis, his debilitating stutter makes for a memorable month.

Y FICTION Vawter

Recommended for Grades 6-9



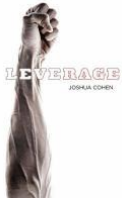
Don't Call Me Hero by Ray Villareal

Ninth-grader Rawly Sanchez's life is hard--his brother is in prison, he works at his mother's restaurant to help make ends meet, he is failing algebra, and the girl he has a crush on does not know he exists--but when his dramatic and impulsive rescue of a wealthy celebrity from a flooded creek makes him famous, he does not know what to think about his newfound popularity.

Y FICTION Villareal

Recommended for Grades 6-10

Sports:

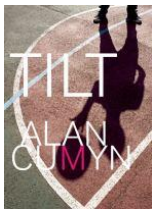


Leverage by Joshua Cohen

High school sophomore Danny excels at gymnastics but is bullied, like the rest of the gymnasts, by members of the football team, until an emotionally and physically scarred new student joins the football team and forms an unlikely friendship with Danny.

Y FICTION Cohen

Recommended for Grades 9+



Tilt by Alan Cumyn

When Stan's dreams of making the JV basketball team fall through, he finds himself aware of the unexpected attention of mysterious Janine Igwash. Then Stan's father arrives on the scene with his four-year-old half brother, and things become truly tilted.

Y FICTION Cumyn

Recommended for Grades 9+

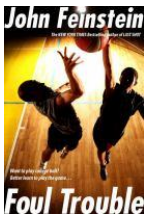


Payback Time by Carl Deuker

Overweight, somewhat timid Mitch reluctantly agrees to be the sports reporter for the Lincoln High newspaper because he is determined to be a writer, but he senses a real story in Angel, a talented football player who refuses to stand out on the field--or to discuss his past.

Y FICTION Deuker

Recommended for Grades 7+



Foul Trouble by John Feinstein

"College recruiters are clamoring to sign up Terrell Jamerson, the #1 high school basketball player in the country. But not all of these recruiters are straight shooters, and Terrell will have to think fast if he wants to stay in the game"-- Provided by publisher.

Y FICTION Feinstein

Recommended for Grades 8+

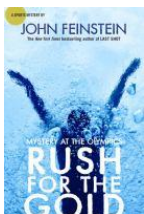


Last Shot: A Final Four Mystery by John Feinstein

After winning a basketball reporting contest, eighth graders Stevie and Susan are sent to cover the Final Four tournament, where they discover that a talented player is being blackmailed into throwing the final game.

Y FICTION MYSTERY Feinstein

Recommended for Grades 6–10



Rush for the Gold: A Mystery at the Olympics by John Feinstein

Two teenaged aspiring journalists who are dating solve a mystery at the 2012 Olympic Games, while one simultaneously competes for a gold medal in swimming.

Y FICTION MYSTERY Feinstein
Recommended for Grades 6–9

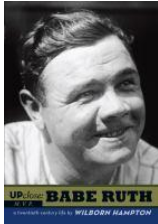


Lightning's Run by Gabriel Goodman

Bullied relentlessly, Hiram Goldfarb, a Jewish immigrant in nineteenth-century New York City, learns bareknuckle fighting from a former slave wanted for a heinous crime in the South.

Y FICTION Goodman

Recommended for Ages 11+***



Up Close: Babe Ruth by Wilborn Hampton

Born into a poor family in Baltimore, George Herman Ruth Jr. was sent to a Catholic reform school at age seven, where he learned how to play baseball. Initially a talented southpaw, the Babe went on to shatter every home-run record on the books--when fewer games were played in a season and a heavier ball was used.

Y796.357 RUTH, B. Hampton

Recommended for Grades 7+

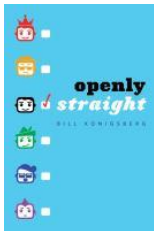


Stupid Fast by Geoff Herbach

Just before his sixteenth birthday, Felton Reinstein has a sudden growth spurt that turns him from a small, jumpy, picked-on boy with the nickname of "Squirrel Nut" to a powerful athlete, leading to new friends, his first love, and the courage to confront his family's past and current problems.

Y FICTION Herbach

Recommended for Grades 9+



Openly Straight by Bill Konigsberg

Tired of being known as "the gay kid", Rafe Goldberg decides to assume a new persona when he comes east and enters an elite Massachusetts prep school--but trying to deny his identity has both complications and unexpected consequences.

Y FICTION Konigsberg

Recommended for Grades 9+



Pop by Gordon Korman

Lonely after a midsummer move to a new town, sixteen-year-old high-school quarterback Marcus Jordan becomes friends with a retired professional linebacker who is great at training him, but whose childish behavior keeps Marcus in hot water.

Y FICTION Korman

Recommended for Grades 7–10



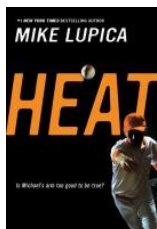
Yellow Flag by Robert Lipsyte

When seventeen-year-old Kyle reluctantly succumbs to family pressure and replaces his injured brother in the family racecar, he struggles to keep up with his trumpet

playing while deciding how--or if--he can continue making music with a brass quintet and headlines as a Nascar racer.

Y FICTION Lipsyte

Recommended for Grades 6–10

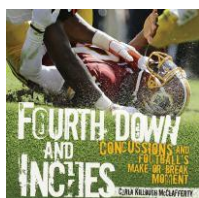


Heat by Mike Lupica

Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old and he has no parents to offer them proof.

Y FICTION Lupica

Recommended for Grades 5–8

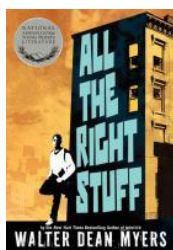


Fourth Down and Inches by Carla Killough McClafferty

Offers a look at the origins of football and the latest research on concussion and traumatic brain injuries in the sport.

Y796.332 McClafferty

Recommended for Grades 5+



All the Right Stuff by Walter Dean Myers

The summer after his absentee father is killed in a random shooting, Paul volunteers at a Harlem soup kitchen where he listens to lessons about "the social contract" from an elderly African American man, and mentors a seventeen-year-old unwed mother who wants to make it to college on a basketball scholarship.

Y FICTION Myers

Recommended for Grades 8+

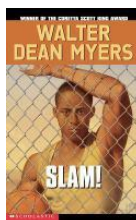


Hoops by Walter Dean Myers

A teenage basketball player from Harlem is befriended by a former professional player who, after being forced to quit because of a point shaving scandal, hopes to prevent other young athletes from repeating his mistake.

Y PB Myers

Recommended for Grades 6–8**

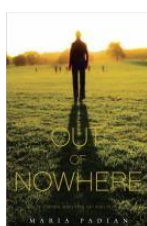


Slam! By Walter Dean Myers

Sixteen-year-old "Slam" Harris is counting on his noteworthy basketball talents to get him out of the inner city and give him a chance to succeed in life, but his coach sees things differently.

Y PB Myers

Recommended for Grades 8+

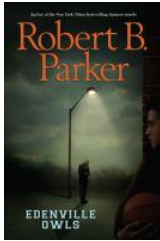


Out of Nowhere by Maria Padian

Performing community service for pulling a stupid prank against a rival high school, soccer star Tom tutors a Somali refugee with soccer dreams of his own.

Y FICTION Padian

Recommended for Grades 9+

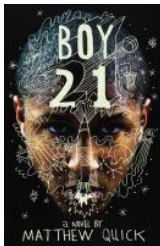


Edenville Owls by Robert B. Parker

Fourteen-year-old Bobby, living in a small Massachusetts town just after World War II, finds himself facing many new challenges as he tries to pull together his coachless basketball team, cope with new feelings for his old friend Joanie, and discover the identity of the mysterious stranger who seems to be threatening his teacher.

Y FICTION MYSTERY Parker

Recommended for Grades 6–9



Boy 21 by Matthew Quick

Finley, an unnaturally quiet boy who is the only white player on his high school's varsity basketball team, lives in a dismal Pennsylvania town that is ruled by the Irish mob. When his coach asks him to mentor a troubled African American student who has transferred there from an elite private school in California, he finds that they have a lot in common in spite of their apparent differences.

Y FICTION Quick

Recommended for Grades 8+



The Berlin Boxing Club by Robert Sharenow

In 1936 Berlin, fourteen-year-old Karl Stern, considered Jewish despite a non-religious upbringing, learns to box from the legendary Max Schmeling while struggling with the realities of the Holocaust.

Y FICTION Sharenow

Recommended for Grades 7+



Winger by Andrew Smith

Two years younger than his classmates at a prestigious boarding school, fourteen-year-old Ryan Dean West grapples with living in the dorm for troublemakers, falling for his female best friend who thinks of him as just a kid, and playing wing on the Varsity rugby team with some of his frightening new dorm-mates.

Y FICTION Smith

Recommended for Grades 9+



Peak by Roland Smith

A fourteen-year-old boy attempts to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mount Everest.

Y FICTION Smith

Recommended for Grades 6+

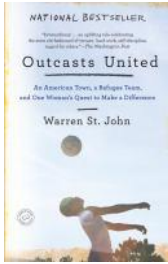


The Scorpio Races by Maggie Stiefvater

Nineteen-year-old returning champion Sean Kendrick competes against Puck Connolly, the first girl ever to ride in the annual Scorpio Races, both trying to keep hold of their dangerous water horses long enough to make it to the finish line.

Y FICTION Stiefvater

Recommended for Grades 8+



Outcasts United by Warren St. John

Clarkston, Georgia, was a typical southern town until it became a refugee resettlement center. Luma Mufleh, a young Jordanian woman educated in the United States and working as a coach for private youth soccer teams in Atlanta, was out for a drive one day and ended up in Clarkston. She was pleasantly surprised by the ethnic restaurants and by the sight of women wearing the hijab. Most of all, she was amazed and delighted to see young boys, black and brown and white, some barefoot, playing soccer on every flat surface they could find. Luma decided to quit her job, move to Clarkston, and start a soccer team. This was where she needed to be, and this was where she made a huge difference in the lives of the Fugees and the small Southern town they came to call home.--From publisher description.

Y796.334 St. John

Recommended for Grades 7+



Fakie by Tony Varrato

The Witness Relocation Program has changed the identities of Alex and his mother repeatedly, but they still need to keep running to stay one step ahead of his enemies. His latest identity as a skateboarder in Virginia Beach is no easy ride. Nosegrabs, ollies, and kickflips are all new to him. Alex has to catch on quickly to blend in, but the biggest trick he'll have to master is staying alive.

Y PB Varrato

Recommended for Grades 7–10*



The Final Four by Paul Volponi

Four players at the Final Four of the NCAA basketball tournament struggle with the pressures of tournament play and the expectations of society at large.

Y FICTION Volponi

Recommended for Grades 8+

All book summaries and cover images courtesy of the Minuteman Library Network catalog.

Grade-level recommendations from School Library Journal reviews unless otherwise noted.

** Grade-level recommendation from Booklist review.*

***Grade-level recommendation from Scholastic.com.*

****Age recommendation from Publishers Weekly review.*