

**BATTLE
BULLYING
WITH
BOOKS
@
BCMS**

Suggested Summer Reading 2011

*Book summaries compliments of the publishers.
BCMS Suggest Summer Reading 2011

**Bala Cynwyd Middle School
Suggested Summer Reading 2011**

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We hope you will encourage your child to read this summer by checking out the summer reading clubs at your local public library or by using the attached suggested summer reading list.

The attached suggested summer reading list may help you and your child pick out good books at the public library or bookstore. This list was compiled from student and teacher suggestions as well as professional library journals.

This year's list is related to the theme of bullying, including books on compassion and anti-bullying, and compiled from titles available at the BCMS Library. BCMS will be kicking off the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program in the fall with an all school presentation. John Halligan, who lost his son to bullying, will share *Ryan's Story* with our students. The list focuses on fiction and non-fiction to help students develop compassion and empathy for peers who are bullied.

Please remember that I have not personally read each and every book on this list. Although these books have been recommended for middle school readers by a variety of sources, the list of books represents a wide range of reading levels as well as levels of sophistication. Therefore, it is very important that you screen the books personally for content that you feel might not be appropriate for your child.

Bullying is an important topic and I hope that your child reads at least one of the books on the list. If your child also wants books from popular genres, please check out the library eboard where you will find summer reading lists from past years as well as many genre lists!

Have a wonderful and relaxing summer.

Happy Reading!

Ms. McDermott

BATTLE BULLYING WITH BOOKS @ BCMS

Let's make BC a kinder place for all students
by stopping bullying in our school.



FICTION BOOKS

F ARN

Arnold, Louise

Golden & Grey: the Nightmares That Ghosts Have

In addition to continuing their work to stop school bullies, eleven-year-old Tom Golden and Grey Arthur--along with several spectral friends--try to discover why ghosts across England are vanishing.

F BAR

Baratz-Logsted, Lauren

Crazy Beautiful

In this contemporary retelling of "Beauty and the Beast," a teenaged boy whose hands were amputated in an explosion and a gorgeous girl whose mother has recently died form an instant connection when they meet on their first day as new students.

*Book summaries compliments of the publishers.

BCMS Suggest Summer Reading 2011

F BLU

Blume, Judy

Blubber

Jill goes along with the rest of the fifth-grade class in tormenting a classmate and then finds out what it's like when she, too, becomes a target.

F BOE

Boelts, Maribeth

The PS Brothers

Sixth-graders Russell and Shawn, poor and picked on, work together scooping dog droppings to earn money for a Rottweiler puppy to protect them from bullies, but when they learn the puppies' owner is running an illegal dog-fighting ring, they are torn about how to respond.

F BRI

Briggs, Andy

Council of Evil

Fourteen-year-old Jake Hunter goes from average bully to villain after finding a website that lets him download superpowers, but when he joins forces with the supervillain Basilisk, he may be in over his head.

F BUT

Butler, Dori Hillestad

The Truth About the Truman School

Tired of being told what to write by the school newspaper's advisor, Zibby and her friend Amr start an underground newspaper online where everyone is free to post anything, but things spiral out of control when a cyberbully starts using the site to harrass one popular girl.

F CAB

Cabot, Meg

The New Girl

Guided by her rules, nine-year-old Allie works to get past being just the new girl at school, eagerly awaits the arrival of her kitten, and faces turmoil when her grandmother visits while the family is still settling into their new home.

F COD

Codell, Esme Raji

Vive la Paris

Fifth-grader Paris learns some lessons about dealing with bullies of all kinds as she wonders how to stop a classmate from beating up her brother at school and as she learns about the Holocaust from her piano teacher, Mrs. Rosen.

F COD

Cody, Matthew

Powerless

Soon after moving to Noble's Green, Pennsylvania, twelve-year-old Daniel learns that his new friends have super powers that they will lose when they turn thirteen, unless he can use his brain power to protect them.

F COV

Coville, Bruce

The Monster's Ring

A timid boy, eager to frighten the school bully on Halloween night, acquires a magic ring and the power to change himself into a hideous monster.

F DRA

Draper, Sharon

Out of My Mind

Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.

F DUA

Duane, Diane

So You Want to Be a Wizard

Thirteen-year-old Nita, tormented by a gang of bullies because she won't fight back, finds the help she needs in a library book on wizardry which guides her into another dimension.

F ERS

Erskine, Kathryn

Mockingbird: mock'ing-burd

Ten-year-old Caitlin, who has Asperger's Syndrome, struggles to understand emotions, show empathy, and make friends at school, while at home she seeks closure by working on a project with her father.

F EVA

Evangelista, Beth

Gifted

Arrogant, mentally gifted George Clark has dreaded the eighth-grade class camping trip and its inevitable bullying, but a hurricane and a friend's loyalty make him realize what is important in life.

F GAR

Gardner, Graham

Inventing Elliot

Elliot, a victim of bullying, invents a calmer, cooler self when he changes schools in the middle of freshman year, but soon attracts the wrong kind of attention from the Guardians who "maintain order" at the new school.

F GOI

Going, K.L.

The Liberation of Gabriel King

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.

F HAH

Hahn, Mary Downing

Stepping on the Cracks

In 1944, while her brother is overseas fighting in World War II, eleven-year-old Margaret gets a new view of the school bully Gordy when she finds him hiding his own brother, an army deserter, and decides to help him.

F HEL

Helgerson, Joseph

Horns and Wrinkles

Along a magic-saturated stretch of the Mississippi River near Blue Wing, Minnesota, twelve-year-old Claire and her bullying cousin Duke are drawn into an adventure involving Bodacious Deepthink the Great Rock Troll, a helpful fairy, and a group of trolls searching for their fathers.

F HEN

Heneghan, James

Hit Squad

Students in an upscale high school decide to take on the bullies and take back their school, with decidedly mixed consequences.

F HOW

Howe, James

Totally Joe

As a school assignment, a thirteen-year-old boy writes an alphabiography-- life from A to Z--and explores issues of friendship, family, school, and the challenges of being a gay teenager.

F JOH

Johnston, Tony

The Spoon in the Bathroom Wall

Living in the boiler room of the school where her father is janitor seems normal to fourth grader Martha Snapdragon, until she has experiences with an evil principal, the class bully, and a mysterious giant spoon, all reminiscent of the Arthurian legends.

F KAY

Kay, Cassidy

Cinderella Society

After winning a coveted spot on the high school cheerleading squad, sixteen-year-old newcomer, Jess Parker, is still treated as an "outsider" by the majority of the student body thanks to the harassment campaign led by the popular cheerleader she displaced.

F KEY

Key, Watt

Alabama Moon

After the death of his father, ten-year-old Moon leaves their forest shelter home and is sent to an Alabama institution, becoming entangled in the outside world he has never known and making good friends, a relentless enemy, and finally a new life.

F KOJ

Koja, Kathe

Buddha Boy

Justin spends time with Jinsen, the unusual and artistic new student whom the school bullies torment and call Buddha Boy, and ends up making choices that impact Jinsen, himself, and the entire school.

F KOR

Korman, Gordan

Schooled

Cap lives in isolation with his grandmother, a former hippie; but when she falls from a tree and breaks her hip, Cap is sent to a foster home where he has his first experience in a public school.

F KOS

Koss, Amy Goldman

Poison Ivy

In a government class three popular girls undergo a mock trial for their ruthless bullying of a classmate.

F LEM

LeMieux, A.C.

All the Answers

Failing algebra and being grounded for talking back to his father are bad enough, but when he faces a beautiful new eighth grader and her bullying twin brother, Jason is forced to take another look at his life.

F LIN

Lindquist, Susan Hart

Summer Soldiers

After his father goes off to war during the summer of 1918, eleven-year-old Joe, along with his friends, contends with the town bullies and tries to figure out the meaning of courage.

F MAC

Mackall, Dandi Daley

Larger-Than-Life-Lara

Using the writing techniques she has learned in school, fourth-grader Laney relates how an obese girl new to the class changes the lives of those around her, despite being bullied by her peers.

F MCK

McKay, Hilary

Indigo's Star

Spurred on by his youngest sister, Rose, 12-year-old Indigo sticks up for himself and an American boy who has replaced him as the primary target of the school bullies.

F MYE

Myers, Anna

Confessions from the Principal's Chair

After participating in a cruel prank on a classmate, fourteen-year-old Robin and her mother move to Oklahoma, where Robin is mistaken for the substitute principal and receives a new perspective on bullying.

F ODE

O'Dell, Kathleen

Agnes Parker—Girl in Progress

As she starts in the sixth grade, Agnes faces challenges with her old best friend, a longtime bully, a wonderful new classmate and neighbor, and herself.

F OKE

O'Keefe, Susan

Death by Eggplant

Eighth-grader Bertie Hooks has to keep his dream of becoming a world-class chef a secret, especially from his mortal enemy, Nick Dekker, and when they both get "flour-sack babies" to take care of for a week, things become even more complicated for Bertie.

F PRE

Preller, James

Bystander

Thirteen-year-old Eric discovers there are consequences to not standing by and watching as the bully at his new school hurts people, but although school officials are aware of the problem, Eric may be the one with a solution.

F ROB

Roberts, Willo Davis

The Kidnappers: a Mystery

No one believes eleven-year-old Joey, who has a reputation for telling tall tales, when he claims to have witnessed the kidnapping of the class bully outside their expensive New York City private school.

F SHU

Shulman, Mark

Scrawl

When eighth-grade school bully Tod and his friends get caught committing a crime on school property, his penalty--staying after school and writing in a journal under the eye of the school guidance counselor--reveals aspects of himself that he prefers to keep hidden.

F SON

Sonenklar, Carol

Mighty Boy

When he gets a chance to meet his hero, the television character Mighty Boy, Howard Weinstein discovers his own strengths that help him handle the bully in his new fourth grade class.

F TAC

Tacang, Brian

Bully-Be-Gone

Budding-inventor Millicent Madding launches her latest invention to disastrous results, and she has only days to create an antidote before the local bullies wreak havoc and her dearest friendships are destroyed forever.

QUICK PICKS, EVERYBODY BOOKS and GRAPHIC NOVELS

QP COL

Collins, Ross

Medusa Jones

In ancient Greece, Medusa Jones, a Gorgon, and her friends, Mino the Minotaur and Chiron the centaur, are mocked and sneered at by the other Acropolis Academy children whose parents are kings and gods, but when they go on a school camping trip together, the "freaks" become true heroes.

QP COS

Cosson, M.J.

The Pirate, Big Fist, and Me

Levi Viggers the Eighth, descendent of a pirate, must serve a year of after-school detention in the library where he comes across a book that reveals some old family secrets, leading him to team up with his bullying cousin in a search for buried treasure.

QP DAH

Dahl, Michael

Eye of the Monster

"Ren is tired of being bullied, but he thinks the bullies are right--he is small and weak. But when his eyes turn golden, and his skin turns scaly, Ren thinks he can finally get revenge on the boys who tormented him. What will he do when he sees what fear looks like?"--P. [4] of cover.

E HAR

Hartman, Bob

The Three Billy Goats' Stuff

At the playground of the Traditional Academy for Small Furry Animals and the Odd Mythical Creature, an obnoxious troll, who likes to bully his classmates around, goes too far and a big surprise teaches him an important lesson.

QP HOF

Hoffman, Mary

Bravo, Grace

Grace, while standing up to the school bully once and for all, practices for her role as Peter Pan in the new class play, asks Nana for advice about boys, and learns the most exciting news--she is going to have a sibling.

E HOL

Hole, Stian

Garmann's Street

After succumbing to peer pressure from a bully, an unusual friendship between Garmann and the Stamp Man arises out of a near-disaster.

E LOV

Lovell, Patty

Stand Tall, Molly Lou Mellon

Even when the class bully at her new school makes fun of her, Molly remembers what her grandmother told her and she feels good about herself.

QP MAC

MacPhail, Catherine

Get That Ghost to Go!

When a ghost begins haunting Duncan, turning his life upside down and ruining his cool image, he and his best friend Markie turn to the class "nerd," whose plan for getting rid of the ghost comes at a steep price.

E MIL

Millman, Dan

Secret of the Peaceful Warrior: a Story about Courage and Love

An old man named Socrates shows Danny that the best way of dealing with a bully is the way of the peaceful warrior, through courage and love.

E POL

Polacco, Patricia

Mr. Lincoln's Way

When Mr. Lincoln, "the coolest principal in the whole world," discovers that Eugene, the school bully, knows a lot about birds, he uses this interest to help Eugene overcome his intolerance.

QP SOR

Sorsenson, Margo

The Gotcha Plot

Two boys plan revenge on the rowdy kids who tease them when they stumble into the school custodian's closet and find something unusual.

QP VAN

Van Drannen, Wendelin

Secret Identity

Fifth-grader Nolan Byrd, tired of being called names by the class bully, has a secret identity--Shredderman!

QP ZUC

Zucker, Jonny

Steel Eyes

Even before he knows the truth, Gary is determined to protect Emma, the new girl in school, from Gail and Tanya, gang members who will stop at nothing to learn why Emma always wears sunglasses.

QP ZUC

Zucker, Jonny

Skateboard Power

As Nick is preparing for a big skateboarding competition, a bully tries to prevent him from entering, but Nick gets help from an unlikely source.

*Book summaries compliments of the publishers.

NONFICTION

155.4 LES

LeShan, Eda J.

When Kids Drive Kids Crazy: How to Get Along with Your Friends and Enemies

Discusses why some young people are brats, bullies, or otherwise hurtful to others and how to cope with them, help them, and develop good friendships.

158.2 WEB

Webber, Diane

Your Space: Dealing with Friends and Peers

Three teens discuss their friends and relationships, and how they deal with peer pressure, gossip, bullies, and parents.

302.3 BRE

Breguet, Teri

Frequently Asked Questions About Cyberbullying

Includes information on what is cyberbullying, who are the cyberbullies and their victims, and what to do if you are being cyberbullied.

302.3 BUR

Burstein, John

Why Are You Picking on Me? Dealing with Bullies

Bullying is one of the scariest and potentially damaging negative behaviors children can face. Slim Goodbody helps young students learn to recognize the different kinds of bullying and presents strategies for dealing with even the toughest situations.

302.3 JAK

Jakubiak, David J.

A Smart Kid's Guide to Online Bullying

Introduces the dangers of online bullying to young readers, discusses how and why bullies try to intimidate others on the Internet, and provides advice on how to avoid and thwart the negative aims of cyber bullies.

302.3 ROM

Romain, Trevor

Bullies Are a Pain in the Brain

A serious yet humorous guide to dealing with bullies.

302.34 SAN

Sanders, Pete

Bullying

Discusses bullying, why it occurs, and how it can be handled.

371.5 WIN

Winkler, Kathleen

Bullying: How to Deal with Taunting, Teasing, and Tormenting

This book explains what bullying is, why bullies do it, and why victims take it and explores ways that people are working together to put an end to bullying and make the world safer for kids.

PARENTS/EDUCATORS

PROF 371.7 BLA

Blanco, Jodee

Please Stop Laughing at Me: One Woman's Inspirational Story

This powerful memoir chronicles how one child was shunned--and sometimes physically abused--by her classmates from elementary school through high school. It is an unflinching look at what it means to be the outcast, and how bullying has been mishandled by the mental health community.

PROF 371.7 COL

Haber, Joel

Bullyproof Your Child For Life: Protect Your Child from Teasing, Taunting, and Bullying for Good

This book examines bullying in various venues such as school, camp, sports and the cyberworld. Chapter Three offers specific advice on breaking the bullying cycle.

**FOR MORE GREAT SUMMER READING IDEAS,
CHECK OUT YOUR LOCAL PUBLIC LIBRARY!**

Ardmore Public Library
108 Ardmore Avenue
Ardmore, PA 19003
610-642-5187

Bala Cynwyd Library
131 Old Lancaster Road
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004
610-664-1196

Belmont Hills Library
120 Mary Watersford Road
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004
610-664-8427

Gladwyne Library
362 Righters Mill Road
Gladwyne, PA 19035
610-642-3957

Ludington Library
5 S. Bryn Mawr Avenue
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
610-525-1776

Penn Wynne Library
130 Overbrook Parkway
Wynnewood, PA 19096
610-642-7844