**A**dvanced **L**earning **P**rogram

**Summer Reading List**

Welcome to the KellyMiddle School Advanced Learning Program (ALP). As students who are preparing to enter this rigorous academic program in the fall, it is important that they continue to practice their reading skills throughout the summer. The following list of books is divided into two sections: **nonfiction** and **fiction**. **All ALP students must read two books-one from the non-fiction list and one from the fiction list.** They must also complete a **Non-fiction Book Review** and a **Fiction Book Review.** You can find the book review handouts in this document and in the **Resources** page on the **Kelly ALPS Weebly** site. The book reviews will be due on the first day of school in September. Please feel free to email Mrs. Sweeney at [esweeney@eds.misd.net](mailto:esweeney@eds.misd.net) if there are any questions.

**Non-fiction**

**An American Plague: An Untold Story of Yellow Fever, the Epidemic That Shaped Our World**

*Crosby, Molly Caldwell*

1793, Philadelphia. The nation's capital and the largest city in North America is devastated by an apparently incurable disease, cause unknown . . . In a powerful, dramatic narrative, critically acclaimed author Jim Murphy describes the illness known as yellow fever and the toll it took on the city's residents, relating the epidemic to the major social and political events of the day and to 18th-century medical beliefs and practices.

**Courage and Growth**

*Ollhoff, Jim*

Traces the history of the civil rights movement after 1964, discussing key figures and significant events.

**Harlem Stomp: A Cultural History of the Harlem Renaissance**

*Hill, Laban Carrick*

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| --- |
| Lavishly illustrated with sepia-tone photographs, reproductions of historical documents, and full-color paintings, "Harlem Stomp!" is both a historical exploration and a lively celebration of the Harlem Renaissance. |

**Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream**

*Stone, Tanya Lee*

When NASA was launched in 1958, 13 women proved they had as much of the right stuff as men to be astronauts, but their way to space was blocked by prejudice, insecurity, and a scrawled note written by one of Washington's most powerful men. This is the true story of the Mercury 13 women.

**Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice**

*Hoose, Phillip*

On March 2, 1955, 15-year-old Claudette Colvin refused to give up her bus seat to a white passenger. In her own words, Claudette gives a detailed look at segregated life in 1950s Memphis and the start of the civil rights movement.

**A Man Ain’t Nothin’ But a Man: The Adventures of John Henry**

Killens, John Oliver

Retells the life of the legendary steel driver of early railroad days who challenged the steam hammer to a steel driving contest.

**F5: Devastation, Survival, and the Most Violent Tornado Outbreak of the Twentieth Century**

*Levine, Mark*

Acclaimed journalist Levine has crafted a page-turner that reads with the immediacy of a novel, telling a harrowing story of natural disaster against the backdrop of the turbulent 1970s.

**Earthquakes**

*Simon, Seymour*

Examines the phenomenon of earthquakes, describing how and where they occur, how they can be predicted, and how much damage they can inflict.

**Volcanoes**

*Simon, Seymour*

Volcanoes don't always look like mountains--they aren't always full of fire. Some are holes in the ground, some form under the sea. Despite their reputation for destruction, volcanoes produce new mountains, new islands and new soil. Visit some of the world's most remarkable volcanoes with one of the most outstanding science writers in children's books. Full-color photos.

**Dino Wars**

*Johnson, Jinny*

Who was the hunted and who was the prey and what secret weapons did each dinosaur possess? *Dino Wars* answers all this and more! In *Dino Wars*, readers can find out which dinosaur would have ended up as dinner in a tremendous struggle between Tyrannosaurus and Triceratops, or who the winner might have been in the land and air battle when Pterodactylus swoops down on a herd of grazing Kannemeryeria.

**Outside and Inside Mummies**

*Markie, Sandra*

Have you ever wished that you could unwrap a mummy? Imagine examining the skin, bones, even muscles and organs of a person who lived thousands of years ago! Cutting-edge technology is revealing more than ever before about these amazing relics from human history. Modern crime lab technology can reveal whether a mummy was killed or died of natural causes. X-rays can help us discover a mummy's age and identity, and DNA samples are even helping scientists find today's living relatives of Incan mummies.

**The Wildlife Detectives: How Forensic Scientists Fight Crimes Against Nature**

*Jackson, Donna M.*

Describes how the wildlife detectives at the National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory in Ashland, Oregon, analyze clues to catch and convict people responsible for crimes against animals.

**Earth Science Fair Projects Using Rocks, Minerals, Magnets, Mud, and More**

*Calhoun, Yael*

Titles in the Earth Science! Best Science Projects series offer both information and projects related to their subjects. While other volumes in the series tackle the environment, weather, and "Planet Earth," this book explores geological topics such as continental drift, earthquakes, volcanoes, watersheds, types of erosion, and the formation of igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks.

**Between a Rock and a Hard Place**

*Ralston, Aaron*

Hiking into the remote Utah canyonlands, Aron Ralston felt perfectly at home in the beauty of the natural world. Then, at 2:41 P.M., eight miles from his truck, in a deep and narrow slot canyon, an eight-hundred-pound boulder tumbled loose, pinning Aron's right hand and wrist against the canyon wall.

**Shadow Divers: The True Adventures of Two Americans Who Risked Everything to Solve One of the Last Mysteries of World War II**

*Kurson, Robert*

For John Chatterton and Richie Kohler, deep wreck diving was more than a sport. Testing themselves against treacherous currents, braving depths that induced hallucinatory effects, navigating through wreckage as perilous as a minefield, they pushed themselves to their limits and beyond, brushing against death more than once in the rusting hulks of sunken ships.

**Wave of Destruction: The Stories of Four Families and History’s Deadliest Tsunami**

*Krauss, Erich*

This exquisitely written book puts a human face on the tragedy of last year’s Southeast Asian tsunami through the heartbreaking and heroic stories of four who survived this cataclysmic natural disaster.

**The Book of Perectly Perilous Math**

*Sean Connolly*

Math rocks! At least it does in the gifted hands of Sean Connolly, who blends middle school math with fantasy to create an exciting adventure in problem-solving.

**Math Doesn't Suck: How to Survive Middle-School Math without Losing Your Mind**

*Danica Mae McKellar*

Danica was born on January 3, 1975. She is an American actress, author and education advocate. She is best known for her role as Winnie Cooper in the television show The Wonder Years, and later as author of the New York Times bestseller *Math Doesn't Suck: How to Survive Middle-School Math without Losing Your Mind.* This book encourages teens to learn about math.

**Non-fiction Book Review**

Complete this assignment for the non-fiction book that you have selected to read.

Your Name

Book Title

Author

Publisher

Main Purpose of the book:

Five things that I have learned from this book that I didn’t know before:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Write six new vocabulary words that you learned from this book.

Words: Definitions

List three facts that were stated in this book.

1.

2.

Write an e-mail message to a friend telling him or her why you think they should read this book.

What piece of information did you find the most interesting?

**Fiction**

**A Journey to the Center of the Earth**

*Verne, Jules*

Explorers make an expedition into a crater which leads to the center of the earth and to some incredible discoveries.

**Moonfall**

*McDevitt, Jack*

In five days, comet "Tomiko" will shatter the Moon. Huge chunks will rain down on Earth, causing continent-wide fires, killer storms, and tidal waved as tall as mountain ranges. Five days to save a world. Five nightmare days for the reluctant Russian rocket jockey entrusted with Earth's future; for the woman astronaut who may be the last human on the Moon; for the scientist who must deflect the "possums" (POSSible IMpactors) or witness the end of science itself.

**The Juliet Club**

*Harper, Suzanne*

When high school junior Kate wins an essay contest that sends her to Verona, Italy, to study Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" over the summer, she meets both American and Italian students and learns not just about Shakespeare, but also about star-crossed lovers--and herself.

**Saving Juliet**

*Selfors, Suzanne*

Seventeen-year-old Mimi Wallingford's stage fright and fight with her mother on the closing night of Romeo and Juliet are nothing compared to the troubles she faces when she and her leading man are transported to Shakespeare's Verona, where she decides to give the real Juliet a happy ending.

**Romeo’s Ex: Rosaline’s Story**

*Fiedler, Lisa*

In a story based on the Shakespeare play, sixteen-year-old Roseline, who is studying to be a healer, becomes romantically entangled with the Montague family even as her beloved young cousin, Juliet Capulet, defies the family feud to secretly marry Romeo.

**Blue Avenger Cracks the Code**

*Howe, Norma*

In his new identity as Blue Avenger, sixteen-year-old David visits Venice, Italy, and continues to pursue various crusades, including trying to solve the mystery of who really wrote Shakespeare's works.

**Romiette and Julio**

*Draper, Sharon*

Romiette, an African-American girl, and Julio, a Hispanic boy, discover that they attend the same high school after falling in love on the Internet, but are harassed by a gang whose members object to their interracial dating.

**The Secret Under My Skin**

*McNaughton, Janet Elizabeth*

In the year 2368, humans exist under dire environmental conditions and one young woman, rescued from a work camp and chosen for a special duty, uses her love of learning to discover the truth about the planet's future and her own dark past.

**Deep and Dark and Dangerous**

*Hahn, Mary Downing*

When thirteen-year-old Ali spends the summer with her aunt and cousin at the family's vacation home, she stumbles upon a secret that her mother and aunt have been hiding for over thirty years.

**Copper Sun**

*Sharon Draper*

Two fifteen-year-old girls--one a slave and the other an indentured servant--escape their Carolina plantation and try to make their way to Fort Moses, Florida, a Spanish colony that gives sanctuary to slaves.

**The Boy Who Dared**

*Bartoletti, Susan Campbell*

In October, 1942, seventeen-year-old Helmuth Hübener, imprisoned for distributing anti-Nazi leaflets, recalls his past life and how he came to dedicate himself to bring the truth about Hitler and the war to the German people.

**Flygirl**

*Smith, Sherri*

During World War II, a light-skinned African American girl "passes" for white in order to join the Women Airforce Service Pilots.

**Night**

*Wiesel, Elie*

Night offers a personal and unforgettable account of the appalling horrors of Hitler's reign of terror. Through the eyes of 14-year-old Eliezer, we behold the tragic fate of the Jews from the little town of Sighet.

**Soldier X**

*Wulffson, Don L.*

In 1943 sixteen-year-old Erik experiences the horrors of war when he is drafted into the German army and sent to fight on the Russian front.

**The Book Thief**

*Zusak, Markus*

Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel--a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.

**Mare’s War**

*Davis, Tanita*

Teens Octavia and Tali learn about strength, independence, and courage when they are forced to take a car trip with their grandmother, who tells about growing up Black in 1940s Alabama and serving in Europe during World War II as a member of the Women's Army Corps.

**Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry**

*Taylor, Mildred*

A black family living in the South during the 1930’s is faced with prejudice and discrimination which their children don't understand.

**Fire from the Rock**

*Draper, Sharon*

In 1957, Sylvia Patterson's life--that of a normal African American teenager--is disrupted by the impending integration of Little Rock's Central High when she is selected to be one of the first black students to attend the previously all white school. Includes author's note and related websites.

**Stargirl**

*Spinelli, Jerry*

In this story about the perils of popularity, the courage of nonconformity, and the thrill of first love, an eccentric student named Stargirl changes Mica High School forever.

**The Supernaturalist**

*Colfer, Eoin*

In futuristic Satellite City, fourteen-year-old Cosmo Hill escapes from his abusive orphanage and teams up with three other people who share his unusual ability to see supernatural creatures, and together they determine the nature and purpose of the swarming blue Parasites that are invisible to most humans.

**The Maze Runner**

*Dashner, James*

When Thomas wakes up in the lift, the only thing he can remember is his first name. His memory is blank. But he’s not alone. When the lift’s doors open, Thomas finds himself surrounded by kids who welcome him to the Glade—a large, open expanse surrounded by stone walls.

**Memoirs of a Teenage Amnesiac**

*Zevin, Gabrielle*

After a nasty fall, Naomi realizes that she has no memory of the last four years and finds herself reassessing every aspect of her life.

**The Future of Us**

*Asher, Jay*

It's 1996, and less than half of all American high school students have ever used the Internet. Emma just got her first computer and Josh is her best friend. They power up and log on--and discover themselves on Facebook, fifteen years in the future. Everybody wonders what their Destiny will be. Josh and Emma are about to find out.

**Blue Bloods**

*De la Cruz, Melissa*

Select teenagers from some of New York City's wealthiest and most socially prominent families learn a startling secret about their bloodlines.

**Sarah Bishop**

*O’Dell, Scott*

Left alone after the deaths of her father and brother who take opposite sides in the War for Independence, and fleeing from the British who seek to arrest her, Sarah Bishop struggles to shape a new life for herself in the wilderness.

**The Fighting Ground**

*Avi*

Thirteen-year-old Jonathan goes off to fight in the Revolutionary War and discovers the real war is being fought within himself.

**The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle**

*Avi*

As the only passenger, and the only female, on a transatlantic voyage in 1832, thirteen-year-old Charlotte finds herself caught between a murderous captain and a mutinous crew.

**Fever, 1793**

*Anderson. Laurie Halse*

In 1793 Philadelphia, sixteen-year-old Matilda Cook, separated from her sick mother, learns about perseverance and self-reliance when she is forced to cope with the horrors of a yellow fever epidemic.

**Fiction Book Review**

Complete this assignment for the

fiction book that you have selected to read.

Your Name

Book Title

Author

Publisher

Genre (Type of fiction: historical, realistic, mystery, science fiction, etc.)

The setting of a fictional book is often very important in creating the mood of the story. Describe the setting of this book in lots of detail. Paint a picture with words! How did the setting contribute to the feeling and mood of the book?

Describe the main characters and explain their importance to the story. What part did they play in the story? How did the characters change or surprise you? Be very descriptive. I really want to learn about the characters. Make me want to read your book!!!!

Main Character

Main Character

Main Character

Main Character

Choose an important event or detail and describe what you think the author’s purpose was for including it in the story.

Write a summary of the story. Make sure you carefully explain the plot.

Explain how your story ends.

What is your opinion of the book? Support your feelings with details from the story. Would you recommend it to others? Explain why or why not.

**Extra Credit Activity!!!**

*Create a virtual comic strip for your book!*

*Visit the following websites for directions.*

<http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/comic/index.html>

<http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/lesson_images/lesson195/comic-strip-planning.pdf>

**More Extra Credit Ideas!**

Earn extra credit points by creating one of

these ideas about the books that you have read!

**Create** **a PowerPoint or a Prezi** [**http://prezi.com**](http://prezi.com) **presentation that represents your book.**

**Create a short video clip about the book.**

Creaza <http://creaza.com>, Kerpoof <http://kerpoof.com>, and Xtra normal text to movie <http://xtranormal.com> are all great online tools that allow students to create short movie clips. Students can create an interview type show where they interview characters in the book, create a short movie trailer for the book, or actually have characters act out portions of the book.

**Create a virtual poster advertising the book.**

Think about movie posters, they give just enough information to give you a taste of what the movie will be about. They also contain information such as the title of the movie, the major actors, and a rating. Students can use Glogster <http://www.glogster.com> to create an online book poster that acts as an advertisement for the book they just read. Students should include the title and author of the book, key characters, use pictures that support the story line, and create a tag line that will make others want to read the book.

**Create virtual bookshelves with Shelfari** [**http://shelfari.com**](http://shelfari.com)**.**

Shelfari allows students to display books that they have read on a virtual bookshelf. This site enables students to connect with other students and teachers, sharing book recommendations and reading reviews.

#### Bookcasting is a recorded audio podcast about a book.

A bookcast is a movie trailer-like audio review of a book that students can create and share with one another. Free online tools such Pod Bean <http://podbean.com> make recording audio and sharing simple. Bookcasts let students be creative and provide them with a great sense of audience. It has the added benefit of acting as a book review to excite other students about reading.

#### Create a timeline of events in the in an online timeline.

Capzles <http://capzles.com> is an interactive timeline creator. Students can add photos, video, audio and text to their timeline to support retelling their book sequentially. Themes, colors, backgrounds, and background music can be added to further personalize the timeline. Timelines have the ability to be shared with other students and teachers.

#### Voice Thread <http://voicethread.com> is an amazing site that allows students to create web 2.0 slide shows that become interactive and collaborative.

This is a great place for students to discuss common genres and books online. Students can create a slideshow summary of their book with pictures, audio, and text. Other students can leave text, audio, or drawn comments on the book reviews. Voice Thread would be a great place to begin online classroom book clubs.

#### [www.Gizmoz.com](http://www.Gizmoz.com)

Create an animated version of yourself retelling your book using this website!

**My Story Maker**

|  |
| --- |
| Retell your book using Story Maker! |

<http://www.carnegielibrary.org/kids/mystorymaker/>

**\*\*\*\*\*If you are in a mood to explore, go to** [**http://www.edutecher.net/tv.php**](http://www.edutecher.net/tv.php) **and research other great virtual ideas!!!!**