

# 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List

## Last Days of Summer

Steve Kluger  
Fiction

Told in letters, notes, report cards, matchbook covers, postcards and telegrams, **Last Days of Summer** tells of the evolving relationship between two unlikely friends and an even more unlikely role model. Added to the regular beatings from neighborhood kids and other burdens weighing upon his young shoulders, he's troubled by Hitler's rising power, his parents' divorce, and an absent father who repeatedly lets him down. Craving a surrogate dad, Joey strikes up a correspondence with Charlie Banks, the third baseman for the New York Giants.

## We Were there too!: Young People in U.S. History

Phillip Hoose  
Non-Fiction

This unique book is the first to tell the story of the role young people have played in the making of our nation. It brings to life their contributions throughout American history-- from the boys who sailed with Columbus to today's young activists. Based largely on primary sources--first-person accounts, journals, and interviews--it highlights the fascinating stories of more than seventy young people from diverse cultures.

## The Wedding

Nicholas Sparks  
Fiction

After 30 years of marriage, Wilson Lewis is forced to admit that the romance has gone out of his marriage. Desperate to win back his wife, Jane's heart, he must figure out a way to make her fall in love with him again.

## The Jacket

Andrew Clements  
Fiction

When Phil accuses an African American boy of stealing his younger brother's jacket, he discovers what prejudice really is. Each boy learns about the other and by doing so, most importantly, they learn about themselves.

## Slaughterhouse Five

Kurt Vonnegut  
Science Fiction

We are introduced to Billy Pilgrim a man who becomes unstuck in time after he is abducted by aliens from the planet Tralfamadore. In a plot-scrambling display of virtuosity, we follow Pilgrim simultaneously through all phases of his life, concentrating on his (and Vonnegut's) shattering experience as an American prisoner of war who witnesses the firebombing of Dresden

## **Catch 22**

Joseph Heller  
*Historical Fiction*

A bombardier, based in Italy during World War II, repeatedly tries to avoid flying bombing missions while his colonel tries to get him killed by demanding that he fly more and more missions

## **Demian**

Herman Hesse  
Fiction

Young, docile Emil Sinclair heads down the road to destruction when he rebels against convention, gets involved in the world of petty crime, and discovers his new powers for good and evil.

## **The Sun Also Rises**

Ernest Hemingway  
Fiction

The novel is a powerful insight in to the lives and values of the so called 'lost generation', a generation supposedly scarred by the effects of World War I.

## **Fallen Angels**

Walter Dean Meyers  
Fiction

It is the tale of a young soldier who enlists in the army. Far from the mean streets of Harlem, the jungles of Vietnam offer Richie Perry a little more than what he had bargained for.

## **Homecoming**

Cynthia Voight  
Fiction

Dacey, James, Sammy and Maybeth Tillerman are abandoned by their mentally ill mother in the family car outside a mall. They walk from the eastern edges of Connecticut to Bridgeport where they have an address for Aunt Cilla, their nearest known relative. That trip is an urban survival story and the children sleep in parks and abandoned buildings, fishing and clamming when possible along the shore