The following books are enthusiastically recommended for readers in sixth grade. The list contains new books which the youth librarians have especially enjoyed, as well as old favorites. And remember to ask your librarian for additional suggestions by these and other authors.

**Fiction**

**Among The Hidden** by Margaret Peterson Haddix
Luke, an illegal third child, has been hiding all of his life, but when new families move nearby he begins to suspect that he is not the only hidden child. (first in a series) J FIC, J AUDIO and J AUDIO ebook

**Beauty: A Retelling of the Story of Beauty and the Beast** by Robin McKinley
In this novelization of Beauty and the Beast, find out what happens when a not-so-beautiful Beauty meets a very interesting Beast. TEEN, T PBK, J FIC

**Belle Prater's Boy** by Ruth White
Woodrow moves in with his grandparents after his mother disappears, and he becomes fast friends with his cousin Gypsy, who lives next door. J FIC, J PBK, J AUDIO

**Code Talker** by Joseph Bruchac
As a child in a white-run boarding school, Ned is forbidden to speak his native Navajo, but during World War II the Marines enlist him to use his language as a code. J FIC

**Coraline** by Neil Gaiman
A twelve-year-old girl, rescued from a horrible summer camp by her two great-uncles, helps them fight some mysterious secrets in Tír na n'Óg, the land of endless youth. JFIC, JPBK, JAUDIO

**Down the Rabbit Hole: An Echo Falls** by Peter Abrahams
Ingrid loves Sherlock Holmes and running in her red Pumas, but she doesn’t anticipate that her favorite shoes will involve her in the mystery surrounding the death of an eccentric woman. TEEN, T PBK

**First Daughter: Extreme American Makeover** by Mitaili Perkins
Sameera, the adopted daughter of a presidential candidate, is excited about the makeover promised by her father’s staff. Then she realizes that they plan to change a lot more than her hair and wardrobe. TEEN

**Flush** by Carl Hiaasen
After their father goes to jail for sinking a sewage-dumping gambling ship, Noah and his little sister Abbey take over their dad’s crusade to stop the casino owner and his henchmen. J FIC, J AUDIO

**The Green Glass Sea** by Ellen Klages
During World War II, Dewey lives at Los Alamos, New Mexico while her dad works on a secret project for the army...the atomic bomb. J FIC, J AUDIO, J AUDIO ebook

**Hattie Big Sky** by Kirby Larson
All by herself, 16-year-old orphan Hattie moves to Montana and tries to make a success of the homestead left to her by her uncle. J FIC, J PBK, J AUDIO

**Heat** by Mike Lupica
Cuban-born Michael just wants to play baseball like his hero El Grande. But he isn’t allowed to play until he shows the Little League officials his missing birth certificate. TEEN, T AUDIO

**Holes** by Louis Sachar
While digging holes as punishment at Camp Green Lake, Stanley Yelnats discovers some important things about himself and his unlucky family. J FIC, J AUDIO

**Homeless Bird** by Gloria Whelan
When her sickly husband dies, a 13-year-old widow is abandoned by his family and left to fend for herself in a strange city. J FIC, J PBK, J AUDIO

**The King of Mulberry Street** by Donna Jo Napoli
In 1892, a nine-year-old boy, sent alone on a ship to America, makes friends who help him survive on the streets of New York City. J FIC

**London Calling** by Edward Bloor
Martin discovers that the old radio left to him by his grandmother transports him back to World War II London during the Blitz. There he meets Jimmy, and the two boys’ stories begin to intersect. T AUDIO, J FIC

**Middle School Is Worse Than Meatloaf: A Year Told Through Stuff** by Jennifer L. Holm
The story of Ginny’s seventh grade year is told through “stuff” like drug store receipts, homework assignments, to-do lists, report cards and letters from friends. J FIC

**The Misfits** by James Howe
After years of verbal abuse, four misfit seventh graders decide to do something to stop the name-calling. TEEN, T AUDIO, J FIC

**Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH** by Robert C. O’Brien
Mrs. Frisby, a widowed mouse, must go to the mysterious rats of NIMH to save her son’s life. J FIC, J PBK, J AUDIO, J AUDIO ebook

**The Mysterious Benedict Society** by Trenton Lee Stewart
Four children must work together on a special mission: spying on and defeating a criminal mastermind. J FIC, J AUDIO

**The New Policeman** by Kate Thompson
While trying to determine why everyone seems to have less time to do things, J.J. stumbles across some mysterious secrets in Tir na n’Og, the land of endless youth. J FIC, J AUDIO

**Once Upon a Marigold** by Jean Ferris
In a humorous twist on a classic fairy tale, Chris, a young man raised by trolls, uses carrier pigeons to communicate with a beautiful but lonesome princess. J FIC, J PBK

**Peter and the Starcatchers** by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson
This convincing prequel links Molly, a Starcatcher-in-training, with Peter, the mermaids and other characters from the well-known Peter Pan story. J FIC, J PBK, J AUDIO

**Rules** by Cynthia Lord
In her attempt to make her younger, autistic brother more “normal”, Catherine creates rules for him to live by. Then she discovers that she doesn’t understand all of the rules of living herself. J FIC

**Schooled** by Gordon Korman
Cap, raised and homeschooled on a hippie commune, knows almost nothing about 21st century life. Then he is forced to attend a public middle school. J FIC

**Shakespeare’s Secret** by Elise Broach
While searching for a diamond supposedly hidden in her house, Hero also discovers some things about Shakespeare and his times. J FIC, J AUDIO, J AUDIO ebook

**Stravaganza: City of Masks** by Mary Hoffman
A small book transports Lucien, who is ill with cancer, to a parallel world similar to Renaissance Venice. He is physically healthy there but must face other, more sinister threats to his life. TEEN, T PBK, T AUDIO

**Time Stops for No Mouse: A H ermux Tantamoq Adventure** by Michael Heye
In his first of several adventures, a gentle, watch-making mouse sets out to solve a mystery involving a beautiful aviatrix. J FIC, J PBK, J AUDIO

**The Outcasts of 19Schuyler Place** by E.L. Konigsburg
A twelve-year-old girl, rescued from a horrible summer camp by her two great-uncles, helps them fight to keep the city from destroying the unusual “towers” the two men have built in their yard. J FIC, J AUDIO

**The Wanderer** by Sharon Creech
Sophie and her cousin Cody keep journals documenting their experiences sailing from Connecticut to England on a 45-foot boat. J FIC, J PBK, J AUDIO
Non-Fiction

Ballpark: The Story of America’s Baseball Fields by Lynn Curlee
An illustrated history of the all-American sport. You’ll even learn when and why fans began the tradition of singing “The Star-Spangled Banner” at games. J 796.357C

Blizzard!: The Storm That Changed America by Jim Murphy
An historical account of the blizzard of 1888 that crippled most of the Northeast. J 974.7M, J AUDIO

Every Minute on Earth: Fun Facts That Happen Every 60 Seconds by Steve Murrie and Matthew Murrie
Each page provides details about a different aspect of the 21st century world, covering topics as wide-ranging as technology, nature and popular culture. J 031.02M

Freedom Riders: John Lewis and Jim Zwerg on the Front Lines of the Civil Rights Movement by Ann Bausum
In 1961 two men, one white and one black, joined with others on a bus trip to Alabama to fight for racial integration in the South. J 323.092B

Give Me Liberty: The Story of the Declaration of Independence by Russell Freedman
Putting the famous historical document in context, Russell discusses the events leading up to the American Revolution, and why the Declaration has such enduring power. J 973.313 F

How Angel Peterson Got His Name by Gary Paulsen
Although the idea of “extreme sports” didn’t exist when author Gary Paulsen was 13, he and his friends performed a lot of wild outdoor stunts that could qualify for that title. JB PAULSEN

An Inconvenient Truth: The Crisis of Global Warming by Al Gore
This adaptation of Al Gore’s adult book on the dangers of global warming and what we can do about it is aimed at a middle-school audience. J 363.738G

Speed Show: How NASCAR Won the Heart of America by Dave Caldwell
Starting with the crash that took driver Dale Earnhardt’s life, a New York Times sportswriter tells the story of the popular sport of stock car racing. J 796.72C

Team Moon: How 400,000 People Landed Apollo 11 on the Moon by Catherine Trimmesh
This behind-the-scenes look at NASA’s famous Apollo 11 mission reminds us that while the astronauts are the stars, it takes many people working for a long time to make a manned spaceflight a success. J 629.454T

To Dance: A Memoir by Siena Cherson Siegel, Mark Siegel, illustrator
In this graphic memoir, Siena tells the story of her career in ballet, from her early days dancing in Puerto Rico through her time at the School for American Ballet in New York City. J COMIC

OTHER AUTHORS YOU MIGHT ENJOY

Eoin Colfer
Caroline B. Cooney
Nancy Farmer
Will Hobbs
Anthony Horowitz
Richard Peck
William Sleator
Elizabeth George Speare

REVISED 07/08