

2020-2021 Oregon Battle of the Books

6-8 Division Annotated Booklist

Amal Unbound by Aisha Saeed 2018

In Pakistan, Amal holds onto her dream of being a teacher even after becoming an indentured servant to pay off her family's debt to the wealthy and corrupt Khan family.

Realistic Fiction 240 pages 600L AR 4.2 (6 Pts.)

Amina's Voice by Hena Khan 2017

Amina, a Pakistani American Muslim girl, struggles to stay true to her family's culture while dealing with the vandalism of the local Islamic Center and mosque and her best friend Soojin's new friendship with their former nemesis.

Realistic Fiction 208 pages 800L AR 5.0 (5 Pts.)

Ghost Boys by Jewell Parker Rhodes 2018

After seventh-grader Jerome is shot by a white police officer, he observes the aftermath of his death and meets the ghosts of other fallen black boys including historical figure Emmett Till.

Magical Realism 214 pages 360L AR 3.0 (3 Pts.)

Greenglass House by Kate Milford 2014

At a smuggler's inn, 12-yr-old Milo, the innkeepers' adopted son, plans to spend his holidays relaxing, but soon guests arrive with strange stories about the house, sending Milo and his new friend on an adventure.

Fantasy Mystery 400 pages 800L AR 5.4 (15 Pts.)

If I Ever Get Out of Here by Eric Gansworth 2013

Seventh-grader Lewis "Shoe" Blake from the Tuscarora Reservation has a new friend, George Haddonfield, from the local air force base, but in 1975 upstate New York, there is a lot of tension and hatred between Native Americans and whites.

Historical Fiction 368 pages 870L AR 5.6 (16 Pts.)

Mark of the Thief by Jennifer A. Nielsen 2015

Nic, a slave in the mines of Rome, is forced to enter a sealed cave filled with Julius Caesar's treasures. What he finds will change his destiny and the history of the Empire.

Historical Fantasy 337 pages 740L AR 5.2 (12 Pts.)

The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl by Stacy McAnulty 2018

Math genius Lucy Callahan enrolls in middle school after years of homeschooling, and learns life is more than numbers.

Realistic Fiction 320 pages 530L AR 3.7 (7 Pts.)

Moving Target by Christina Díaz González 2015

Twelve-year-old Cassie Arroyo is a student in Rome, but her life changes when a secret organization, the Hastati, shoots her father. She learns she is a member of an ancient bloodline that enables her to use the Spear of Destiny.

Fantasy 256 pages 610L AR 4.4 (8 Pts.)

New Kid by Jerry Craft 2019

Seventh grader Jordan Banks loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life, but instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics.

Graphic Novel 256 pages 320L AR 2.9 (2 Pts.)

The Next Great Paulie Fink by Ali Benjamin 2019

Led by new student Caitlyn, seventh-graders at a tiny rural school in Vermont create a reality-show inspired competition to determine who will replace the school's legendary class clown, Paulie Fink.

Realistic Fiction 384 pages 710L AR 4.9 (9 Pts.)

No Fixed Address by Susin Nielsen 2018

Twelve-year-old Felix's appearance on a television game show reveals that he and his mother have been homeless for a while, but also restores some of his faith in other people.

Realistic Fiction 288 pages 620L AR 4.3 (7 Pts.)

Refugee by Alan Gratz 2017

Josef is a Jewish boy living in 1930s Nazi Germany. Isabel is a Cuban girl in 1994. Mahmoud is a Syrian boy in 2015. All three kids go on harrowing journeys in search of refuge, and all face unimaginable dangers.

Historical Fiction 352 pages 800L AR 5.3 (10 Pts.)

Sal and Gabi Break the Universe by Carlos Hernandez 2019

In order to heal after his mother's death, thirteen-year-old Sal learns to reach into time and space to retrieve things, and people, from other universes.

Science Fiction 400 pages 700L AR 4.9 (14 Pts.)

Skulduggery Pleasant by Derek Landy 2007

When twelve-year-old Stephanie inherits her weird uncle's estate, she must join forces with Skulduggery Pleasant, a skeleton mage, to save the world from Nefarian Serpine's evil plans.

Fantasy 368 pages 700L AR 4.9 (10 Pts.)

Squint by Chad Morris & Shelly Brown 2018

Flint Minett has keratoconus, an eye disease, but desperately wants to win a comic book art contest so that he and his new friend McKell Panganiban will be better accepted at middle school.

Realistic Fiction 256 pages 560L AR 4.1 (7 Pts.)

Undefeated by Steve Sheinkin 2017

A great American sport and Native American history come together in this true story of how Jim Thorpe and Pop Warner created the legendary Carlisle Indians football team.

Biography 288 pages 980L AR 6.8 (9 Pts.)