Required Reading:  **Wonder by R.J. Palacio**

August Pullman was born with Treacher-Collins Syndrome, which has resulted in a facial deformity he has experienced all his life. Entering middle school for the first time, he learns about accepting himself and teaches others what it means to be a true friend.

*You will be discussing this book at the beginning of the school year so you’ll probably want to read it as close to September as possible.*

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**Recommended:**  Summer is the perfect time to enjoy some fun, relaxing reading. To get you started, we have created this list of award winners, new titles and old favorites. Enjoy! Angie & Emily

- **See You in the Cosmos by Jack Cheng**
  11-year-old Alex Petroski loves space and rockets, his mom, his brother, and his dog Carl Sagan.

- **Amina’s Voice by Hena Khan**
  A Pakistani-American Muslim girl struggles to stay true to her family’s vibrant culture while simultaneously blending in at school after tragedy strikes her community.

- **Ghost by Jason Reynolds**
  Ghost wants to be the fastest sprinter on his elite middle school track team, but his past is slowing him down.

- **Motor Girls: How Women Took the Wheel and Drove Boldly into the Twentieth Century by Sue Macy**
  Come along for a joyride in this enthralling tribute to the daring women who got behind the wheel of the first cars and paved the way for change.

- **Unidentified Suburban Object by Mike Jung**
  The next person who compares Chloe Cho with famous violinist Abigail Yang is going to HEAR it--she is sick of people who can’t tell the difference between Korean, Japanese and Chinese people.

- **Lily and Dunkin by Donna Gephart**
  Lily loves dresses and nail polish; Dunkin loves iced coffee and donuts. These unlikely friends both have secrets.
Funny Girl edited by Betsy Bird
A collection of uproarious stories, rollicking comics, rib-tickling wit, and more, from 25 of today’s funniest female writers for kids.

Dare to Disappoint by Ozce Samanci
Ozge tells her story of growing up in Turkey using inventive collages, weaving together images of the sea, politics, science, and friendship in this unpredictable and funny graphic memoir.

Up From the Sea by Leza Lowitz
A powerful novel-in-verse about how one teen boy survives the March 2011 tsunami that devastates his coastal Japanese village.

Summerlost by Ally Condie
A new home, a magical tree, Shakespeare summer theater, a boy riding a bike in costume and the ghost of a Hollywood starlet.

Me and Marvin Gardens by Amy Sarig King
Obe Devlin discovers a mysterious creature living in the lot behind his house and it only eats…plastic.

Voyager’s Greatest Hits by Siy, Alexandra
Learn the fascinating story of the scientists, how the Voyager probes work, where the probes have been and what they’ve seen, and what they carry on board.

This Would Make a Good Story Someday by Dana Alison Levy
Sara’s summer plans are upended for a surprise cross-country train trip with her two moms and sisters.

Posted by John David Andersen
In middle school, words aren’t just words. They can be weapons. They can be gifts. They can come back to haunt you. Sometimes they can change things forever.

The Making Of America: Alexander Hamilton
Learn more about the history behind the young, scrappy and hungry immigrant who did more to shape America than any of his contemporaries.

The Running Dream by Wendelin Van Draanen
Jessica thinks her life is over when she loses her leg in an accident. She will walk with the help of a prosthetic leg, but who cares about walking when you live to run?