

North Allegheny Elementary Libraries

Summer Reading Suggestions

Historical Fiction Stories:

Historical Fiction stories are imaginary stories, but they are set in a real place and period in history. They often contain minor characters who are actual people from history (George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, etc). Historical Fiction helps bring the past to life and helps the reader find a way to experience events from long ago.

Behar, Ruth ***Lucky Broken Girl***

In the 1960's a young Cuban-Jewish girl and her family move from Cuba to New York City. Ruthie is finally getting used to life in the United States - learning to play hopscotch, getting her first pair of go-go boots - when she is involved in a terrible car accident. It leaves her stuck in a body cast and confined to her bed for months. She has to watch the world from her bedroom window, where she learns much about the world around her and the kindness of friends and neighbors and the importance of art in the world.

Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker ***The War I Finally Won***

An exceptionally moving story of triumph against all odds set during World War II. Ada's clubfoot has finally been fixed and she is on her way to believing that she is not the cripple that her mother always said she was. But with her mother gone, she is struggling to figure out who she is and what she can do about the war that is raging all around her and her brother and guardian, Susan. Be sure to read the first book in this series, *The Way That Saved My Life*.

Draper, Sharon ***Stella by Starlight***

Stella lives in a small town called Bumblebee, North Carolina in 1932. She stumbles across a Ku Klux Klan cross burning, and the entire town begins to panic. She needs to find a way to be strong enough to face the prejudice and bring about change in the segregated town.

Gratz, Alan ***Refugee***

This book focuses on three different children in different parts of the world in three different time periods that are all refugees. This book is timely, action packed and features stories of courage, survival and a longing to find home.

Holm, Jennifer ***Full of Beans***

It is 1934 - the middle of the Great Depression and Beans and his gang live in Key West. There are no jobs on the island and no money anywhere. Beans has plans though, big plans and even he might be surprised at the consequences.

Hiranandani, Veera ***The Night Diary***

Nisha's sweet, sheltered world disappears overnight when her country splits in two - now Hindus must live in India, Muslims in Pakistan. But Nisha's both. Nisha writes in her diary through her gripping journey as she flees her home.

Messner, Kate ***Ranger in Time: Danger in Ancient Rome***

Ranger is a golden retriever who has been trained to be a search and rescue dog. He finds himself in the Colosseum in Ancient Rome. There he rescues a boy from a runaway lion and meets a new gladiator who is trying to prove himself in the brutal world of the Colosseum. (Try others in this series)

Rose, Caroline ***May B.***

When a failed wheat crop nearly bankrupts the Betterly family, twelve-year-old May's father pulls her from school and hires her out to a couple new to the Kansas frontier.

Ryan, Pam Muñoz ***Echo***

Lost in the Black Forest, Otto meets three mysterious sisters and finds himself entwined in a prophecy, a promise, and a harmonica--and decades later three children, Friedrich in Germany, Mike in Pennsylvania, and Ivy in California find themselves caught up in the same thread of destiny in the darkest days of the twentieth century, struggling to keep their families intact, and tied together by the music of the same harmonica.

Skrypuch, Marsha Forchuk ***Making Bombs for Hitler***

It is 1943 and ten-year-old Lida and her sister Larissa are taken away from their home in the Ukraine. Lida is sent to a slave labor camp in Germany. She is put to work making bombs for the German soldiers to use against her homeland, but figures out a way to get back at the Nazis.

Tarshis, Lauren ***I Survived the Children's Blizzard, 1888***

The storm of 1888 was one of the deadliest blizzards in American history. John Hale is an eleven-year-old city kid who never wanted to move to the prairie. He finds himself trapped in the blinding snow and fierce winds. Will he be able to find his way home? (Try others in this series).