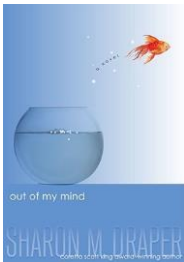
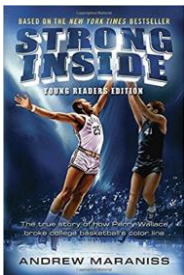


Baylor School 6th Grade Summer Reading 2017



All 6th grade students will be required to read *Out of My Mind* by Sharon Draper and 2 additional books from the Directed Reading List, which consists of recommended Young Adult titles. One of the titles on the recommended list is *Strong Inside Young Readers Edition: The True Story of How Perry Wallace Broke College Basketball's Color Line* by Andrew Maraniss. While not a required read, the author will be visiting Baylor's campus on September 11, 2017. *Strong Inside Young Readers Edition* is the unforgettable tale of Perry Wallace, the first African American basketball player in the Southeastern Conference. Far more than just a story about basketball, this is the true story of how one young man courageously overcame hatred, bullying, and isolation during the height of the 1960s Civil Rights movement.



Out of My Mind by Sharon Draper ISBN: 978-1416971719

Strong Inside Young Readers Edition by Andrew Maraniss ISBN: 978-0399548345

Directed Reading List

In addition to reading *Out of My Mind*, 6th grade students must also choose two books (that they have not read previously) from the list of titles below.

Stella by Starlight by Sharon Draper ISBN: 978-1442494985

Stella lives in the segregated South—in Bumblebee, North Carolina, to be exact about it. Some stores she can go into. Some stores she can't. Some folks are right pleasant. Others are a lot less so. To Stella, it sort of evens out, and heck, the Klan hasn't bothered them for years. But one late night, later than she should ever be up, much less wandering around outside, Stella and her little brother see something they're never supposed to see, something that is the first flicker of change to come, unwelcome change by any stretch of the imagination. As Stella's community—her world—is upended, she decides to fight fire with fire. And she learns that ashes don't necessarily signify an end.

The Fourteenth Goldfish by Jennifer Holm ISBN: 978-037587114

Eleven-year-old Ellie has never liked change. She misses fifth grade. She misses her old best friend. She even misses her dearly departed goldfish. Then one day a strange boy shows up. He's bossy. He's cranky. And weirdly enough . . . he looks a lot like Ellie's grandfather, a scientist who's always been slightly obsessed with immortality. Could this pimply boy really be Grandpa Melvin? Has he finally found the secret to eternal youth? With a lighthearted touch and plenty of humor, Jennifer Holm celebrates the wonder of science and explores fascinating questions about life and death, family and friendship, immortality . . . and possibility.

Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt ISBN: 978-0142426425

"Everybody is smart in different ways. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its life believing it is stupid." Ally has been smart enough to fool a lot of smart people. Every time she lands in a new school, she is able to hide her inability to read by creating clever yet disruptive distractions. She is afraid to ask for help; after all, how can you cure dumb? However, her newest teacher Mr. Daniels sees the bright, creative kid underneath the trouble maker. With his help, Ally learns not to be so hard on herself and that dyslexia is nothing to be ashamed of. As her confidence grows, Ally feels free to be

herself and the world starts opening up with possibilities. She discovers that there's a lot more to her—and to everyone—than a label, and that great minds don't always think alike.

Mark of the Dragonfly by Jaleigh Johnson ISBN: 978-0385376472

Piper has never seen the Mark of the Dragonfly until she finds the girl amid the wreckage of a caravan in the Meteor Fields. The girl doesn't remember a thing about her life, but the tattoo on her arm is proof that she's from the Dragonfly Territories and that she's protected by the king, which means a reward for Piper if she can get the girl home. The one sure way to the Territories is the 401, a great old beauty of a train. But a ticket costs more coin than Piper could make in a year. And stowing away is a difficult prospect--everyone knows that getting past the peculiar green-eyed boy who stands guard is nearly impossible. Life for Piper just turned dangerous. A little bit magical and very exciting, if she can manage to survive the journey.

Blackbird Fly by Erin Entrada Kelly ISBN: 978-0062238627

Apple has always felt a little different from her classmates. She and her mother moved to Louisiana from the Philippines when she was little, and her mother still cooks Filipino foods and chastises Apple for becoming "too American." When Apple's friends turn on her and everything about her life starts to seem weird and embarrassing, Apple turns to music. If she can just save enough to buy a guitar and learn to play, maybe she can change herself. It might be the music that saves her . . . or it might be her two new friends, who show her how special she really is. Erin Entrada Kelly deftly brings Apple's conflicted emotions to the page in her debut novel about family, friendship, popularity, and going your own way.

Lincoln's Grave Robbers by Steve Sheinkin ISBN: 978-0545405720

The action begins in October of 1875, as Secret Service agents raid the Fulton, Illinois, workshop of master counterfeiter Ben Boyd. Soon after Boyd is hauled off to prison, members of his counterfeiting ring gather in the back room of a smoky Chicago saloon to discuss how to spring their ringleader. Their plan: grab Lincoln's body from its Springfield tomb, stash it in the sand dunes near Lake Michigan, and demand, as a ransom, the release of Ben Boyd --and \$200,000 in cash. From here, the action alternates between the conspirators, the Secret Service agents on their trail, and the undercover agent moving back and forth between the two groups. Along the way readers get glimpses into the inner workings of counterfeiting, grave robbing, detective work, and the early days of the Secret Service.

Game Changers: Book 1 by Mike Lupica ISBN: 978-0545381796

Ben McBain is every football team's dream player. He's a jack-of-all-trades guy that can handle almost any position. When the game is on the line, Ben's number is the one being called for the final play. But Ben wants to be the starting quarterback and the one thing standing in his way is the coach's son. Shawn O'Brien looks the part. He has been groomed by his father, a former professional quarterback. But despite his size and arm strength, Shawn is struggling. Ben is torn between being a good teammate and going after his own dream. As Ben finds out, Shawn isn't the easiest person to help. And when Ben gets an unexpected opportunity, the entire game will change for the both of them.

Cryptid Hunters by Roland Smith ISBN: 978-0786851621

When twins Marty and Grace O'Hara discover that their adventurous parents have gone missing, they leave their Swiss boarding school and join their mysterious uncle, Travis Wolfe, on his island in Washington State. They soon learn that their uncle is one of the world's foremost authorities on cryptids (think Bigfoot and the Loch Ness Monster). Wolfe is scheduled to look for dinosaurs in the African jungle, and he plans to leave Marty and Grace in Europe before the expedition starts. Things go awry, however, when an accident plunges Marty and Grace into the middle of the Congolese jungle. Soon the henchmen of the evil Noah Blackwood are pursuing the twins. The action is nonstop in this well-paced jungle adventure, and Smith adds a deeper layer in scenes of Marty and Grace discovering truths about their complicated family relationships.

The Running Dream by Wendelin Van Draanen ISBN: 978-0375866289

Sixteen-year-old Jessica is the track team's star sprinter until tragedy strikes: the team van is struck, killing one runner and demolishing Jessica's right leg. The book begins with Jessica refusing to acknowledge the result. But she is slowly reintroduced to life, which involves being fitted for prosthesis, returning to school, and dealing with the usual—tough teachers, mean girls, and one sensitive, supportive boy. It's a classic problem novel in a lot of ways; accordingly, Van Draanen inserts setbacks with narrative precision, the most affecting of which (surprisingly) is the insurance battle that Jessica's parents face. Overall, this is a tremendously upbeat book, with Jessica's family, friends, and community coming together.

Touching Spirit Bear by Ben Mikaelson ISBN: 978-0380805600

After severely injuring Peter Driscoll in an empty parking lot, troublemaker Cole Matthews is in major trouble. But instead of jail time, Cole is given an alternative: one-year banishment to a remote Alaskan island. This program—called Circle Justice—is based on Native American traditions that provide healing for the criminal mind. To avoid serious jail time, Cole resolves to go. While there, Cole is mauled by a mysterious white bear and left for dead. Thoughts of his abusive parents, helpless Peter, and his violent anger cause him to examine the root of his troubled ways. A poignant depiction of the vicious cycle of violence and one boy's journey to healing.

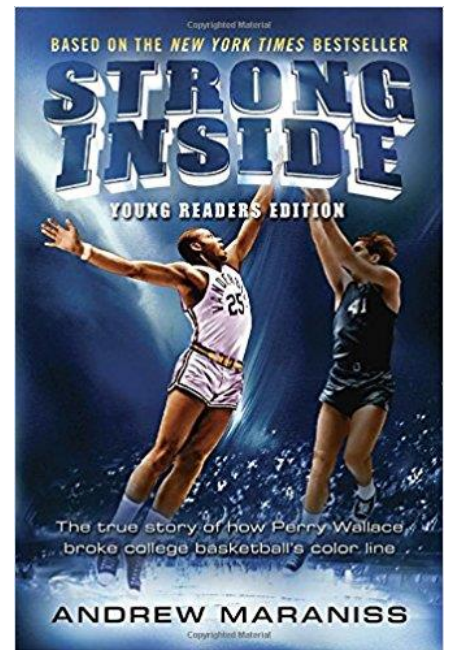
Strong Inside (Young Readers Edition): The True Story of How Perry Wallace Broke College Basketball's Color Line by Andrew Maraniss. ISBN: 978-0399548345

Strong Inside is the inspirational true story of the first African American to play college basketball in the deeply segregated Southeastern Conference. Perry Wallace was born at an historic crossroads in U.S. history. He entered kindergarten the year that the Brown v. Board of Education decision led to integrated schools, allowing blacks and whites to learn side by side. A week after Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech, Wallace enrolled in high school and his sensational jumping, dunking, and rebounding abilities quickly earned him the attention of college basketball recruiters from top schools across the nation. In his senior year his Pearl High School basketball team won Tennessee's first racially-integrated state tournament. The world seemed to be opening up at just the right time, and when Vanderbilt University recruited Wallace to play basketball, he courageously accepted the assignment to desegregate the Southeastern Conference. The hateful experiences he would endure on campus and in the hostile gymnasiums of the Deep South turned out to be the stuff of nightmares. Yet Wallace persisted, endured, and met this unthinkable challenge head-on.

STRONG INSIDE: YOUNG READERS EDITION

Strong Inside is the inspiring story of the brilliant and courageous Perry Wallace, the first African American basketball player in the Southeastern Conference. This is much more than the story of a Vanderbilt basketball player, however. Before he even made it to college, Wallace (now a professor of law at American University) was the valedictorian of his class at Nashville's all-black Pearl High School, a Sunday School teacher, trumpet player, math and science scholar, and perceptive observer of the civil rights sit-ins, not to mention the star center and best slam-dunker on a three-time state champion basketball team.

At Vanderbilt, Wallace encountered a university in transition during a tumultuous time in American history, and this compelling new book places young readers in Wallace's shoes as he navigates through the Deep South of the late 1960s. *Strong Inside* is an insightful story of race, discrimination, courage, faith, empathy, reconciliation, and understanding.



Praise for *Strong Inside: Young Readers Edition*:

“A story that does what few civil rights books for young readers do: it shows that the struggle for black dignity and equality was a human, messy struggle, as opposed to the sanitized, cheery narratives that drift into the book market every winter.” – **Quindaro Press**

“This portrait of the fortitude of a young athlete will make a huge impact on teens and is guaranteed to spark serious discussion.” **School Library Journal**

“This moving biography is thought-provoking, riveting and heart-wrenching, though it remains hopeful as it takes readers into the midst of the basketball and civil rights action.” **Booklist**
“Starred” Review

About The Author

This is the first book by Andrew Maraniss, former media relations manager for the Tampa Bay Rays and Vanderbilt men's basketball team. Andrew attended Vanderbilt University on the Fred Russell-Grantland Rice sportswriting scholarship. He is a contributor to ESPN's sports, race and culture website, TheUndeated.com, and is the son of Pulitzer Prize-winning author David Maraniss.

Baylor School Middle School Summer Reading Log 2017

Student Name: _____

This log provides a convenient way to keep track of your summer reading. For each book you read, complete the title, author, and summary fields then indicate how many stars you would rate the book (from 1 being not recommended to 5 being highly recommended).

Title: _____ Author: _____

Summary: _____

Rating 

Title: _____ Author: _____

Summary: _____

Rating 

Title: _____ Author: _____

Summary: _____

Rating 

Additional Titles

Title: _____ Author: _____

Summary: _____

Rating 

Title: _____ Author: _____

Summary: _____

Rating 

Title: _____ Author: _____

Summary: _____

Rating 