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2012 WMA MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING

The Young Man and the Sea by Rodman Philbrick

Award-winner Rodman Philbrick's powerful middle-grade novel is a story of determination and survival – of a boy's exhilarating encounter with a fish that first nearly kills him but then saves his life.

This starkly dramatic yet poignant novel takes readers on an exciting journey with 12-year-old Skiff Beaman, a determined boy from a small Maine town. Skiff's mom died recently, and his fisherman dad won't get off the TV couch to do anything but get another beer, so these days Skiff has to take care of everything himself. When their boat sinks, Skiff discovers it will cost thousands to buy her a new engine. Skiff's lobster traps won't earn him enough, but there are bigger fish in the sea – bluefin tuna.

A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park

A Long Walk to Water begins as two stories, told in alternating sections, about a girl in Sudan in 2008 and a boy in Sudan in 1985. The girl, Nya, is fetching water from a pond that is two hours' walk from her home: she makes two trips to the pond every day. The boy, Salva, becomes one of the "lost boys" of Sudan, refugees who cover the African continent on foot as they search for their families and for a safe place to stay. Enduring every hardship from loneliness to attack by armed rebels to contact with killer lions and crocodiles, Salva is a survivor, and his story goes on to intersect with Nya's in an astonishing and moving way.

2012 WMA MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER MATH

Complete directions to begin summer math and the list of all books required will be posted on our web site toward the end of June as we want these assignments to be summer assignments designed to keep our students reading, thinking, and completing academic tasks over summer break.