

IMC Recommended 6-12 July 2008

These titles have been recommended for purchase by San Diego Unified School District book reviewers. Use this list to purchase titles for your school or classroom library. Many of these are also available for teacher check out at the IMC. Questions may be directed to Deborah B. Ford, IMC Resource Librarian at (858) 496-8442 or dford@sandi.net.

Title - Author - {Interest Level, Dewey} --Publisher : Year, Reading Level, Number of Pages

The Adoration of Jenna Fox -- Pearson, Mary. {IL YA, -Fic-} -- Henry Holt, 2008., 266p
In the not-too-distant future, when biotechnological advances have made synthetic bodies and brains possible but illegal, a seventeen-year-old girl, recovering from a serious accident and suffering from memory lapses, learns a startling secret about her existence.

Airman -- Colfer, Eoin. {IL 5-8, -Fic-} -- Hyperion Books for Children, 2008., RL 7.1, 412p

In the 1890s on an island off the Irish coast, Conor Broekhart is falsely imprisoned and passes the solitary months by scratching designs of flying machines into the walls, including one for a glider with which he dreams of escape.

Alfred Kropp : The Thirteenth Skull -- Yancey, Richard. {IL YA, -Fic-} -- Bloomsbury, 2008., 297p

Alfred Kropp faces an unknown enemy that is causing him to question who he can trust and whether or not he will escape this latest adventure with his life.

The Arrival -- Tan, Shaun. {IL 5-8, -Fic-} -- A. A. Levine, 2007, 2006.

In this wordless graphic novel, a man leaves his homeland and sets off for a new country, where he must build a new life for himself and his family.

Beanball -- Fehler, Gene. {IL YA, -Fic-} -- Clarion Books, 2008., 119p

Relates, from diverse points of view, events surrounding the critical injury of popular and talented high school athlete, Luke "Wizard" Wallace, when he is hit in the face by a fastball.

Bird Lake Moon -- Henkes, Kevin. {IL 5-8, -Fic-} -- Greenwillow Books, 2008., RL 6.6, 179p

Twelve-year-old Mitch, spending the summer with his grandparents at Bird Lake after his parents' separation, becomes friends with ten-year-old Spencer, who has returned with his family to the lake where his little brother drowned years earlier, and as the boys spend time together and their friendship grows, each of them begins to heal.

Don't Talk to Me About the War -- Adler, David A. {IL 5-8, -Fic-} -- Viking, 2008., RL 6.1, 216p

In 1940, thirteen-year-old Tommy's routine of school, playing stickball in his Bronx, New York, neighborhood, talking with his friend Beth, and listening to Dodgers games

on the radio changes as his mother's illness and his increasing awareness of the war in Europe transform his world.

Inkdeath (Inkheart 3) -- Funke, Cornelia. {IL 5-8, -Fic-} -- Chicken House, 2008.

Adderhead kidnaps all the children in the kingdom, dooming them to slavery in his silver mines unless Mo surrenders.

The Magic Thief -- Prineas, Sarah. {IL 5-8, -Fic-} -- HarperCollins, 2008., RL 6.7, 419p
Conn's life is forever changed when he tries to pick the pocket of the wizard Nevery and instead gets a strong jolt of magic, but, instead of punishing the boy, Nevery takes Conn under his wing, teaches him magic, and enlists his help in finding the person responsible for stealing the city's dwindling magic supply.

Pandora Gets Jealous -- Hennesy, Carolyn. {IL 5-8, -Fic-} -- Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2008., RL 5.6, 264p

Thirteen-year-old Pandy is hauled before Zeus and given six months to gather all of the evils that were released when the box she brought to school as her annual project was accidentally opened.

Saturday Night Dirt -- Weaver, Will. {IL YA, -Fic-} -- Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2008., 163p

In a small town in northern Minnesota, the much-anticipated Saturday night dirt-track race at the old-fashioned, barely viable, Headwaters Speedway becomes, in many ways, an important life-changing event for all the participants on and off the track.

Savvy -- Law, Ingrid. {IL 5-8, -Fic-} -- Dial Books for Young Readers, Walton Media, 2008., RL 6.6, 342p

Recounts the adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her "savvy"--a magical power unique to each member of her family--just as her father is injured in a terrible accident.

Shooting the Moon -- Dowell, Frances O'Roark. {IL 5-8, -Fic-} -- Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2008., RL 5.5, 163p

When her brother is sent to fight in Vietnam, twelve-year-old Jamie begins to reconsider the army world that she has grown up in.

The Underneath -- Appelt, Kathi. {IL 5-8, -Fic-} -- Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2008., RL 5.6, 313p

An old hound that has been chained up at his hateful owner's run-down shack, and two kittens born underneath the house, endure separation, danger, and many other tribulations in their quest to be reunited and free.

Waiting for Normal -- Connor, Leslie. {IL 5-8, -Fic-} -- Katherine Tegen Books, 2008., RL 5.8, 290p

Twelve-year-old Addie tries to cope with her mother's erratic behavior and being separated from her beloved stepfather and half-sisters when she and her mother go to live in a small trailer by the railroad tracks on the outskirts of Schenectady, New York.