

Rising Six Grade Students 2005
Summary of Summer Reading Novels

<p><i>Crispin: The Cross of Lead</i> by Avi</p>	<p>In medieval England, 13-year-old Crispin has no home, family, or possessions. Accused of a crime he did not commit, he takes his mother's cross of lead and begins an amazing and terrifying journey across the English countryside.</p>
<p><i>Crossing Jordan</i> by Adrian Fogelin</p>	<p>A moving, coming-of-age story of a young girl who overcomes family prejudice and cultural differences when she befriends a black girl in a small working-class town.</p>
<p><i>Coraline</i> by Neil Gaiman</p>	<p>Coraline ventures through a mysterious door into a world that is similar, yet disturbingly different from her own, where she must challenge a gruesome entity in order to save herself, her parents, and the souls of three others.</p>
<p><i>The Bad Beginning</i> by Lemony Snicket</p>	<p>This book is the first book in Lemony Snicket's <i>A Series of Unfortunate Events</i>. This story is about three siblings (14, 12, and an infant) who are orphaned when their house burns down and they have to live with an evil relative who plots to deviously obtain their sizable inheritance.</p>
<p><i>Esperanza Rising</i> by Pam Munoz Ryan</p>	<p>Esperanza is a rich, young girl living in Mexico on her father's large ranch. Bandits kill Esperanza's father and their estate is left to a wicked uncle. Esperanza and her mother escape to work in the migrant fields of California. She eventually finds "hope" in the English translation of her name.</p>
<p><i>Pictures of Hollis Woods</i> by Patricia Riley Giff</p>	<p>Hollis, who was abandoned at birth, makes a habit of running away from foster homes until she finds Josie, a retired art teacher. Hollis begins to feel wanted. They share the joy and appreciation of art. Through Hollis's artwork, readers learn about the family that Hollis last lived with and her longing to be a part of a family.</p>
<p><i>Regarding the Fountain</i> by Kate Klise</p>	<p>When a class at Day Creek Middle School gets involved with their school's intent to replace a leaking drinking fountain, the project soon takes on a comical life of its own.</p>
<p><i>Regular Guy</i> by Sarah Weeks</p>	<p>Because he is different from his eccentric parents, twelve-year-old Guy is convinced he has been switched at birth with a classmate whose parents seem more normal.</p>