

**Cycle 2, Year 3**  
**Suggested Summer Reading List**  
**2011**

***White Oleander***

***Janet Fitch***

When her passionate poet mother is jailed for killing her ex-lover (with poison brewed partly from white oleander flowers), 12-year-old Astrid Magnussen ends up in foster care, moving through juvenile homes and dysfunctional households across southern California.

***My Sister's Keeper***

***Jodie Picoult***

Anna decides to sue her parents for the right to make her own decisions about how her body is used when a kidney transplant is planned in order to potentially save her older sister.

***The Book of Negroes***

***Lawrence Hill***

Aminata Diallo, an 11-year-old child, is taken from her village in West Africa and forced to walk for months to the sea in a coffle — a string of slaves. Eventually, she arrives in South Africa where she begins a new life in captivity.

***Have a Little Faith***

***Mitch Albom***

This is a wonderful book on faith. Those who were born into faith or have lost faith, or are still searching for faith, will all be occupied and confronted by this powerful and inspirational story of finding faith in relationships with others and with something superior than ourselves. The author discovers some of life's greatest ambiguity and unsolved problems with great sincerity, deepness and self expression.

***The Alchemist***

***Paulo Coelho***

The charming tale of Santiago, a shepherd boy, who journeys from Spain to Morocco in search of worldly success, and eventually to Egypt, where a fateful encounter with an alchemist brings him at last to self-understanding and spiritual enlightenment. This is a novel that deals with becoming self-empowered, overcoming depression, and believing in dreams.

***The Catcher in the Rye***

***J.D Salinger***

The story of teenager Holden Caulfield's turbulent last few days before his Christmas vacation. During these days, Holden leaves Pencey Prep, a boys' school he's been kicked out of, and takes off for a few nights alone in New York City. Holden tells the story as a monologue, from a mental facility where he's recovering from the stress of the experiences he retells.