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Visit https://www.mhl.org/book-recommendation-newsletters to sign up for monthly suggestions of bestsellers to travel to romance and more!

The moon within
by Aida Salazar
CONTEMPORARY FICTION
A modern tale of early adolescence finds Celi navigating questions about her changing body, first attraction and a best friend’s genderfluid explorations while resisting her mother’s embarrassing plans for an ancestral Mexica moon ceremony to celebrate her first period.

Dear Sweet Pea
by Julie Murphy
CONTEMPORARY FICTION
Struggling to adjust to her parents’ sudden divorce at the same time she is forced to sit next to her former best friend in class, a teen finds herself in the unlikely role of a community advice columnist. By the best-selling author of Dumplin’.

Sauerkraut
by Kelly Jones
CONTEMPORARY FICTION
To earn enough money to build his own computer, HD Schenk agrees to help clean out his uncle’s basement, but when he does, he finds an old pickling crock haunted by the ghost of his great-great-grandmother, who has a plan of her own.

Stargazing
by Jen Wang
CONTEMPORARY/GRAPHIC NOVEL
Growing up in the same Chinese-American suburb, perfectionist Christine and artistic, confident, impulsive Moon become unlikely best friends, whose friendship is tested by jealousy, social expectations, and illness.

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Andover, MA 01810
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Winter Reading Club

Middle Grade Suggestions

From December 20, 2019 to February 24, 2020 pick up and return a Winter Reading Club Bingo Card from any public service desk (Children’s, Teen, Circulation, and Reference).

Show a complete row of activities to a staff member to win a free book. Complete the entire board to be entered into a drawing for an Andover Bookstore gift card!
Beverly, right here
by Kate DiCamillo
CONTEMPORARY FICTION
Resolved to leave her home for good, a young runaway finds a job and a place to live before forming connections that alter her perspectives about life and herself.

The miraculous
by Jess Redman
CONTEMPORARY FICTION
A boy who has loved stories about the inexplicable and extraordinary all his life suffers a crisis in faith in the aftermath of a family tragedy before bonding with an outspoken classmate and an eccentric letter carrier.

The remarkable journey of Coyote Sunrise
by Dan Gemeinhart
CONTEMPORARY FICTION
Living on the road in an old school bus with her dad after losing her mother and sisters, 12-year-old Coyote devises an elaborate plan to convince her father to make a first trip home to Washington state in five years, a journey marked by an eclectic group of passengers they meet along the way.

Blended
by Sharon M. Draper
CONTEMPORARY FICTION
Piano-prodigy Isabella, eleven, whose black father and white mother struggle to share custody, never feels whole, especially as racial tensions affect her school, her parents both become engaged, and she and her stepbrother are stopped by police.

The Plant Planet
by Jon Scieszka
SCI-FI/GRAPHIC NOVEL
This laugh-out-loud, visually groundbreaking read launches a major new series by children’s literature legend Jon Scieszka. AstroWolf, LaserShark, SmartHawk and StinkBug are animals that have been hybridized to find other planets for humans to live on once we’ve ruined Earth. So off they rocket to the Plant Planet!

Lalani of the distant sea
by Erin Entrada Kelly
FANTASY
A fantasy debut by the author of the Newbery Medal-winning Hello, Universe finds a young girl embarking on a quest normally reserved for boys in the hope of saving her village from life-threatening hazards, including a deadly plague affecting her mother.

White bird: A Wonder Story
by R.J. Palacio
HISTORICAL/GRAPHIC NOVEL
Inspired by the author’s best-selling Wonder, a graphic novel debut traces the heartrending story of a grandmother who as a Jewish girl was hidden by a brave, compassionate family in a Nazi-occupied French village during World War II.

A wolf called Wander
by Rosanne Parry
ADVENTURE/SURVIVAL
A young wolf travels one thousand miles across the Pacific Northwest after being separated from his family, navigating through forest fires, avoiding hunters, and struggling with hunger before finding a new home.

Max & the Midknights
by Lincoln Peirce
HISTORICAL FICTION/GRAPHIC NOVEL
Aspiring knight Max teams up with a band of brave adventurers, the Midknights, on a madcap quest to save a kidnapped relative from a cruel king who is driving all the happiness out of the realm of Byjovia.

The unsung hero of Birdsong USA
by Brenda Woods
HISTORICAL FICTION
Forging a close friendship with an African American World War II veteran who has recently returned to their unwelcoming Jim Crow community, a 12-year-old white boy worries for his heroic friend’s safety when racist locals threaten the man’s family.