

By: Alex N.

Breaking Down the Best Reads of the Year

What is your favorite book or author? Have you ever wondered what kids our age are reading around the country and in our school? Since we had our Book Fair recently, this journalist started to wonder what books kids are reading these days. After doing some research on websites like Barnes&Noble.com to see the popular books this year for ages 11-14, some books were found more than once. Here are the books that came up on multiple lists:

Divergent Series by Veronica Roth
Legend Series by Marie Lu
Hunger Games Series by Susan Collins
Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card
The Fault in Our Stars by John Green
The House of Hades by Rick Riordan

Chances are that you heard about or seen some of these books in school or outside of school. Over one million copies of each of these have been sold. The House of Hades was just released October 8th 2013 and has already become the number 1

downloaded book on Amazon. Books that are part of a series seem to be the most popular. Harry Potter, Twilight, and Hunger Games are examples of this. The reason for this may be that readers get attached to the characters and want to continue seeing how the story develops.

As more research was done it seemed that most of the popular books were written by authors who mainly focus on adult audiences. Books written by authors like James Patterson, John Grisham and Mike Lupica are examples. Why do you think this is? Maybe they get inspired by their own kids to write stories. Their books are so popular some were at our Book Fair.

This reporter sat down with our librarian Mrs. Battaglia to ask her about the popular books and authors of the school. She said that authors like Sarah Dessen and Wendy Mass are popular among the girls. Authors like

Gordon Korman, Mike Lupica, James Patterson, and Rick Riordan are favorites of the boys. As for books, she says Hunger Games are starting to lose popularity since everyone has read them. Divergent is replacing "Hunger Games". Mrs. Battaglia says that "Dystopian" books are the more popular setting for stories. Dystopian means the world and society are in ruins and is the opposite of a "utopian" world. An example is the Hunger Games. The world is in ruins, so it tends to have a more interesting plot since it means there is imperfection in the world causing there to be conflict.