

8th Grade Summer Reading

Read 2 books total: one fiction, one nonfiction

Fiction	Non-fiction
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Christie – And Then There Were None ○ Crichton – Jurassic Park ○ Horowitz – The Alex Rider Series – Pick only one book ○ London – Call of the Wild ○ Rowling - The Harry Potter Series – Pick only one book ○ Shusterman –The Skinjacker Trilogy – Pick only one book ○ Zindel – The Pigman 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fleming – The Family Romanov: Murder, Rebellion, and the Fall of Imperial Russia ○ Houston – Farewell to Manzanar ○ Shabazz – X ○ Sheinkin – Bomb: The Race to Build and Steal the World's Most Dangerous Weapon ○ Spiegelman – Maus ○ Thompson – Guts and Glory: The American Civil War ○ Watson - True Spirit: The True Story of a 16-Year-Old Australian Who Sailed Solo, Nonstop, and Unassisted Around the World
Historical Fiction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Gyasi – Home Going ○ Hesse – Out of the Dust ○ McCammon – Boy's Life 	

Christie	And Then There Were None Ten strangers--each with a secret in their past--are summoned by an absent millionaire to Indian Island, a private island off the coast of England and begin to die one by one upon arrival.
Crichton	Jurassic Park An account of the attempt, through a hair-raising twenty-four hours on a remote jungle island, to avert a global emergency--a crisis triggered by today's rush to commercialize genetic engineering.
Fleming	The Family Romanov: Murder, Rebellion, and the Fall of Imperial Russia (2014 Orbis Pictus Award winner) This is the gripping true story of Russia's last royal family, the Romanovs, and their tragic fall. It narrates intimate accounts of the events that brought down this family's empire, led to their brutal murder, and forever changed the face of Russia.
Gyasi	Home Going Ghana, eighteenth century: two half sisters are born into different villages, each unaware of the other. One will marry an Englishman and lead a life of comfort in the palatial rooms of the Cape Coast Castle. The other will be captured in a raid on her village, imprisoned in the very same castle, and sold into slavery. Homegoing follows the parallel paths of these sisters and their descendants through eight generations: from the Gold Coast to the plantations of Mississippi, from the American Civil War to Jazz Age Harlem.
Hesse	Out of the Dust (Newbery Medal book) In a series of poems, fifteen-year-old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's wheat farm in Oklahoma during the Dust Bowl years of the Depression.
Horowitz	The Alex Rider Series – Pick only one book (#1 is Alex Rider: Stormbreaker) After the death of the uncle who had been his guardian, fourteen-year-old Alex Rider is coerced to continue his uncle's dangerous work for Britain's intelligence agency, MI6.
Houston	Farewell to Manzanar Biography of Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston relating her experiences of living at the Manzanar internment camp during World War II and how it has influenced her life.
London	Call of the Wild A domesticated dog living at a ranch in the Santa Clara valley of California is stolen from home and sold into the brutal existence of an Alaskan sled dog. Buck is forced to adjust to, and survive, cruel treatments and fight to dominate other dogs in a harsh climate.
McCammon	Boy's Life Cory and his father witness a car plunge into a lake - a desperate rescue attempt brings his father face-to-face with a terrible vision of death that will haunt him forever. As Cory

	struggles to understand his father's pain, he must confront the secrets that hide in the shadows of his hometown -for his father's sanity and his own life hang in the balance.
Rowling	The Harry Potter Series – Pick only one book #1 – Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone Eleven year old famous wizard, Harry Potter, is sent to wizarding school to learn magic. He ends up solving a mystery over life and death, all while the most evil of wizards, Lord Voldemort, is trying to kill him.
Shabazz	X Co-written by Malcolm X's daughter, this fictionalized account of Malcolm X's youth follows the formative years of the man whose words and actions shook the world. X follows Malcolm from his childhood to his imprisonment for theft at age twenty, when he found the faith that would lead him to forge a new path and command a voice that still resonates today.
Sheinkin	Bomb: The Race to Build and Steal the World's Most Dangerous Weapon (Newbery Honor book) Nonfiction The shocking discovery of how to split an atom in two launched a scientific race that spanned 3 continents! Spies worked their way into the scientific community. This is the story of the plotting, the risk-taking, the deceit, and genius that created the world's most formidable weapon. This is the true story of the atomic bomb.
Shusterman	The Skinjacker Trilogy – Pick only one book (#1- Everlost) When Nick and Allie are killed in a car crash, they end up in Everlost, a shadow of the living world, filled with all the things and places that no longer exist; a limbo for lost souls, where, although Nick is satisfied, Allie will stop at nothing--even skinjacking--to break free.
Spiegelman	Maus A memoir about Vladek Spiegleman, a Jewish survivor of Hitler's Europe, and about his son, a cartoonist who tries to come to terms with his father, his story, and with history itself.
Thompson	Guts and Glory: The American Civil War From courageous cavalry rides deep into enemy territory to harrowing covert missions undertaken by spies and soldiers, the events of the American Civil War were filled with daring figures and amazing feats. This exhilarating overview covers the biggest battles as well as captivating lesser-known moments to entertain kids with unbelievable (and totally true) tales of one of America's most fascinating conflicts.
Watson	True Spirit: The True Story of a 16 Year Old Australian Who Sailed Solo, Nonstop, and Unassisted Around the World On May 15, 2010, after 210 days at sea and more than 22,000 nautical miles, 16-year-old Jessica Watson sailed her 33-foot boat triumphantly back to land. She had done it. She was the youngest person to sail solo, unassisted, and nonstop around the world.
Zindel	The Pigman Two high school sophomores from unhappy homes form a close friendship with a lonely old man with a terrible secret.