**8th Grade Summer Reading Recommendations List**

8th grade students are required to read ***one book of his/her choice,*** with parental approval. Please note that a lot of Young Adult (YA) titles explore mature topics. Work with your child to pick a book you are both comfortable with him/her reading. The following websites listed may be used to help guide your selection. ***See Summer Reading on ELA teacher website for accompanying Summer Reading Assignments and due dates.***

**Recommended websites for finding quality texts for Young Readers:**

**American Library Association (Association of Library Service to Children)** Click on Current Notable Lists and scroll down to “Older Readers” to find book recommendations. You can also click on “Past Notable Lists” for more recommendations. <http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/notalists>

**Newbery Medal Winners** has a variety of award winning reading recommendations: <http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/newberymedal/newberyhonors/newberymedal>

**Scholastic** has age appropriate reading selections by genre available at: <http://www.scholastic.com/kids/stacks/books/?lnkid=stacks/nav/b_and_a/main>

**Scholastic Summer Reading Program** offers a program for students in which they can read, log their minutes and win prizes: <http://www.scholastic.com/summer/>

**Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth** Suggested Reading offers a variety of genres and books for students to choose from: <http://cty.jhu.edu/talent/after/reading/grades5-6.html>

**Barnes & Nobles** offers a variety of age appropriate suggestions as well as a program where students may download a B&N Reading Journal and earn *FREE* books: <http://www.barnesandnoble.com/summerreading/index.asp>

**Good Reads** These lists are compiled by a community of readers. Take care to read the recommendations as some books have mature content. <https://www.goodreads.com/list/tag/middle-school>

8th Core Novels for the School Year

**Theme: The Power of Storytelling**

* *Ten Letters—The Stories Americans Tell Their President* by Eli Saslow
* *Seedfolks* by Paul Fleischman
* *Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway

**Theme: The American Dream**

* *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
* *We've Got a Job: The 1963 Birmingham Children's March* by Cynthia Levinson

**Theme: The Human Condition: Adversity, Conflict, and Change**

* *Night* by Elie Wiesel
* Choose one of the following: *Number the Stars, Book Thief, The Devil’s Arithmetic*, *Friedrich, Between Shades of Grey, Boy in the Striped Pajamas, Berlin Boxing Club, MAUS, Island on Bird Street.*