

7th & 8th Grade – 2020-21 Summer Reading Social Studies Book List

Looking for a great book this summer that ties to Social Studies and things we are learning about in class? The books listed are a mix of classics, award winners and personal favorites. Books below marked with an * would be more High School reading, thus require a certain level of maturity.

Have any books you would like to add to the list? Please share with me your favorites, bhunter@levineacademy.org.

Here are a few recommendations to enjoy this summer.

Fever 1793 Laurie Halse Anderson (pandemic)

*Orphan Train Christina Baker Kline (Based on true events; relates to immigration, westward expansion, child labor)

*The Help Kathryn Stockett (civil rights, Jim Crow Laws, Slavery)

Esperanza Rising Pam Muñoz Ryan (immigration, labor camps)

A Long Walk to Water Linda Sue Park (True Story; refugees, Africa, Upstanders)

*Winter Garden Kristin Hannah (communism, Russia, Immigration)

I am Malala [Malala Yousafzai](#) (True Story; Upstanders, right to education)

Bud, Not Buddy Christopher Paul Curtis (Civil Rights, Segregation)

Chains [Laurie Halse Anderson](#) (American Revolution, Slavery)

Out of the Dust [Karen Hesse](#) (Great Depression, Westward Expansion)

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn Mark Twain (Slavery, Upstanders)

Prisoner B-3087 Alan Gratz (based on a true story; WW2, concentration camps)

*Far to Go Alison Pick (Prague, WW2, kindertransport)

Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry [Mildred D. Taylor](#) (Great Depression, racism/Jim Crow)

*Wild Swans: Three Daughters of China Jung Chang (Communism, China)

Dragon wings Laurence Yep (Chinese Immigration)

*Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet [Jamie Ford](#) (Chinese Immigration, concentration camps)

Little House on the Prairie Laura Ingalls Wilder (Westward Expansion, Wagon Trains)

*To Kill a Mockingbird Harper Lee (Racism/Jim Crow. How could a S.S. book list NOT include this title?)

Little Women [Louisa May Alcott](#) (set during Civil War)

The Boy who Harnessed the Wind Bryan Mealer and William Kamkwamba (bravery, grit, Africa)

At Ellis Island: A History in Many Voices Louise Peacock (Immigration to USA)