

8th Grade Summer Reading

Hello, Rising 8th Graders!

This summer you will need to read two books. You will select them from the list below. Upon returning to school in September, you will complete an Accelerated Reader quiz on the books. Be prepared to discuss the stories in class. We will do this at the start of the first quarter.

You must write a summary of one of the books. **It is due at the end of the first week of class.** This will refresh your memory before the quiz. The summary will be turned in and graded. We will also use the summary in the class discussion at the start of the year. **IT MUST BE TYPED, 12 Pt. FONT, TIMES NEW ROMAN FONT, ONE, FULL, SINGLE-SPACED PAGE.**

After reading the second book, you will create a comic strip. Pick your favorite part or passage that really impacted you. Create comic strip panels, illustrate them with a visual representation of the passage you chose. **INCLUDE DIALOGUE!** Color the comic strip. Make it look good.

Happy reading!

8th Grade Summer 2020 Reading List

Please select two.

- ***The Bronze Bow***
by Elizabeth George Speare
AR: 5.0

Interest Level (MIDDLE GRADES)

Eighteen-year-old Daniel, a Galilean in the times of Roman occupation, is consumed by hatred of the Romans who killed his father until he learns from listening to the preaching of Christ that there is another answer to his pain.

Historical Fiction

- ***Captains Courageous***
by Rudyard Kipling
AR: 8.0

Interest Level (UPPER GRADES 9-12)

An American son of a millionaire is saved from drowning by a New England fishing schooner and forced to prove his worth to the captain and crew.

Fiction

- ***Dandelion Wine***
by Ray Bradbury

AR: 6.0

Interest Level (UPPER GRADES 9-12)

The summer of 1928 was a vintage summer for a growing boy. A summer of green apple trees mowed lawns and new sneakers. It was a magical, timeless summer in the life of a twelve-year-old boy named Douglas Spaulding

Fiction

- ***The Princess and the Goblin***

By George MacDonald

AR: 6.1

Interest Level (MIDDLE GRADES)

A little princess is protected by her friend Curdie from the goblin miners who live beneath the castle.

Fantasy Fiction

- ***Woods Runner***

by Gary Paulsen

AR: 5.5

Interest Level (MIDDLE GRADES)

From his 1776 Pennsylvania homestead, 13-year-old Samuel, who is a highly-skilled woodsman, sets out toward New York City to rescue his parents from the band of British soldiers and Indians who kidnapped them after slaughtering most of their community.

Historical Fiction

- ***Out of the Silent Planet***

by C.S. Lewis

AR: 7.4

Interest Level (UPPER GRADES 9-12)

Out of the Silent Planet begins the adventures of the remarkable Dr. Ransom. He is abducted by a megalomaniacal physicist and his accomplice and taken via spaceship to the red planet of Malacandra. The two men are in need of human sacrifice, and Dr. Ransom would seem to fit the bill.

Science Fiction

- ***Winterdance: The Fine Madness of Running the Iditarod***

by Gary Paulsen

AR: 6.0

Interest Level (UPPER GRADES 9-12)

This book is an unforgettable account of the author Gary Paulsen's most ambitious quest -- to know a world beyond his knowing, to train for and run the Iditarod, the famous and brutal 1,000-mile dog-sled race in Alaska.

Nonfiction-Memoir

- ***The Story of My Life***

by Helen Keller

AR: 6.8

Interest Level (UPPER GRADES 9-12)

When she was 19 months old, Helen Keller (1880–1968) suffered a severe illness that left her blind and deaf. Not long after, she also became mute. Her tenacious struggle to overcome these handicaps — with the help of her inspired teacher, Anne Sullivan — is one of the great stories of human courage and dedication.

Non-Fiction – Memoir

- **Little Women**

by Louisa May Alcott

AR: 7.9

Interest Level (MIDDLE GRADES)

This is the story of a group of sisters and the joys and sufferings of their lives during the Civil War. While their father is away fighting the war, the girls and their mother experience pivotal and coming-of-age moments of life.

Fiction

- **Jane Eyre**

by Charlotte Brontë

AR: 7.9

Interest Level (UPPER GRADES 9-12)

Jane, a plain and penniless orphan in nineteenth-century England, accepts employment as a governess at Thornfield Hall and soon finds herself in love with her melancholy employer, Mr. Edward Rochester, a man with a terrible secret.

Fiction