

Summer Reading Assignment

Grade 8

For the 2023 Summer Reading Program, you must choose a book from the attached list. These books were selected because they all are grade level appropriate and have themes that connect to the novels and short stories that you will be reading in class next year.

The attached assignment is due to your assigned Language Arts Teacher on **Monday, September 11, 2023**. The assignment will be graded using the attached rubric and will count as a grade for the 1st Marking Period of the 2021-2022 school year. If you are taking Advanced Language Arts, you must complete the additional assignment that is included.

Summer Reading Directions:

1. Select a book for the approved reading list.
2. Read the book over the summer and complete your assignment.
3. Submit your completed reading assignment to your Language Arts teacher by **Monday, September 11, 2023**.

Have a great summer and enjoy reading!

Lyndhurst Middle School Grade 8 Summer Reading



Short Stories

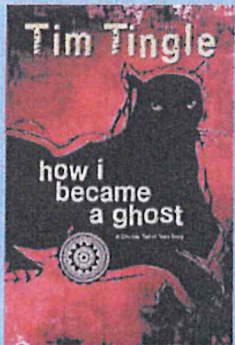
Ancestor Approved: Intertribal Stories for Kids by Cynthia Leitich Smith (2021)



A collection of intersecting stories set at a powwow that bursts with hope, joy, resilience, the strength of community, and Native pride. In a high school gym full of color and song, Native

families from Nations within the borders of the U.S. and Canada dance, sell beadwork and books, and celebrate friendship and heritage. They are the heroes of their own stories.

How I Became a Ghost by Tim Tingle (2013)

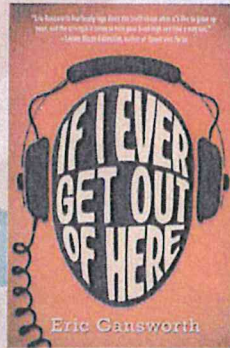


American Indian Youth Literature Award for Best Middle School Book
Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award Nominee

A tale of innocence and resilience in the

face of tragedy. From the book's opening line, "Maybe you have never read a book written by a ghost before," the reader is put on notice that this is no normal book. Isaac leads a remarkable foursome of Choctaw comrades: a tough-minded teenage girl, a shape-shifting panther boy, a lovable five-year-old ghost who only wants her mom and dad to be happy, and Isaac's talking dog, Jumper.

If I Ever Get Out of Here by Eric Gansworth (2013)



American Indian Youth Literature Award for Best Young Adult Book

Lewis "Shoe" Blake is used to the joys and difficulties of life on the Tuscarora Indian reservation in 1975: the joking,

the Fireball games, the snow blowing through his roof. What he's not used to is white people being nice to him – people like George Haddonfield. As the boys connect through their mutual passion for music Lewis lies more and more to hide his family's reality. A wry and powerful novel about friendship, memory, and the joy of rock 'n' roll.

Race to the Sun by Rebecca Roanhorse (2020)

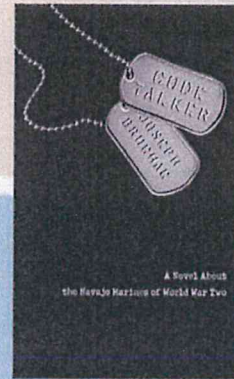


Locus Award Nominee for Best Young Adult Book
Ignite Award Nominee for Best Middle Grade Novel

Lately, seventh grader Nizhoni Begay has been able to detect

monsters. When her Dad disappears, leaving behind the message "Run!", the siblings and Nizhoni's best friend, Davery, are thrust into a rescue mission that can only be accomplished with the help of Diné Holy People. Their aid will come at a price: they must pass a series of trials in which it seems like nature itself is out to kill them. If the group reaches the House of the Sun, they will be outfitted with what they need to defeat the ancient monsters.

Code Talker: A Novel About the Navajo Marines of World War Two by Joseph Bruchac (2005)



Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award Nominee

Throughout World War II, Navajo code talkers were a crucial part of the U.S. effort, sending messages back and forth in an unbreakable code

using their native language. They braved some of the heaviest fighting of the war, and with their code saved countless American lives. Yet their story remained classified for more than twenty years.

The Sea in Winter by Christine Day (2021)



American Indian Youth Literature Award for Best Middle School Book

It's been a hard year for Maisie Cannony, ever since she hurt her leg and could not keep up with her ballet

training and auditions.

Her blended family is loving and supportive, but Maisie knows that they just can't understand how she feels. Maisie is not excited for her family's midwinter road trip, near the Makah community where her mother grew up. Maisie's anxieties and dark moods start to hurt as much as the pain in her knee. How can she keep pretending to be strong when on the inside she feels as roiling and cold as the ocean?

Lyndhurst Middle School Grade 8 Summer Reading



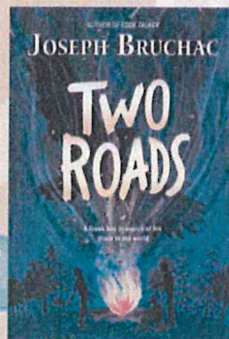
Moraline by Cintia Alfonso Fior (2023)



Twelve-year-old Moraline is about to run away from her problems—again. Since moving from New York to California, Moraline has been pushing against a hot dry wind whenever trouble happens. But a

chance encounter with a Native American spirit and an old whispering sequoia tree in the woods of Portola Redwoods State Park puts Moraline on a challenging journey towards finding her inner strength.

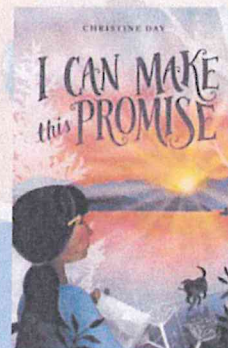
Two Roads by Joseph Bruchac (2018)



It's 1932, and twelve-year-old Cal Black and his Pop have been riding the rails for years after losing their farm in the Great Depression. But then Pop has to go to Washington, DC, Cal's life changes. Pop decides to

send Cal to a government boarding school for Native Americans in Oklahoma called the Challagi School. At school, the other Creek boys quickly take Cal under their wings. Even in the harsh conditions of the boarding school, he begins to learn about his people's history and heritage. He learns their language and customs. And most of all, he learns how to find strength in a group of friends who have nothing beyond each other.

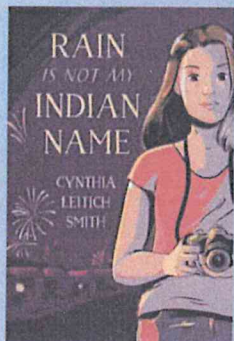
I Can Make This Promise by Christine Day (2019)



American Indian Youth Literature Award for Best Middle School Book
NCTE Charlotte Huck Honor Book
Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award Nominee

Edie unexpectedly finds a box of photos and letters from the woman she suspects was her mom's birth mother. Suddenly, Edie has a flurry of new questions about this woman who shares her name. Could she belong to the Native family that Edie never knew about? But if her mom and dad have kept this secret from her all her life, how can she trust them to tell her the truth now?

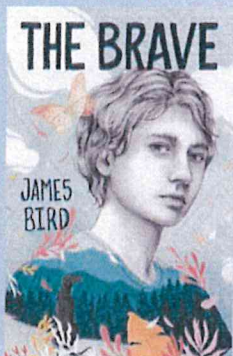
Rain Is Not My Indian Name by Cynthia Leitich Smith (2001)



It's been six months since Cassidy Rain Berghoff's best friend, Galen, died, and up until now she has succeeded in shutting herself off from the world. But when controversy arises

around Aunt Georgia's Indian Camp, Rain decides to face the outside world again, with a new job as a photographer. Does she want to keep a professional distance from her fellow Native teens? And, though she is still grieving, will she be able to embrace new friends and new beginnings?

The Brave by James Bird (2020)

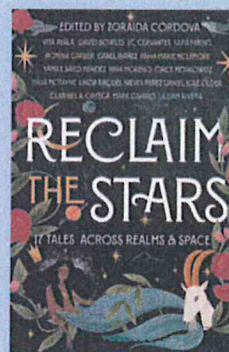


Collin can't help himself—he has a unique condition that finds him counting every letter spoken to him. It's a quirk that makes him a prime target for bullies, and a continual frustration to the

adults around him, including his father. When Collin is asked to leave yet another school, his dad decides to send him to live in Minnesota with the mother on a Ojibwe reservation. Collin arrives in Duluth with his loyal dog, Seven, and quickly finds his mom and his new home to be warm, welcoming, and accepting.

Short Stories

Reclaim the Stars by Zoraida Córdova (Editor) - (2022)



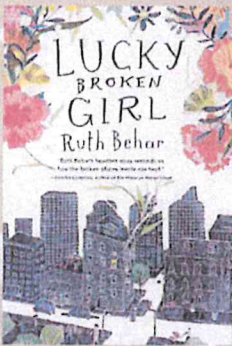
Reclaim the Stars is a collection of bestselling and acclaimed YA authors that take the Latin American diaspora to places fantastical and out of this world. From princesses warring in space, to the all too-near devastation of

climate change, to haunting ghost stories in Argentina, and mermaids off the coast of the Caribbean. This is science fiction and fantasy that breaks borders and realms, and proves that stories are truly universal.

Lyndhurst Middle School Grade 8 Summer Reading



Lucky Broken Girl by Ruth Behar (2017)

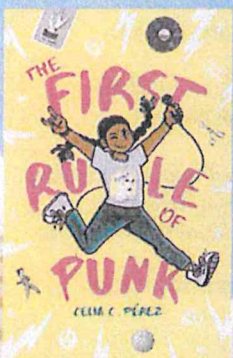


Pura Belpré Award for Author
Américas Award Commended Title

Ruthie Mizrahi and her family recently emigrated to New York City.

Just when she's finally beginning to gain confidence in her mastery of English—and enjoying her reign as her neighborhood's hopscotch queen—a horrific car accident leaves her in a body cast and confined her to her bed for a long recovery. As Ruthie's world shrinks because of her inability to move, her powers of observation and her heart grow larger and she comes to understand how fragile life is, how vulnerable we all are as human beings, and how friends, neighbors, and the power of the arts can sweeten even the worst of times.

The First Rule of Punk by Celia C. Perez (2017)



Boston Globe-Horn Book Award Nominee for Fiction & Poetry
Pura Belpré Award Nominee for Author

There are no shortcuts to surviving your first day at a new

school—you can't fix it with duct tape like you would your Chuck Taylors. On Day One, Malú (Maria Luisa, if you want to annoy her) inadvertently upsets Posada Middle School's queen bee, violates the

Descriptions adapted from goodreads.com

school's dress code with her punk rock look, and disappoints her college-professor mom in the process. Her dad, who now lives a thousand miles away, says things will get better as long as she remembers the first rule of punk: be yourself.

The Red Umbrella by Christina Diaz Gonzalez (2010)



IRA-CBC Teacher's Choice
International Book Awards Nominee

Two years after her country's revolution, Lucía Álvarez still leads a carefree life, dreaming of parties

and her first crush. But when soldiers come to her sleepy town, everything begins to change. Freedoms are stripped away. Neighbors disappear. Her friends feel like strangers. And her family is being watched. As the revolution's impact becomes more oppressive, Lucía's parents make the heart-wrenching decision to send her and her little brother to the United States—on their own. Suddenly plunked down in Nebraska with well-meaning strangers, Lucía struggles to adapt to a new country, a new language, a new way of life.

Esperanza Rising by Pam Muñoz Ryan (2000)



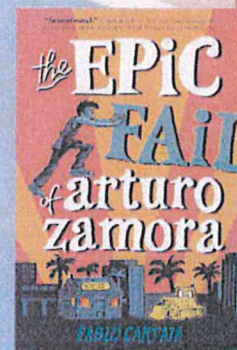
Pura Belpré Award for Narrative

Esperanza thought she'd always live with her family on their ranch in Mexico—she'd always have fancy dresses, a beautiful

home, and servants. But a sudden tragedy forces Esperanza and Mama to flee to California during the Great Depression,

and to settle in a camp for Mexican farm workers. Esperanza isn't ready for the hard labor, financial struggles, or lack of acceptance she now faces. When their new life is threatened, Esperanza must find a way to rise above her difficult circumstances—Mama's life, and her own, depend on it.

The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora by Pablo Cartaya (2017)



Pura Belpré Award Nominee for Author
Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award Nominee

Save the restaurant. Save

the town. Get the girl. Make Abuela proud. Can thirteen-year-old Arturo Zamora do it all or is he in for a BIG, EPIC FAIL?

For Arturo, summertime means playing basketball until dark, sipping mango smoothies, and keeping cool under banyan trees. And maybe a few shifts as junior lunchtime dishwasher at Abuela's restaurant. Maybe. But this summer also includes Carmen, a cute poetry enthusiast who moves into Arturo's apartment complex and turns his stomach into a deep fryer. He almost doesn't notice the land developer who rolls into town and threatens to change it. Arturo refuses to let his family and community go down without a fight, and as he schemes with Carmen, to help his neighborhood Arturo discovers the power of poetry through untold family stories and the work of Jose Martí.

Lyndhurst Middle School Grade 8 Summer Reading



A Dash of Trouble by Anna Meriano (2018)



Leonora Logroño's family owns the most beloved bakery in Rose Hill, Texas, and no occasion is more important than the annual Día de los Muertos festival. Leo is told she's too young to help, but finds her

family has in fact a big secret: they're brujas—witches of Mexican ancestry—who pour a little bit of sweet magic into everything that they bake. Leo knows that she has magical ability as well and is more determined than ever to join the family business—even if she can't let her mama and hermanas know about it yet.

Me, Frida, and the Secret of the Peacock Ring by Angela Cervantes (2018)



Rebecca Caudill
Young Readers'
Book Award
Nominee

A room locked for fifty years. A valuable peacock ring. A mysterious brother-sister duo. Paloma Marquez is traveling to

Mexico City. She's hoping that spending time in Mexico will help her unlock memories of the time spent with her late father. While in Mexico, she meets a mysterious brother and sister, who present her with an irresistible challenge: find a valuable ring that once belonged to beloved Mexican artist Frida Kahlo. Finding the ring means a big reward -- and the thanks of all Mexico.

Stella Díaz Has Something to Say by Angela Dominguez (2018)

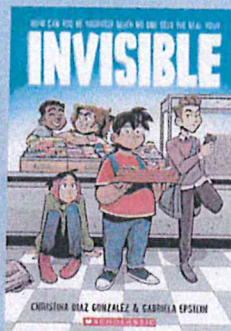


Sid Fleischman
Humor Award

Stella Díaz loves marine animals, especially her betta fish, Pancho. But Stella Díaz is not a betta fish and she loves spending time with her mom and brother and

her best friend Jenny. Trouble is, Jenny is in another class this year, and Stella feels very lonely. When a new boy arrives in Stella's class, she really wants to be his friend, but sometimes Stella accidentally speaks Spanish instead of English and pronounces words wrong, which makes her turn roja. Plus, she has to speak in front of her whole class for a big presentation at school! But she better get over her fears soon, because Stella Díaz has something to say!

Invisible by Christina Diaz Gonzalez (2022)

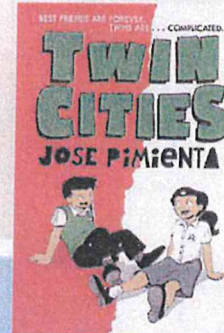


ALSC Summer
Reading List

Five students meet in the school cafeteria when they're forced to complete their school community service hours. They immediately know that they have

nothing in common with each other... even though their school administration has decided that they all belong together. Each has their own issues they're dealing with in their life outside of school, but when they encounter someone who truly needs their help, they might just be able to come together to work as a team.

Twin Cities by José Pimienta (2022)



ALSC Summer
Reading List
California Book
Award Nominee for
Juvenile

Luis Fernando and Luisa Teresa are twins, and they finally have the chance to stand on their own. They

experience growing pains as they start different middle schools. Teresa opts for middle school across the border in Calexico, while Fernando stays in Mexicali for school. A story about siblings, middle school, peer pressure, and the importance of family.

Students may choose a title from this list for their summer reading assignment. We encourage parents and guardians to be actively involved in the selection process. To gain a better understanding of the titles we recommend the following sites to guide you:

- Amazon
- Barnes & Noble
- Common Sense Media

To apply for a free public library card contact:

Lyndhurst Free Public Library
355 Valley Brook Avenue
Lyndhurst, NJ, United States
201-804-2478
<http://www.lyndhurstlibrary.org>

Grade 8 Assignment

Double-Entry Journal Directions: While you are reading, you may wish to use post-its, mark up the text, or record notes on a separate piece of paper. Ultimately, you will complete and submit your double-entry journal to your next year's Language Arts teacher. Please note that the double-entry journal will be graded and serve as a planning for another assignment in the first weeks of school.

The following checklist was created to support the completion of the Double-Entry Journal:

1. On a separate paper, create a two-column chart for one summer reading book of fiction or nonfiction (see the example at the bottom).
2. Label the left-hand column as "Citation." In the "Citation" column, cite **five** quoted passages that seem significant to the book's central idea, the author's message, or a situation in the text. Citations may be dialogue or regular narration.
3. Include one citation from the beginning, three citations from the middle, and one citation from the end of the text.
4. Make sure to include the author's last name and page number at the end of each citation. Therefore, you will have a total of **5 citations**.
5. Label the right-hand column "Significance." In the "Significance" column, provide some background information from the text about the citation.
6. In addition, record thoughts or reactions that relate to the citations. For example, explain, **in your own words**, the importance of each citation as it relates to a theme, main idea, or situation. In the end, make sure to explain why the citation is significant.
7. Please avoid plagiarism as defined by The OWL at Purdue Online Writing Lab web site: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/02/>. In other words, record your **own** ideas. You are not permitted to use outside sources.
8. A rubric for the double-entry journal is included on the last page of this document.

Example of a double-entry journal response from the beginning of S.E. Hinton's *The Outsiders*.

Citation	Significance
<p>"It seemed funny to me that the sunset she saw from her patio and the one I saw from the back steps was the same one. Maybe the two different worlds we lived in weren't so different. We saw the same sunset" (Hinton 41).</p> <p>[Please note that the citation is in quotes. Although it is possible to cite dialogue, one can also cite regular narration that does not record what a character is saying. In any case, the citation should appear exactly as it appears in the text. Furthermore, the citation is followed by a parenthetical citation that includes the author's last name and the page number.]</p>	<p>In this passage, Ponyboy, the narrator, is having a conversation with Cherry, a "soc" from the West side of town. Since the socs and greasers are rivals, and since the lives they live are so different, Ponyboy remarks here that it is interesting to him that both him, a greaser, and Cherry, a soc, could have something in common (i.e. the sunset). It seems as if the sunset can be interpreted as a symbol for the similarities between the two groups, as well as later the goodness in the world and in people that many of the socs and greasers fail to see. Ponyboy, by reflecting on the things that unite him and Cherry, is showing growth in this passage and the ability to overcome his prejudice against socs. It also seems like these prejudices are the root of a lot of the conflicts in this novel, and I wonder whether any of the other characters will be able to overcome them.</p>

An additional resource for the Double-Entry Journal can be found at:
<http://www.adlit.org/strategies/22091/>

ELA Advanced Assignment

In addition to the above double-entry journal, find an **informational source** (e.g. article, video, podcast, etc.) that relates to a topic explored in your book of choice. Then, write a paragraph explaining how the source relates to a topic in your book, and cite evidence from the source to support your answer. Include a link to the informational source as reference.

Double-Entry Journal Rubric

Category	4	3	2	1
Relevancy of Quotes	All quotes are thorough, thoughtful, and insightfully relate to the essential questions.	Most quotes chosen are fairly thorough and adequately relate to the essential questions.	Some quotes are incomplete or irrelevant.	Many quotes are disjointed, incomplete, or irrelevant.
Quality of Responses	All responses demonstrate a keen insight into the novel and do an exceptional job of explaining the connection between the textual evidence and the essential question(s). All responses are highly developed and insightful.	All responses demonstrate a keen insight into the novel and do an exceptional job of explaining the connection between the textual evidence and the essential question(s). All responses are highly developed and insightful.	Some entries demonstrate a lack of insight into the novel and do not adequately explain the connection between the textual evidence and the essential question(s). Some development is present.	Entries paraphrase quotes from the novel. No evidence of insights beyond summary.
Format	All quotes are in quotation marks and followed by proper parenthetical documentation.	Quotes are frequently in quotation marks and followed by parenthetical documentation.	Quotes are sometimes in quotation marks and followed by parenthetical documentation.	Most of the quotes are not documented in quotation marks and lack parenthetical documentation
Select Range of Quotes	Quotations are selected from the entire chapter; selections reflect a comprehensive reading of the entire chapter	Quotations are selected from most of the chapter; selections suggest close reading but student may not have finished the chapter	Quotations selected suggest student only completed reading of half the chapter	Quotations are only selected from the first few pages of the chapter
Conventions, Usage, Neatness	Demonstrates control of the conventions with essentially no errors; responses are organized and typed neatly	Demonstrates control of the conventions with a few grammatical errors that don't distract from overall meaning; responses are organized and typed neatly	Demonstrates minimal control of conventions with many grammatical errors that distract from overall meaning; responses are disorganized	Demonstrates overall lack and control of writing conventions; consistently disorganized and distracting
Overall Effort	Overall outstanding effort demonstrated through the assignment	Overall quality effort demonstrated throughout the assignment	Lack of consistent effort demonstrated throughout the assignment	Little to no effort demonstrated throughout the assignment

Total: /24 = %

Category	4	3	2	1
Comparison Paragraph (Advanced Course)	Informational source relates to a topic in chosen novel, paragraph is a minimum of 5-7 sentences, well developed, with specific examples and evidence comparing the source to the novel's topic.	Informational source mostly relates to the topic, paragraph is a minimum of 5-7 sentences, mostly developed, with examples comparing the source to the novel's topic.	Informational source somewhat relates to the topic and an attempt is made to compare it to the novel's topic.	Informational source is missing or does not particularly relate to the topic, and/or student did not write a paragraph comparing them.

Total (Advanced): /28 = %