



# THE RUMSON COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

## 2024 Summer Reading for Students Entering the Eighth Grade

### Required:

The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl by Stacey McAnulty  
OR The Absolute Value of Mike by Kathryn Erskine

### Students are also required to choose one additional book from the following list:

*Heroes* by Alan Gratz

*Brian's Return: A Hatchet Adventure* by Gary Paulsen

*You Go First* by Erin Entrada Kelly

*The Book of Stolen Dreams* by David Parr

*Born Reading: 20 Stories of Women Their Way into History* by Kathleen Krull and Virginia Loh-Hagan

*The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise* by Dan Gemeinhart

**If your child wishes to read more than the two required books, the list below provides a wide selection of suggested texts. Please note that these additional texts may not be substituted for the required books.**

### Science Fiction and Fantasy

Anderson, *Memory Thief*  
Bradbury, *The Illustrated Man*  
Card, *Ender's Game*  
Collins, *The Hunger Games\**  
Colfer, *Artemis Fowl*  
Dunn, *Ella Minnow Pea*  
Farmer, *The House of the Scorpion*  
Funke, *Inkheart*  
Goldman, *The Princess Bride*  
Sanderson, *Elantris*  
Savage, *Karma Moon, Ghost Hunter*

### Realistic Fiction

Buyea, *Because of Mr. Terupt \**  
Chopra, *Fire in the Heart*  
Colfer, *The Reluctant Assassin*  
Horvath, *My One Hundred Adventures*  
Lipsyte, *The Contender*  
Mass, *Jermery Fink and the Meaning of Life*  
Pearson, *The Scribbler of Dreams*  
Potok, *The Chosen*  
Reynolds, *As Brave as You*  
Soto, *Baseball in April and Other Stories*  
Voight, *Homecoming*  
Woodson, *Harbour Me and Yang, Front Desk*

### Non-Fiction

Crothers, *The Queen of Katwe*  
Frank, *The Diary of a Young Girl*  
Hickam, *Rocket Boys* (a.k.a. *October Sky*)  
Hillenbrand, *Unbroken* (YA edition), *Seabiscuit*  
Lewis, *Kids with Courage: True Stories about Young People Making a Difference*  
Murphy, *Truce: The Day the Soldiers Stopped Fighting*  
Scott, *Buried Alive: How 33 Miners Survived 69 Days Deep Under the Chilean Desert*  
Thornton, *The Ditchdigger's Daughters*

### Mystery

Brown, *The Da Vinci Code* (YA edition)  
Christie, *And Then There Were None, Murder on the Orient Express*  
Dowd, *Down the Rabbit Hole: An Echo Falls Mystery*  
Grisham, *Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer*  
Horowitz, *Stormbreaker* (Alex Rider series)  
L'Engle, *The Young Unicorns*  
Nobel, *The Mystery of Black Hollow Lane*

**Reading 30 minutes per day will maintain one's reading level. Reading more could boost one's reading level.**

\*Any title in series is acceptable.



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## **Historical Fiction**

Anderson, *Fever 1793*  
Fast, *April Morning*  
Gratz, *Ground Zero, Prisoner B-3087, Refugee*  
Hahn, *Stepping on Cracks*  
Meissner, *A Fall of Marigolds*  
Nielsen, *A Night Divided, Words on Fire*  
Otsuko, *When the Emperor Was Divine*  
Robinson, *The Hero Two Doors Down*  
Sepetys, *Salt to the Sea*  
Stone, *Clean Getaway*  
Wein, *Code Name Verity*

## **Classics**

Alcott, *Little Women*  
Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*  
Doyle, *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*  
Hansberry, *A Raisin in the Sun*  
Hinton, *The Outsiders*  
Knowles, *A Separate Peace*

## **Poetry/Verse**

Alexander, *Crossover series*  
Grimes, *Words with Wings*  
Woodson, *Brown Girl Dreaming*

## **Graphic Novel/Manga**

Austen, Tse, *Pride and Prejudice*  
Jamieson and Mohamed, *When Stars Are Scattered*  
Lewis, *March I\**  
Montgomery, Chan, *Anne of Green Gables*  
Spiegelman, *Maus*  
Stevenson, *Nimona*  
Wood, *Into the Volcano, The Drowned City: Hurricane Katrina and New Orleans*

## **Sports Fiction**

Feinstein, *The Walk On*  
Lupica, *Heat*  
Ritter, *The Boy Who Saved Baseball*  
Van Draanen, *The Running Dream (YA edition)*

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