

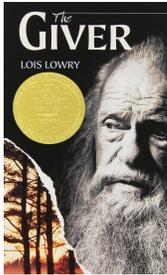


Summer Reading List *for* Students Entering 8th Grade

8th Grade

May 2018

REQUIRED READING



Ah! The freedom of summer. I hope you make the time to REST, RELAX and READ! Most importantly I hope you find books that you ENJOY. Reading skills are built when you read a wide variety of genres and formats. This book list is designed to help you find books that interest and inspire you to read for pleasure. It is also designed to balance personal reading with required reading.

Students are expected to read at least **three** books.

Students are required to read **two** core novels, *The Giver* and *The Scorpio Races*.

Students must then read a title of thier choice for the third book.

Suggestions may be found below. The summer reading is to be completed before returning to school in August. Ms. Lancaster will post a copy of the summer reading assignment in RenWeb Resource Documents and will give hard copies to students in May.

Best wishes for a great read,
Mrs. Clark
clark@esknoxville.org

Other Suggested Titles

Kwame Alexander . ***The Crossover*** The Bell twins are stars on the basketball court and comrades in life. Poet Kwame Alexander has the swagger and cool confidence of a star player and the finesse of a perfectly incontrol ball handler. He uses wordplay and alliteration roll out like hip hop lyrics, and the use of concrete forms and playful font changes keep things dynamic. Or try the Prequel/Sequel ***Rebound***.

Kristin Levine. ***The Lions of Little Rock*** Twelve year old Marlee develops a strong friendship with Liz, the new girl in school, but when Liz suddenly stops attending school and Marlee hears a rumor that her friend is actually an African American girl passing herself off as white, the two young girls must decide whether their friendship is worth taking on integration and the dangers it could bring to their families.

Robert F. Kennedy. ***Thirteen Days: A Memoir of the Cuban Missile Crisis*** During the thirteen days in October 1962 when the United States confronted the Soviet Union over its installation of missiles in Cuba, few people shared the behind the scenes story as it is told here by the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy. In this unique account, he describes the participants during the hour to hour negotiations, with particular attention to the actions and views of his brother, President John F. Kennedy.

Steve Sheinkin. ***The Bomb: The Race to Build and Steal the World's Most Dangerous Weapon*** In December of 1938, a chemist in a German laboratory made a shocking discovery: When placed next to radioactive material, a uranium atom split in two. That simple discovery launched a scientific race that spanned 3 continents. This is the story of the atomic bomb.

Jerry Spinelli. ***Stargirl*** In this story about the perils of popularity, the courage of nonconformity, and the thrill of first love, an eccentric student named Stargirl changes Mica High School forever.

Deborah Wiles. ***Countdown*** It's 1962, and it seems everyone is living in fear. Eleven year old Franny Chapman can feel the fear of the nation in the days surrounding the Cuban Missile Crisis. Amid the pervading threat of nuclear war, Franny must face family tensions, figure out where she fits in, and look beyond outward appearances.

Veronica Roth. ***Divergent*** In a future Chicago, sixteen year old Beatrice Prior must choose among five predetermined factions to define her identity for the rest of her life, a decision made more difficult when she discovers that she is an anomaly who does not fit into any one group, and that the society she lives in is not perfect after all.

Louisa May Alcott. ***Little Women*** A timeless story following the lives of the four March sisters—pretty Meg, tomboy Jo, shy Beth, and vain Amy—as they grow into young ladies in 19th century New England.

Anna Sewell. ***Black Beauty*** The journey of a lifetime told through the eyes of the stallion, Black Beauty. Follow his adventures from life on a country estate to the harsh streets of London as a cab horse. A memorable story, a favorite for animal lovers of all ages.

Betty Smith. ***A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*** The beloved American classic about a young girl's coming of age at the turn of the century; a poignant and moving story of young, sensitive, and idealistic Francie Nolan and her bittersweet formative years in the slums of Williamsburg.

More Great Middle School Reads can be found at the
UW Cooperative Children's Book Center

<https://ccbc.education.wisc.edu/books/detailListBooks.asp?idBookLists=165>