

Rising 8th Grade Summer Reading

3 books: 2 required and 1 free choice
Required: Unbroken (junior version) by Laura Hillenbrand
Choose ONE of the following by C.S. Lewis:
Out of the Silent Planet
Perelandra
That Hideous Strength

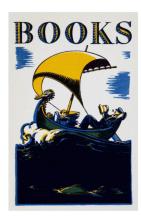
Since most children of this age can read the majority of grade-level books for themselves, the following list will include a majority of independent reads, though there are a few that can be chosen as family read alouds, as <u>research</u> has proven that reading aloud into adulthood has a beneficial effect. Keep in mind that a Listening Vocabulary is almost always much higher than a Reading Vocabulary. Thus, you can read aloud a book that is above current school reading level, and most children will be able to understand it. After reading a short passage (and reading the illustrations as well), we suggest that you informally ask your child to tell back what he or she has heard, in order to improve comprehension, sequencing, synthesis, concentration, and enjoyment. Picture narrations are also a fun way to enliven the story while increasing comprehension.

The following is not an exhaustive list, but rather some of our particular favorites! There are obviously many more good books that are available. If you seek advice from a librarian, note that the terminology most librarians will best understand is "classic literature," which for our purposes we call "living" books. Remember that, with regard to all book suggestions, it is always your responsibility as the parent to assess a book's suitability for you and your family.

We have included books which employ fantastical themes, due to the fact that we encourage children to enjoy the proper use of the imagination. This is an important aspect of development, and one in which parents are urged to give their child guidance. That is, your child will be looking to you to help define the lines of fantasy versus reality and the proper guidelines therein.

If a title is not in your local library, you may want to check used bookstores, both <u>physical</u> and <u>virtual</u>. A great summer activity is to visit some of the physical bookstores in your area and see what they have to offer. A must-see is The Story Shop in Monroe, Georgia! Do not neglect the <u>power</u> of <u>audiobooks</u>, as they are great opportunities for everyone to listen and bond as a family. They can also help with books set in a different locale, as the narrators are often from that particular culture. Enjoy!

On the sheet enclosed, please keep track of the books your child reads or those that you have read to him or her this summer. You will give this record to your child's teacher at the beginning of school.



Summer Reading List for Rising 8th Grade Students

Alcott, Louisa May Alder, Elizabeth Andreola ,Karen

Avi

Babbitt, Natalie

Burnett, Frances Hodgson

Carroll, Lewis Carter, Forest

Cornelissen, Cornelia Crane, Stephen Dickens, Charles Farley, Walter Foster, Genevieve George, Jean Craighead

Gipson, Fred Grahame, Kenneth Henry, Marguerite Ibbotson, Eva

Kamkwamba, William

Krensky, Stephen LasCasas, Bartholomew

Lee, Harper London, Jack Lunn, Janet

MacDonald, George Magnuson, Sally Marshall, Catherine

McGill, Alice McPherson, Joyce Neville, Emily O'Dell, Scott O'Hara, Mary Park, Linda Sue

Pyle, Howard

Rawlings, Marjorie Kinnan

Sewall, Anna

Speare, Elizabeth George Stevenson, Robert Louis Ten Boom, Corrie Tolkien, J.R.R. Jo's Boys, Eight Cousins, Jack and Jill, Little Men, Little Women

The King's Shadow (medieval story that shows how God uses a disability)

Beautiful Girlhood

Night Journeys (pre-Revolutionary War--about escaped indentured servants)

Tuck Everlasting
The Secret Garden

Alice's Adventure in Wonderland The Education of Little Tree

Soft Rain (about the Cherokee Trail of Tears)

Red Badge of Courage

The Cricket on the Hearth, A Christmas Carol

The Black Stallion Augusta Caesar's World Julie of the Wolves

Old Yeller

Wind in the Willows King of the Wind

Journey to the River Sea (set in Brazil)

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind (true story about hardship and

perseverance set in Africa!)

Conqueror and Hero: The Search for Alexander A Biography The Log of Christopher Columbus' First Voyage to America

To Kill a Mockingbird

The Call of the Wild, White Fang

The Root Cellar

At the Back of the North Wind

The Flying Scotsman: A Biography about Eric Liddell

Christy, Julie Molly Bannaky

A Piece of the Mountain: The Biography of Blaise Pascal

It's like That

Island of the Blue Dolphin, The Hawk That Dare Not Hunt by Day

My Friend, Flicka

A Long Walk to Water (amazing story about shortage of water in Africa)

A Single Shard

The Story of the Champions of the Round Table

The Yearling
Black Beauty
The Bronze Bow
Kidnapped
The Hiding Place
The Lord of the Rings

Travers, P.L. Ullman, James Ramsey Verne, Jules Whelan, Gloria Mary Poppins Banner in the Sky Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea, Around the World in 80 Days Listening for Lions (a story about an orphaned missionary girl in Africa)