

Summer Reading for Rising 6th – 8th graders

Requirements:

- Read all summer long! **Daily reading** is the best way to build those reading “muscles.” There is one assigned book. Students should also choose other books to read.
- Everyone needs to read the book Wonder by RJ Palacio. It’s long, so start early, but it’s worth the time. You can read it together or your child can read it on his/her own. There will be **assignments** about the book the first week of school.

Suggestions for Parents:

- Other than Wonder, let your **child choose** which books to read, from appropriate choices.
- Have a **set time** each day for your child to read. Creating the norm of family reading time can be helpful for creating a routine.
- **Audio books** are fun too!

Book Recommendations:

*Although I have read several of these books myself, I have not read all of them. I recommend **parental discretion** when deciding if a book is appropriate for your child. Your child may choose to read books that are not on this list as long as they are appropriate for his/her age and reading level.

Middle School Classics:

- *The Giver* by Lois Lowry
- *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls
- *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White
- *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis
- *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt
- *Bridge to Terabithia* by Katherine Paterson
- *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak
- *Black Beauty* by Anna Sewell
- *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett
- *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH* by Robert C. O'Brien
- *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* (and others) by J.K. Rowling
- *Little House on the Prairie* (and others) by Laura Ingalls Wilder
- *The Indian in the Cupboard* (and others) by Lynne Reid Banks
- *Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson
- *Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson
- *Bud, Not Buddy* by Christopher Paul Curtis
- *Redwall* (and others) by Brian Jacques
- *The Hobbit* (and others) by J.R.R. Tolkien
- *Mockingbird* by Kathryn Erskine

The following recommendations for more recently published books high-interest are from <https://imaginationssoup.net>

Graphic Novels:

- *Primer* by Jennifer Muro and Thomas Krajewski
- *Invisible* by Christina Diaz Gonzalez
- *The Aquanaut* by Dan Santat
- *Cucumber Quest 1: The Doughnut Kingdom* by Gigi D.G.
- *Swim Team* by Johnnie Christmas
- *Class Act* by Jerry Craft
- *Act* by Kyla Miller
- *Cardboard* by Doug TenNapel
- *Brave* by Svetlana Chmakova

Fantasy and Sci-fi:

- *Lightcasters* by Janelle McCurdy
- *Hither and Nigh* by Ellen Potter
- *The Girl Who Drank the Moon* by Kelly Barnhill
- *Shinji Takahashi and the Mark of the Coat* by Julie Kagawa
- *Amari and the Night Brothers* by B.B. Alston
- *Legend of the Dream Giants* by Dustin Hansen
- *Daughter of the Deep* by Rick Riordan
- *The Adventurers Guild* by Zach Loran Clark and Nick Eliopoulos
- *Kelcie Murphy and the Academy for the Unbreakable Arts* by Erika Lewis
- *Last Mapmaker* by Christina Soontornvat

Mystery and Adventure:

- *The Van Gogh Deception* by Deron Hicks
- *96 Miles* by J.L. Esplin
- *Framed! A T.O.A.S.T. Mystery* by James Ponti
- *The Canyon's Edge* by Dusti Bowling
- *City Spies* by James Ponti
- *Charlie Thorne and the Last Equation* by Stuart Gibb
- *The Unforgettable Logan Foster* by Shawn Peters
- *Ali Cross* by James Patterson

Scary Books:

- *Scratch Scratch* by Lindsay Currie
- *Coraline* by Neil Gaiman
- *Lockwood & Co The Screaming Staircase* by Jonathan Stroud
- *A Tale of Dark and Grimm* by Adam Gidwitz
- *Ophie's Ghost* by Justina Ireland

Historical Fiction:

- *Allies* by Alan Gratz
- *Becoming Muhammad Ali* by James Patterson and Kwame Alexander
- *Show Me a Sign* by Ann Clare LeZotte
- *A Place to Hang the Moon* by Kate Albus
- *Indian No More* by Charlene Willing McManis and Traci Sorell
- *Voyage of the Sparrowhawk* by Natasha Farrant
- *Traitors Among Us* by Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch
- *Lifeboat 12* by Susan Hood

Realistic Fiction:

- *Isaiah Dunn Is My Hero* by Kelly J. Baptist
- *All of Me* by Chris Baron
- *Starfish* by Lisa Fipps
- *From the Desk of Zoe Washington* by Janae Marks
- *Before the Ever After* by Jacqueline Woodson
- *Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* by Dusti Bowling
- *Unsettled* by Reem Faruqi
- *Finally Seen* by Kelly Yang
- *Out of My Mind* by Sharon Draper

Humor:

- *Wink* by Rob Harrell
- *The Last Last Day of Summer* by Lamar Giles
- *The Jolly Regina: The Unintentional Adventures of the Bland Sisters* by Kara LaReau
- *Strange Case of the Origami Yoda* by Tom Angleberger
- *Middle School: The Worst Years of my Life* by James Patterson and Chris Tebbetts
- *The Croc Ate My Homework* by Stephan Pastis
- *The Great Treehouse War* by Lisa Graff

Nonfiction:

- *Wild Outside Around the World with Survivorman* by Les Stroud
- *Annie Sullivan and the Trials of Helen Keller* by Joseph Lambert
- *The Girl Who Drew Butterflies How Maria Marian's Art Changed Science* by Joyce Sidman
- *It's Up to You, Abe Lincoln: How I Made the Biggest Decisions of My Life* by Tom & Leila Hirschfeld
- *Awesome Achievers in Technology* by Alan Katz
- *Accidental Archeologists: True Stories of Unexpected Discoveries* by Sarah Albee
- *Do You Know Where the Animals Live?* by Peter Wohlleben
- *The How and Wow of the Human Body: From Your Tongue to Your Toes and all the Guts in Between* by Mindy Thomas and Guy Raz
- *How to Go Anywhere (And Not Get Lost): A Guide to Navigation for Young Adventurers* by Hans Aschim
- *Survivors of the Holocaust: True Stories of Six Extraordinary Children* by Kath Shackleton Beaver
- *The Superpower Field Guides* by Rachel Poliquin
- *Two Truths and a Lie* by Ammi-Joan Paquette and Laurie Ann Thompson
- *The Thrifty Guide to Ancient Rome* by Jonathan W. Stokes
- *Squidtoons: Explore the Ocean with Comics* by Garfield Kwan and Dana Song
- *How to Be a Scientist (DK)* by Steve Mould
- *Almanac 2021 National Geographic Kids*
- *Can You Crack the Code? A Fascinating History of Ciphers and Cryptography* by Ella Schwartz
- *Never Caught, The Story of Ona Judge: Young Readers Edition* by Erica Armstrong Dunbar and Kathleen Van Cleve
- *Black Heroes of the Wild West* by James Otis Smith
- *Astronauts: Women on the Final Frontier* by Jim Ottaviani and Maris Wicks
- *O Captain, My Captain: Walt Whitman, Abraham Lincoln, and the Civil War* by Robert Burleigh
- *Noise Makers: 25 Women Who Raised Their Voices & Changed the World* by Kazoo Magazine
- *Untamed The Wild Life of Jane Goodall* by Anita Silvey
- *Rise Up: Ordinary Kids With Extraordinary Stories* by Amanda Li So
- *You Want to Be a Roman Soldier?* by Philip Matyszak
- *The Book of Wildly Spectacular Sports Science 54 All-Star Experiments* by Sean Connolly