

## **SUMMER READING LIST - GRADE 8 BOOKS - 2007**

Anderson, L. **Fever 1793**

Mattie's family runs an inn in Philadelphia. Yellow fever plagues the city. The wealthy leave and the poor struggle to survive.

Balliet, B. **Chasing Vermeer**

When a precious Vermeer painting disappears, two eleven year olds try to solve an international art scandal.

Bradbury, R. **Fahrenheit 451**

In this futuristic society, firemen start fires to burn books.

Brooks, B. **The Moves Make the Man**

An unlikely friendship develops between two athletes in North Carolina.

Card, O.S. **Ender's Shadow**

A science fiction story, about a group attempting to save Earth from an alien attack, is set in the future.

Christie, A. **And Then There Were None**

Why were people brought to an island to meet with Mr. Owen who was not there?

Cooney, C. **Driver's Ed**

A car ride and a teenage prank change lives forever.

Cooper, S. **The Dark Is Rising**

A struggle between good and evil is experienced by a boy during the Christmas season.

Deuker, C. **Night Hoops**

Joining the Varsity Basketball Team is Nick's goal. He must learn to deal with problems on and off the court.

Doyle, A. **The Hound of the Baskervilles**

Sherlock Holmes and Watson attempt to discover the identity of the beast lurking in the moors and killing people.

Duncan, L. **Don't Look Behind You**

April's world is turned upside down when her family is forced to enter the Witness Protection Program.

Duncan, L. **Ransom**

Five teenagers, kidnapped by a new bus driver, try to plan their survival, and in the process, learn about themselves.

- Forbes, E.     **Johnny Tremain**  
The American Revolution sets the stage for the brave deeds of fourteen-year old Johnny called upon to sneak messages past the British for the Sons of Liberty.
- Funke, C.     **Dragon Rider**  
Firedrake and his friend are in search of something. Along the way, they have many interesting experiences.
- Gaiman, N.    **Coraline**  
Coraline’s journey through a strange door results in significant challenges she must now face.
- Goodman, J.   **Hope’s Crossing**  
Captured by the Tories during the Revolutionary War, Hope must now plan her escape.
- Gorman, G.    **No More Dead Dogs**  
An eighth grader’s detention served while assisting with the school play results in interesting changes for everyone.
- Haddix, M.     **Among the Barons**  
Luke’s adventures continue as he struggles with his identity.
- Haddix, M.     **House on the Gulf**  
A sixteen-year-old boy suspects something is not right while house-sitting for the summer.
- Hinton, S.E.   **Rumblefish**  
Rusty is known to be “tough” but wants to be even tougher. His goal is to be the strongest street fighter and most respected guy this side of the river.
- Hinton, S.E.   **The Outsiders**  
Conflicts grow between the wealthy high school students and those considered to be the less desirable “outsiders”.
- Holt, K.       **When Zachary Beaver Came to Town**  
Set in a small Texas town during the Vietnam War, Cal and Todd reach out to Zachary, an abandoned overweight boy.
- Horvath, P.    **Everything on a Waffle**  
A girl, living in a small fishing village, must deal with life after the loss of her parents at sea.
- Jacques, B.    **The Legend of Luke**  
Martin learns about the adventures of his father in this Redwall Chronicle.
- Keith, H.      **Rifles for Watie**  
Jefferson is sixteen and a soldier defending the Union during the Civil War. A crisis develops when he finds he is unsure as to whether he should betray or join the enemy.

Konigsburg, E.L. **Silent to the Bone**

As a result of a traumatic experience, thirteen year old Branwell is now mute. Attempts are made in a behavioral center to try to arrive at the truth as to what had really happened.

Lalicki, T. **Spellbinder: Life of Harry Houdini**

Explore the world of the famous magician, illusionist and escape artist.

London, J. **Call of the Wild**

This is the story of Buck, a dog taken from his pampered home to be an Alaskan sled dog and his struggle to survive.

Lord, W. **A Night to Remember**

The final hours of the Titanic are told in a riveting account.

Lowry, L. **Gathering Blue**

Kira is mysteriously transported from her poor village to residing in a palatial building where she must use her “gifts” to benefit the Guardians.

Murphy, J. **Blizzard! The Storm That Changed America**

This is the factual account of the massive blizzard of 1888 which buried the Northeast for days.

Namioka, L. **Ties That Bind, Ties That Break**

Historical fiction set in China involving a girl’s refusal to bind her feet as was the custom for upper class girls.

Naylor, P. **Jade Green: A Ghost Story**

After the death of her parents, Judy is forced to live with her eccentric uncle who will allow nothing “green” in the house.

Naylor, P.R. **Outrageously Alice**

For Alice, being “different” is what it is all about. Dying her hair green is just the start.

Nixon, J.L. **The Weekend Was Murder**

Mary Elizabeth is taking part in a Murder Mystery Weekend when she comes across a strange finding.

Nixon, J.L. **Nobody’s There**

Abbie’s arrest for malicious mischief forces her to volunteer in a community service program which matches teens with the elderly. She is assigned to Mrs. Merkel, who is intent upon taking on “con men” who target senior citizens.

Nixon, J.L. **The Kidnapping of Christina Lattimore**

Proving she did not plan her own kidnapping is the challenge facing Christina.

Osa, N. **Cuba 15**

A Chicago high school student prepares for her upcoming “quince”, a celebration of a Hispanic’s girl’s fifteenth birthday.

- Paolini, C.      **Eldest**  
A farm boy finds a blue stone that hatches a dragon.
- Paulsen, G.     **The Transall Saga**  
Mark follows a light beam into another time and possibly to another planet.
- Pullman, P.     **The Golden Compass**  
Lyra vows to save kidnapped children from the evil “Gobblers” and rescue her father from the polar bears.
- Rinaldi, A.     **Girl in Blue**  
Sarah, disguised as a boy, joins the Union Army during the Civil War.
- Rinaldi, A.     **Secret of Sarah Revere**  
The daughter of Paul Revere reveals information about events preceding his famous ride.
- Rinaldi, A.     **A Ride into Morning – Story of Tempe Wick**  
During the American Revolutionary War, Tempe must hide her most prized possession from the enemy.
- Rowling, J.K.   **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire**  
The Quidditch World Cup Finals have begun as the Hogwart’s students start their fourth year.
- Shusterman, N. **The Dark Side of Nowhere**  
Science fiction tale about a 14-year-old boy who is an alien left behind on Earth.
- Sleator, W.     **Interstellar Pig**  
A sixteen year old may hold the world’s fate in his hands as the result of a game played.
- Spinelli, J.    **Stargirl**  
Stargirl, the epitome of non-conformity, arrives at Mica High School and makes quite an impression.
- Strasser, T.    **The Wave**  
A classroom experiment explores the impact that group pressure can have on individuals.
- Taylor, M.      **Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry**  
An African American family living in Mississippi during the 1930’s Depression struggles to survive poverty, humiliation, and racial violence.
- Tolkien,        **The Hobbit**  
As Bilbo fights off trolls, gigantic spiders and wolves, he discovers the strength and courage for the ultimate confrontation with the Dragon Smaug.
- Tolkien         **The Fellowship of the Ring**  
In the sequel to The Hobbit, Frodo must save a magical ring from the evil hands of the Dark Lord of Mordor.

Voight, C. **Izzy Willy Nilly**

Izzy loses his leg in a car accident and must come to terms with his life as an amputee.

Voight, C. **The Homecoming**

The story of Dicey's attempts to save her siblings from being sent to foster homes. They have been abandoned by their parents and are in search of a relative to take them in.

Wells, H.G. **The Time Machine**

A scientist invents a time machine, which transports him to the year 802,700.