

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As the end of the school year is upon us, we would like to take a moment to reflect on the many accomplishments of your child. With each new day came new opportunities for learning – socially, emotionally, and academically. Our thoughts now turn to ways to continue that growth through the summer months.

Studies show that failure to continue reading daily during the summer results in the "summer slide," a measurable decrease in reading ability and level. Studies also show that the development of a lifelong love of reading is important in order to be successful.

There are also studies that correlate freedom of reading choice to developing an enduring love of reading. Please encourage your children to set reading goals this summer. They should read something every day of the summer, and it should be their choice. There are many lists of book recommendations available online and in bookstores and libraries, but the best recommendations can come from peers.

Attached to this email is a list of the favorite books recommended by the rising ninth graders. These books are student-recommended and teacher-approved. Encourage your child to explore this list.

Other resources include:

- Abookandahug.com
- Guysread.com
- Bank Street College Best Children's Books- 2014:  
[https://s3.amazonaws.com/bankstreet\\_web/media/filer\\_public/filer\\_public/2014/06/05/2014twelve-to-fourteen.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/bankstreet_web/media/filer_public/filer_public/2014/06/05/2014twelve-to-fourteen.pdf)
- Mrs. Kahn's web pages: <http://closterschools.org/domain/186>

Best wishes for a relaxing summer filled with new reading opportunities. We look forward to learning about what the middle schoolers read this summer, once they return to Tenakill in September!

Sincerely  
yours,

Grade 8 Language Arts Teachers

# Favorite Books for Grade 8

## Easier – of interest to grades 5-8

- Alex Rider Series
  - Artemis Fowl
  - Best of the Best
  - Cracker
  - Everlost
  - Football Hero
  - Heat
  - Heroes of Olympus Series
  - Hold Fast
  - House of Hades
  - Island of Thieves
  - Michael Vey Series
  - Percy Jackson Series
  - Powerless
  - Sea of Monsters
  - Sidekicked
  - Spy School
  - Stowaway
  - Super
  - The Emerald Atlas
  - The False Prince
  - The Runaway King
  - The Shadow Throne
  - The Unwanteds
  - Troubletwisters
  - Warriors
  - Wonder
- Anthony Horowitz
  - Eoin Colfer
  - Tim Green
  - Cynthia Kadohata
  - Neal Shusterman
  - Tim Green
  - Mike Lupica
  - Rick Riordan
  - Blue Balliet
  - Rick Riordan
  - Josh Lacey
  - Richard Paul Evans
  - Rick Riordan
  - Matthew Cody
  - Rick Riordan
  - John David Anderson
  - Stuart Gibbs
  - Karen Hesse
  - Matthew Cody
  - John Stephens
  - Jennifer A. Nielsen
  - Jennifer A. Nielsen
  - Jennifer A. Nielsen
  - Lisa McMann
  - Grath Nix and Sean Williams
  - Erin Hunter
  - R.J. Palacio

## Grade Level

- After Ever After
  - Article 5 Trilogy
  - Audrey, Wait!
  - Beta
  - Beyonders: A world without heroes
  - Bomb
  - Catching Fire
  - Champion
  - Cinder
  - Divergent Series
  - Divided We Fall
  - Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie
- Jordan Sonnenblick
  - Kristen Simmons
  - Robin Benway
  - Rachel Cohn
  - Brandon Mull
  - Steve Sheinkin
  - Suzanne Collins
  - Marie Lu
  - Marrisa Meyer
  - Veronica Roth
  - Trent Reedy
  - Jordan Sonnenblick

- Ender's Game
- Ender's Shadow
- Eon
- Flowers for Algernon
- Foul Trouble
- Full Tilt
- Harry Potter
- Hunger Games Series
- It Ain't All For Nothin'
- Ithaka
- Kiss and Blog
- Leapholes
- Legend Series
- Leviathan
- Life After Theft
- Life as We Knew It
- Life Happen Next
- Life of Pi
- Lockwood and Co.: The Screaming Staircase
- Mark of Athena
- Matched
- Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment
- Mockingjay
- Monsters of Men
- My Sister Lives on the Mantle Piece
- No Safety in Numbers
- Notes From the Midnight Driver
- Penndragon
- Rebound
- Red Pyramid Series
- Romeo and Juliet (Graphic Novel)
- Scorpia
- Silver
- Sleeping Freshman Never Lie
- Soul Surfer
- Texting the Underwood
- That Was Then, This is Now
- The 5th Wave
- The Book Thief
- The Fablehaven Series
- The Fall of Five
- The Fallout
- The Fear
- The Final Four
- The Forsaken
- The Hound of the Baskervilles
- The House of the Scorpion Series
- Orson Scott Card
- Orson Scott Card
- Alison Goodman
- Daniel Keyes
- John Feinstein
- Neal Shusterman
- J.K. Rowling
- Suzanne Collins
- Walter Dean Myers
- Adele Geras
- Alyson Noel
- James Grippando
- Marie Lu
- Scott Westerfield
- Aprilynee Pike
- Susan Beth Pfeffer
- Terry Trueman
- YannMartel
- Jonathan Stroud
- Rick Riordan
- Ally Condie
- James Patterson
- Suzanne Collins
- Patrick Ness
- Annabel Pitcher
- Dayna Lorentz
- Jordan Sonnenblick
- D.J. McHale
- Bob Krech
- Rick Riordan
- Shakespeare
- Anthony Horowitz
- Chris Wooding
- DavidLubar
- Bethany Hamilton
- Ellen Booraem
- S.E. Hinton
- Rick Yaney
- Markus Zusde
- Brandon Mull
- Pittacus Lore
- S.A. Bodeen
- Charlie Higson
- Paul Volponi
- Lisa M. Stasse
- Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
- Nancy Farmer

- The Illustrated Man
  - The Last Apprentice
  - The Lord of the Opium
  - The Maze Runner Series
  - The Night
  - The Old Man and the Sea
  - The Outsiders
  - The Peculiar Children Series
  - The Prospect
  - The Raven Boys
  - The Twilight Series
  - Theodore Boone
  - This Dark Endeavor
  - Time Machine
  - Uglies Trilogy
  - Unwind Series
  - Z for Zacharia
  - ZOM-B Series
- Ray Bradbury
  - Joseph Delaney
  - Nancy Farmer
  - James Dashner
  - Elie Wiesel
  - Ernest Hemingway
  - S.E. Hinton
  - Ransom Riggs
  - Jason Glaser
  - Maggie Stiefvater
  - Stephenie Meyer
  - John Grisham
  - Kenneth Oppel
  - H.G. Wells
  - Scott Westerfield
  - Neal Shusterman
  - C. O'Brien
  - Darren Shan

### **Mature- themes and/or difficulty**

- 1984
  - An Abundance of Katherines
  - Are You Experienced
  - Boy 21
  - Boy Meets Boy
  - City of Bones
  - Crash and Burn
  - Cruel Summer
  - Dear Life, You Suck
  - Dream Thieves
  - Escape from Furnace (series)
  - Fellowship of the Ring
  - Go Ask Alice
  - Gym Candy
  - Hold Me Closer, Necromancer
  - Host
  - It's Kind of a Funny Story
  - Looking for Alaska
  - Lord of The Rings
  - Love Letters to the Dead
  - Marked
  - Monument 14
  - My Sister's Keeper
  - Nineteen Minutes
  - Numbers
  - Perks of Being a Wallflower
  - Plain Truth
- George Orwell
  - John Green
  - Jordan Sonnenblick
  - Matthew Quick
  - David Levithan
  - Cassandra Clare
  - Michael Hassan
  - Alyson Noel
  - Scott Glagden
  - Maggie Stiefvater
  - Alexander Gordon Smith
  - J.R.R Tolkien
  - Anonymous
  - Carl Deuker
  - Lish McBride
  - Stephenie Meyer
  - Ned Vizzini
  - John Green
  - J.R.R Tolkien
  - Ava Dellaira
  - P.C. Cast
  - Emmy Laybourne
  - Jodi Picoult
  - Jodi Picoult
  - Rachel Ward
  - Stephen Chbosky
  - Jodi Picoult

◦ Pride and Prejudice	Jane Austen
◦ Raft	S.A. Bodeen
◦ Reality Boy	AS. King
◦ Social Suicide	Gemma Halliday
◦ Something Like Fate	Susanne Colasanti
◦ Speak	Laurie Halse Anderson
◦ Splintered	A.G. Howard
◦ Summer State of Mind	Jen Calonita
◦ The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian	Sherman A. Lokie
◦ The Count of Monte Cristo	Alexandre Dumas pere
◦ The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime	Mark Haddon
◦ The Divine Comedy	Dante
◦ The Evolution of Mara Dyer	Michelle Hodkin
◦ The Fault in Our Stars	John Green
◦ The Hit	Melvin Burgess
◦ The Hobbit	J.R.R Tolkien
◦ The Lord of the Rings Series	J.R.R Tolkien
◦ The Lovely Bones	Alice Sebold
◦ The Raft	S.A. Bodeen
◦ The Selection Trilogy	Kiarna Cass
◦ The Stung Series	Bethany Wiggins
◦ The Vigilante Poets of Selwyn Academy	Kate Hattemer
◦ Thieves Like Us	Stephen Cole
◦ Thirteen Reasons Why	Jay Asher
◦ Throne of Glass	Sarah J. Mass
◦ Treasure Island	Robert Louis Stevenson
◦ Twisted	Laurie Halse Anderson
◦ Uninvited	Sophie Jordan
◦ Waiting	Carol Lynch Williams
◦ What Happens Next	Colleen Clayton
◦ Willow	Julia Hoban
◦ Wuthering Heights	Emily Bronte

**Crossover- published for adults but with young-adult appeal**

◦ 2 States	Chetan Bhagat
◦ A Bend in the Road	Nicholas Sparks
◦ A Walk to Remember	Nicholas Sparks
◦ Angels and Demons	Dan Brown
◦ Apache	Ed Macy
◦ Assassins Creed: The Secret Crusade	Oliver Bowden
◦ Bioshock: Rapture	John Shirley
◦ Burning Sky	Lori Benton

- Eleven Rings
  - For One More Day
  - Game Slaves
  - Inferno
  - Inside Seal Team Six
  - Lone Survivor
  - Memoirs of a Boy Soldier
  - Monster in His Eyes
  - No Easy Day
  - Outlaw
  - Outside Trilogy
  - Point of Retreat
  - Rag Time
  
  - Rich Dad Poor Dad
  - Running for my Life
  - Service
  - Tell The Wolves I'm Home
  - The Art of Racing in the Rain
  - The Associate
  - The DaVinci Code
  - The Firm
  - The Five People You Meet in Heaven
  - The Gift
  - TheGM
  - The Long Walk
  - The Notebook
  - The Packer Way
  - The Recruit
  - The Things They Carried
  - The Troop
  - Total Access: A Journey to the NFL Universe
  - Truly, Madly, Deadly
  - Tuesdays With Morrie
  - World WarZ
- Phil Jackson
  - MitchAlbom
  - Gard Skinner
  - Dan Brown
  - Don Mann
  - Marcus Luttrell
  - Ishmael Beah
  - J.M. Darhower
  - Mark Owen
  - Ted Dekker
  - Shalini Boland
  - Colleen Hoover
  - E.L. Doctorow
  - Robert Tokiyosaki with Sharon Lechter
  - Lopez Lamong
  - Marcus Luttrell
  - Carol Rifka Brunt
  - Garth Stein
  - John Grisham
  - Dan Brown
  - John Grisham
  - MitchAlbom
  - Hafiz
  - Tom Callahan
  - Brian Castner
  - Nicholas Sparks
  - Ron Wold and Paul Attner
  - Elizabeth Kelly
  - Tim O'Brien
  - Nick Cutter
  
  - Rich Eisen
  - Hannah Jayne
  - MitchAlbom
  - Max Brooks