

Summer Reading

Suggested List

Grade 7 going into Grade 8



	Title and Author	Brief 'introduction' to the book
1.	<i>A Wrinkle in Time</i> by Madeleine L'Engle	<i>A Wrinkle in Time</i> is one of the great works of literature for kids. Besides being an exciting story, its messages of individuality, nonconformity, friendship and courage have inspired generations of readers. This is a great book for kids who have ever felt "different" or lonely or who have wrestled with loss. It celebrates the power of individuality and bravery and love.
2.	<i>You Come To: Favorite Poems for All Ages</i> by Robert Frost	Presents over fifty poems by Robert Frost, selected by the poet especially to be read aloud, including "Acquainted with the Night," "A Patch of Old Snow," "Not of School Age," and "Mending Wall."
3.	<i>The False Prince</i> by Jennifer A. Nelson	<i>The False Prince</i> , the first book in a planned fantasy trilogy, is fraught with real danger for each of the characters. The exciting, page-turning adventure is told from the point of view of Sage, a young liar and thief who immediately gains reader sympathy despite his seemingly weak moral character and eventually proves that he has redeeming qualities.
4.	<i>The Westing Game</i> by Ellen Raskin	The mysterious death of an eccentric millionaire brings together an unlikely assortment of heirs who must uncover the circumstances of his death before they can claim their inheritance.
5.	<i>I Will Always Write Back</i> by Martin Ganada	<i>I Will Always Write Back</i> is the true story of unlikely pen pals that begins in 1997, when 12-year-old American Caitlin and 14-year-old Zimbabwean Martin are randomly paired by their schools. It's told in the first person, with chapters alternating between Caitlin's and Martin's points of view, as the two forge a life-altering friendship despite significant cultural, economic, and geographical differences.
6.	<i>Z for Zachariah</i> by Robert C. O'Brien	Ann Burden is 16 and, as far she knows, the only person left in the world. The nuclear radiation that destroyed the rest of the world has not touched the valley where she lives, and so she has remained, surviving as best she knows how, for the past year. Then, the smoke from a distant campfire shatters Ann's solitude. Someone else is still alive and making his way toward the valley: John Loomis, a scientist, protected from

		the radiation by a "safe-suit." He asserts his will almost immediately. And as his behavior becomes more and more extreme -- finally culminating in violent confrontation -- Ann must choose how she will live, in a world unlike any she has known.
7.	<i>The Port Chicago 50</i> by Steve Sheinkin	On July 17, 1944, a massive explosion rocked the segregated Navy base at Port Chicago, California, killing more than 300 sailors who were at the docks, critically injuring off-duty men in their bunks, and shattering windows up to a mile away. This is a fascinating story of the prejudice that faced black men and women in America's armed forces during World War II, and a nuanced look at those who gave their lives in service of a country where they lacked the most basic rights.
8.	<i>The Worst Class Trip Ever</i> by Dave Barry	In this hilarious novel, written in the voice of eighth-grader Wyatt Palmer, Dave Barry takes us on a class trip to Washington, DC. Wyatt, his best friend, Matt, and a few kids from Culver Middle School find themselves in a heap of trouble-not just with their teachers, who have long lost patience with them-but from several mysterious men they first meet on their flight to the nation's capital. In a fast-paced adventure with the monuments as a backdrop, the kids try to stay out of danger and out of the doghouse while trying to save the president from attack-or maybe not.
9.	<i>Artemis Fowl</i> By Eoin Colfer	Twelve-year-old Artemis is a millionaire, a genius-and above all, a criminal mastermind. But Artemis doesn't know what he's taken on when he kidnaps a fairy, Captain Holly Short of the LEPrecon Unit. These aren't the fairies of the bedtime stories-they're dangerous!
10.	<i>Powerless</i> By Matthew Cody	Moving to a new town, Daniel knows he'll find super friends – but he never imagines he'll have friends with super powers! Being around kids who can fly and become invisible, Daniel feels powerless, until one day when he learns that his friends mysteriously lose their powers when they turn thirteen. Racing against the calendar, Daniel realizes that if he can find a way to help his friends, he may be able to be the town's super hero after all!