

Reading List for 8th Grade

EXPLORATION

Boston Jane: An Adventure, by Jennifer L. Holm

Carry On, Mr. Bowditch, by Jean Latham

Commodore Perry in the Land of the Shogun,
by Rhoda Blumberg

The Glass Sentence, by S.E. Grove

The Secret Journeys of Jack London: The Wild,
by Christopher Golden and Tim Lebbon

The Snow Baby: The Arctic Childhood of Admiral Robert,
by E. Peary's Daring

Daughter, by Katherine Kirkpatrick

The Time Travelers (The Gideon Trilogy),
by Linda Buckley-Archer

RENAISSANCE & SHAKESPEARE

Duchessina, by Carolyn Meyer

King of Shadows, by Susan Cooper

Nine Days a Queen:

The Short Life and Reign of Lady Jane Grey,
by Ann Rinaldi

The Perilous Guard, by Elizabeth Marie Pope

Red-Headed Princess, by Geraldine McCaughrean

The Total Tragedy of a Girl Named Hamlet,
by Erin Dionne

AROUND AFRICA

Conversations with Myself, by Nelson Mandela

Home of the Brave, by Katherine Applegate

Nelson Mandela's Favorite African Folktales

Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom (abridged),
by editor Chris van Wyk

The Red Pencil, by Andrea Davis Pinkney

The Return, by Sonia Levitin

Waiting for the Rain: A Novel of South Africa,
by Sheila Gordon

Endangered, by Eliot Schrefe

AROUND THE WORLD

One Half from the East, by Nadia Hashimi

Egg and Spoon, by Gregory Maguire

BOOKS IN VERSE

Brown Girl Dreaming, by Jacqueline Woodson

The Crossover, by Kwame Alexander

*The Death of the Hat: A Brief History of Poetry in 50
Objects selected*,
by Paul B. Janeczko

Make Lemonade, by Virginia Euwer Wulf

Out of the Dust, by Karen Hesse

Red Butterfly, by A.L. Sonnichsen and Amy June Bates

Serafina's Promise, by Ann E. Burg

*The Surrender Tree:
Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom*,
by Margarita Engle

Garvey's Choice, by Nikki Grimes

Full Cicada Moon, by Marilyn Hilton

Booked, by Kwame Alexander

Blue Birds, by Caroline Starr Rose

TAKE ME AWAY

The Accidental Highwayman, by Ben Trip

Atlantis Rising, by T. A. Barron

The Lost Years, by T. A. Barron

City of Beasts, by Isabel Allende

Dragons at Crumbling Castle and Other Tales,
by Sir Terry Pratchett

Egg & Spoon, by Gregory MacGuire

House of the Scorpion, by Nancy Farmer

The Last Dragon Slayer, by Jasper F. Forde

The Riverman, by Aaron Starmer

Time out of Time, by Maureen Doyle McQuerry

The Scourge, by Jennifer Nielsen

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FRIENDSHIPS

- Athlete vs. Mathlete*, by W.C. Mack
- The Misfits*, by James Howe
- The Chocolate War*, by Robert Cormier
- Rhyme Schemer*, by K.A. Holt
- Standing Against the Wind*, by Traci L. Jones
- The Skin I'm In*, by Sharon Flake
- Money Hungry and Begging for Change*,
by Sharon Flake
- S.O.R. Losers*, by AVI
- Stargirl*, by Jerry Spinelli
- Counting by 7s*, by Holly Sloan
- Goodbye Stranger*, by Rebecca Stead
- Marcello in the Real World*, by Francisco Stork
- The Moves Make the Man*, by Bruce Brooks
- The Summer of My German Soldier*, by Bette Greene
- Trouble*, by Gary Schmidt
- Turn Left at the Cow*, by Lisa Bullard
- Wolf Hollow*, by Lauren Wolk
- Nothing But Trouble*, by Jacqueline Davies
- Lily and Dunkin*, by Donna Gephart
- The Moorchild*, by Eloise McGraw
- As Brave As You*, by Jason Reynolds

MYSTERY

- Finding the Worm*, by Mark Goldblatt
- When Zachary Beaver Came to Town*,
by Kimberly Willis Holt
- To Catch a Cheat*, by Varian Johnson
- The Wolf Keepers*, by Elise Broach
- All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook*,
by Leslie Connor

SURVIVAL

- Angry Waters*, by Walt Morey
- Crazy Jack*, by Donna Jo Napoli
- Hold Tight, Don't Let Go: A Novel of Haiti*,
by Laura Rose Wagner
- Julie of the Wolves*, by Jean Craighead George
- Jungle of Bones*, by Ben Mikaelson
- The Magical Adventures of Pretty Pearl*,
by Virginia Hamilton
- Masterminds*, by Gordon Korman
- Navy Seal Dogs: My Tale of Training Canines for Combat*,
by Mike Ritland
- Paper Things*, by Jennifer Richards Jacobsen
- A Solitary Blue*, by Cynthia Voight

HISTORIC TALES

- The Cat at the Wall*, by Deborah Ellis
- Echo: A Novel*, by Pam Muñoz Ryan
- Going Over*, by Beth Kephart
- The Great Molasses Flood: Boston 1919*,
by Deborah Kops
- I Lived on Butterfly Hill*, by Marjorie Agousín
- Lincoln's Grave Robbers*, by Steve Sheinkin
- The Madman of Piney Woods*,
by Christopher Paul Curtis
- Soldier Bear*, by Bibi Dumon Tak
- Vango: Between Sky and Earth*,
by Timothée de Fombelle
- War Horse*, by Michael Morpurgo
- An Elephant in the Garden: Inspired by a True Story*,
by Michael Morpurgo
- A Night Divided*, by Jennifer A. Nielsen
- The Inquisitor's Tale, or, The Three Magical Children
and Their Holy Dog*, by Adam Gidwitz
- The Winter Horses*, by Philip Kerr

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HISTORIC TALES

- The Lions of Little Rock*, by Kristin Levine
Fever 1793, by Laurie Halse Anderson
Chains (The Seeds of America Trilogy),
by Laurie Halse Anderson
The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate, by Jacqueline Kelly
Chasing Secrets by Gennifer Choldenko

AMAZING EVENTS

- In the Shadow of Liberty: The Hidden History of Slavery,
Four Presidents, and Five Black Lives*,
by Kenneth C. Davis
Bubonic Panic: When Plague Invaded America,
by Gail Jarrow
*Red Madness:
How a Medical Mystery Changed What We Eat*,
by Gail Jarrow
*We Will Not Be Silent: The White Rose Student
Resistance Movement That Defied Adolf Hitler*,
by Russell Freedman
*Dive! World War II Stories of Sailors &
Submarines in the Pacific*,
by Deborah Hopkinson
Vietnam: A History of a War, by Russell Freedman

AMAZING PEOPLE

- The Circuit*, by Francisco Jimenez
Dead End in Norvelt, by Jack Gantos
*Ida M. Tarbell:
The Woman Who Challenged Big Business—and Won*,
by Emily Arnold McCully
*The Family Romanov:
Murder, Rebellion, and the Fall of Imperial Russia*,
by Candace Fleming
*How They Choked:
Failures, Flops, and Flaws of the Awfully Famous*,
by Georgia Bragg
90 Miles to Havana, by Enrique Floris-Galbis

Taking Flight: From War Orphan to Star Ballerina,
by Michaela de Prince

Tasting the Sky: A Palestinian Childhood,
by Ibtisam Barakat

*Irena's Children: Young Readers Edition;
A True Story of Courage*, by Mary Cronk Farrell

*Breakthrough! How Three People Saved “Blue Babies”
and Changed Medicine Forever*, by Jim Murphy

Hidden Figures Young Readers’ Edition,
by Margot Lee Shetterly

The Boys in the Boat (Young Readers Adaptation),
by Daniel James Brown

*The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind,
Young Reader’s Edition*,
by William Kamkwamba

*The Finest Hours:
The True Story of a Heroic Sea Rescue*,
by Michael Tougias

*Unbroken (The Young Adult Adaptation):
An Olympian’s Journey from Airman to Castaway
to Captive*, by Laura Hillenbrand

*Code Talker:
A Novel About the Navajo Marines of World War Two*,
by Joseph Bruchac

Chasing Space Young Readers’ Edition, by Leland Melvin

*Bomb: The Race to Build--and Steal--the World’s Most
Dangerous Weapon*, by Steve Sheinkin

*The Notorious Benedict Arnold:
A True Story of Adventure, Heroism & Treachery*,
by Steve Sheinkin

*Undefeated: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School
Football Team*, by Steve Sheinkin

Sachiko: A Nagasaki Bomb Survivor’s Story,
by Caren Stelson

*Blood Brother: Jonathan Daniels and His Sacrifice for
Civil Rights*, by Rich Wallace

*Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance
of Amelia Earhart*, by Candace Fleming

My Life with the Chimpanzees, by Jane Goodall