

Dear Students,

Summer vacation is the perfect time to get lost in a good book! Whether you are on a road trip, lounging outside in the backyard, or cooling off at the pool, reading an engaging story is one of the most valuable ways to spend your time. In fact, reading for pleasure has been shown to increase vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. Educational experts agree that reading during the summer is the best way to keep and even improve upon all of those literacy skills you learned during the school year. If these benefits are not convincing enough, remember that a good book not only magically transports you to another reality, but it can also give you a broader perspective of the world around you.

This summer, your assignment is to read at least one book of your choice. This book may be one of the titles listed on the back of this letter, or it may be a book you find on your own. Since the attached list has many different types of books with varying maturity and reading levels, you may want to check your title with a librarian or a parent to make sure it is appropriate for you.

When you return to school this September, you will complete an assignment on this book in your English class. As you read, you may want to take a few notes on your favorite characters, major plot events, author's style, or anything else you find interesting. Note-taking, however, is not required.

So, enjoy your summer and find an exciting book to read. We look forward to hearing about it in September!

Sincerely,
Your 7th and 8th Grade ELA Teachers
Goff Middle School



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Grade 7 & 8 Recommended Reading List

Realistic Fiction

- *A Monster Calls* by Patrick Ness
- *All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook* by Leslie Connor
- *As Brave as You* by Jason Reynolds
- *Counting by 7's* by Holly Goldberg Sloan
- *Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie* by Jordan Sonnenblick
- *Fish in a Tree* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt
- *Hokey Pokey* by Jerry Spinelli
- *Out of My Mind* by Sharon M. Draper
- *Road Trip* by Gary Paulsen
- *The Geography of You and Me* by Jennifer E. Smith
- *The One and Only Ivan* by Katherine Applegate
- *The Wednesday Wars* by Gary D. Schmidt
- *Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech

Non-Fiction

- *Bomb: The Race to Build-and Steal- the World's Most Dangerous Weapon* by Steve Sheinkin
- *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson
- *I Am Malala* by Malala Yousefzi
- *Into Thin Air* by John Krakauer
- *Lincoln's Grave Robbers* by Steve Sheinkin
- *The Omnivore's Dilemma: Young Readers' Edition* by Michael Pollan

Sci-Fi/Fantasy

- *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card
- *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel
- *The City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau
- *The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman

Utopia/Dystopia

- *Cinder* by Marissa Meyer
- *House of the Scorpion* by Nancy Farmer
- *Legend* by Marie Lu
- *Maze Runner* by James Dashner
- *The Uglies* by Scott Westerfeld

Graphic Novel/Manga

- *Drowned City: Hurricane Katrina and New Orleans* by Dan Brown
- *Ghost* by Raina Telgemeier
- *Roller Girl* by Victoria Jamieson
- *Smile* by Raina Telgemeier
- *Sunny Side Up* by Jennifer Holm

Historical Fiction

- *A Boy At War: A Novel of Pearl Harbor* by Harry Mazer
- *Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson
- *Some Kind of Courage* by Dan Gemeinhart
- *Mississippi 1955* by Chris Crowe
- *War Horse* by Michael Morpurgo

Mystery/Thriller

- *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein
- *Hold Fast* by Blue Balliet
- *Masterminds* by Gordon Korman
- *Stormbreaker* by Anthony Horowitz
- *The Face on the Milk Carton* by Caroline Cooney
- *The Man Who Was Poe* by Avi
- *The Screaming Staircase* by Jonathan Stroud
- *The Thief of Always* by Clive Barker
- *Treasure Hunters* by James Patterson and Chris Grabenstein

Sports

- *Booked* by Kwame Alexander
- *Fantasy League* by Mike Lupica
- *Perfect Season (Football Genius)* by Tim Green
- *QB1* by Mike Lupica
- *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander

In addition to these titles, check out these websites:

<https://www.goodreads.com/list/tag/middle-grade>

www.ala.org search "Summer Reading"

Also, visit the East Greenbush Library page online, or scan this code.

