

TWIN TOWERS MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER



7th and 8th GRADE SUMMER READING LIST



FICTION

***Access Denied: (and Other Eighth Grade Error Messages)*, by Denise Vega.**

Erin Swift starts 8th grade full of optimism, but the new year brings new problems.

***Accidental Love*, by Gary Soto.** After unexpectedly falling in love with a "nerdy" boy, Marisa works to change her life by changing schools and altering her behavior.

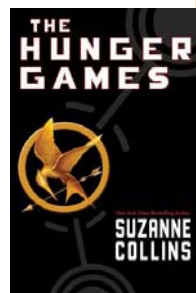
***Antsy Does Time*, by Neal Shusterman.** "Antsy" Bonano learns about life, death, and a lot more when he tries to help a friend with a terminal illness feel hopeful about the future.

***The Brooklyn Nine*, by Alan Gratz.** This novel follows an immigrant family through nine generations as they experience America and play baseball.

***Chains*, by Laurie Halse Anderson.** Ruth and her sister become the property of a Loyalist family in New York at the beginning of the American Revolution.

***The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod: Ninth Grade Slays*, by Heather Brewer.** Vlad Todd, having a hard time with bullies and grades, decides to study abroad in Siberia where he meets other vampires and learns how to use his abilities.

***Cuba 15*, by Nancy Osa.** Violet Paz prepares for her upcoming "quince."



***Fang*, by James Patterson.** Max and the Flock try to stop an evil scientist who is experimenting on humans in an effort to "improve" the human race.

***Football Genius*, by Tim Green.** Troy has an unusual gift for predicting football plays before they occur.

***The Graveyard Book*, by Neil Gaiman.** Nobody Owens is a normal boy, except that he has been raised by ghosts and other denizens of the graveyard.

***Groosham Grange*, by Anthony Horowitz.** After being expelled from school, David Eliot is sent to Groosham Grange, a spooky and sinister boarding school where nothing seems quite right.

***Home of the Brave*, by Katherine Applegate.** Kek, an African refugee, is confronted by strange things at his new home and school in Minneapolis.

***Hunger Games*, by Suzanne Collins.** Katniss Everdeen accidentally becomes a contender in the annual Hunger Games, a competition hosted by the Capitol in which boys and girls are pitted against one another in a fight to the death.

***Make Lemonade*, by Virginia Wolff.** La Vaughn lives in the projects but is determined to be the first person in her family to go to college.

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Moribito I: Guardian of the Spirit, by **Nahoko Uehashi**. The wandering warrior Balsa is hired to protect Prince Chagum from both a mysterious monster and the prince's father, the Mikado.



Peeled, by **Joan Bauer**. In a New York farming community, high school reporter Hildy Biddle investigates strange occurrences at a house rumored to be haunted.

Percy Jackson & the Olympians: Book One: The Lightning Thief, by **Rick Riordan**. Percy learns that his father is the Greek god Poseidon. He is then sent to Camp Half Blood where he begins a journey to the Underworld to retrieve Zeus's lightning bolt.

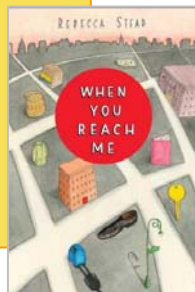
The Sable Queen [sic], by **Brian Jacques**. The courageous Redwall creatures band together as Vilaya and her horde of vermin attempt to make off with the young animals of the Abbey.



Schooled, by **Gordon Korman**. Cap lives in isolation with his grandmother, but when she breaks her hip Cap is sent to a foster home where he has his first experience in a public school.

Seedfolks, by **Paul Fleischman**. One by one, people of varying ages and backgrounds transform a city lot into a beautiful garden.

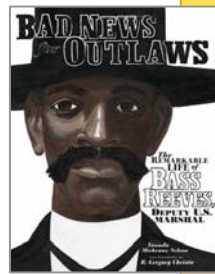
When You Reach Me, by **Rebecca Stead**. A New York City girl tries to make sense of notes received from an anonymous source that seem to defy the laws of time and space.



NONFICTION/BIOGRAPHY

Abracadabra Kid: A Writer's Life, by **Sid Fleischman**. Describes the author's youthful passion for magic and explains how he came to write for young readers.

Bad News for Outlaws: The Remarkable Life of Bass Reeves, Deputy U.S. Marshal, by **Vaunda Michaeaux Nelson**. A former slave who became a farmer and family man before serving as a lawman, Bass Reeves stood out as a fearless figure, arresting more than 3,000 outlaws during his 32 years of service.



Blizzard: The Storm That Changed America, by **Jim Murphy**. Includes personal accounts and newspaper articles of the massive snowstorm that hit the Northeast in 1888.

A Family of Poems: My Favorite Poetry for Children, selected by **Caroline Kennedy**. A collection of poems celebrating poetry's ability to bring people together.

The Frog Scientist, by **Pamela Turner**. Discusses the work of Tyrone Hayes and his efforts to study and protect frogs.



Girls Got Game: Sports Stories and Poems, edited by **Sue Macy**.

A collection of poems and short stories written by and about young women in sports.

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Marley: A Dog like No Other, by John Grogan. A heartwarming and unforgettable story of a family and the dog who taught them what really matters in life.

Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story About Brain Science, by John Fleischman. Explores the case of Phineas Gage, who in 1848, survived having an iron rod shot through his brain.

Rules of the Game: Baseball Poems, by Marjorie Maddox; illustrated by John Sandford.

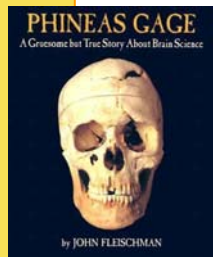
Soul Surfer, by Bethany Hamilton. The story of how Bethany was able to recover and return to competition after losing her arm in a shark attack at the age of thirteen.

Tell All the Children Our Story: Memories and Mementos of Being Young and Black in America, by Tonya Bolden. Bolden describes the experiences of African-American children growing up in the United States.

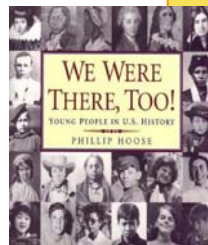
Today I Will: a Year of Quotes, Notes, and Promises to Myself, by Jerry & Eileen Spinelli. Inspirational quotations and excerpts from children's literature.



Tracking Trash: Flotsam, Jetsam, and the Science of Ocean Motion, by Loree Griffin Burns. Burns discusses how debris is polluting our oceans and causing harm to the marine life.

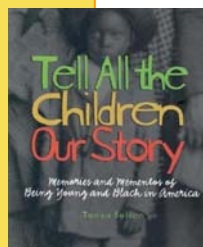


Twice Toward Justice, by Philip Hoose. An account of fifteen-year-old Claudette Colvin, an African-American girl who refused to give up her seat to a white woman on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama nine months before Rosa Parks.



We Were There, Too! Young People in U.S. History, by Phillip M. Hoose. First-person accounts of over seventy young people from cultures that played a role in the making of the United States.

What the World Eats, by Peter Menzel. A photographic collection featuring portraits of families from 21 countries surrounded by a week's worth of food.



Written in Bone: Buried Lives of Jamestown and Colonial Maryland, by Sally M. Walker. Archaeological excavations of burial sites reveal colonists from various backgrounds, including a teenage servant hastily buried in a trash pit, a grouping of prominent colonists laid to rest in lead coffins, and an African woman who likely toiled as a slave.



***Have a great summer!
Read!***