

# Fairfield Public Schools Summer Reading 2009 -- Grade 8



Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to grade 8! Our summer reading list provides a list of popular authors as well as specific titles. **All students are expected to read at least two books during the summer.** In September, students will complete a Summer Reading project in their English classes.

A limited supply of these authors and titles are available at Fairfield Public Library at 1080 Old Post Road, the Fairfield Woods Branch Library at 1147 Fairfield Woods Road, or the Pequot Library at 720 Pequot Avenue in Southport. Most are also available in local bookstores. If the titles or authors are unavailable, please ask public librarians or bookstore staff to help you select titles that appeal to eighth graders.

Sincerely,  
Your Middle School Teachers and Librarians

<b>Nutmeg Nominees for 2010 -- Grades 7 and 8</b>			
<b>Bryant, Jen</b>	<b>Pieces of Georgia</b>		
<b>Cooney, Caroline</b>	<b>Code Orange</b>		
<b>Coy, John</b>	<b>Crackback</b>		
<b>Kostick, Conor</b>	<b>Epic</b>		
<b>Landy, Derek</b>	<b>Skulduggery Pleasant</b>		
<b>Maas, Wendy</b>	<b>Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life</b>		
<b>Pfeffer, Susan Beth</b>	<b>Life as We Knew It</b>		
<b>Salisbury, Graham</b>	<b>Eyes of the Emperor</b>		
<b>Sonnenblick, Jordan</b>	<b>Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie</b>		
<b>Soto, Gary</b>	<b>Accidental Love</b>		
<b>Favorite Authors Grades 6, 7, and 8</b>			
<b>Avi</b>	<b>Korman, Gordon</b>		
<b>Colfer, Eoin</b>	<b>Murphy, Jim</b>		
<b>Cooney, Caroline</b>	<b>Paterson, Katherine</b>		
<b>Farmer, Nancy</b>	<b>Paulsen, Gary</b>		
<b>Freedman, Russell</b>	<b>Peck, Richard</b>		
<b>Gutman, Dan</b>	<b>Spinelli, Jerry</b>		
<b>Horowitz, Anthony</b>	<b>Woodson, Jacqueline</b>		
<b>Forever Favorites for Grades 6, 7, and 8</b>			
<b>Alcott</b>	<b>Little Women</b>	<b>London</b>	<b>Call of the Wild</b>
<b>Burnett</b>	<b>The Secret Garden</b>	<b>Norton</b>	<b>The Borrowers</b>
<b>Doyle</b>	<b>The Hound of the Baskervilles</b>	<b>Rawls</b>	<b>Where the Red Fern Grows</b>
<b>Henry</b>	<b>Misty of Chincoteague</b>	<b>Sewell</b>	<b>Black Beauty</b>
<b>Herriot</b>	<b>All Creatures Great and Small</b>	<b>Sppeare</b>	<b>The Witch of Blackbird Pond</b>
<b>L'Engle</b>	<b>A Wrinkle in Time</b>	<b>Stevenson</b>	<b>Treasure Island</b>

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**Barron, T.A. The Lost Years of Merlin** A series about young Merlin coming to terms with his identity and his powers.

and

**Bruchac, Joseph. Code Talker: a Novel About the Navajo Marines in World War II**. Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.

**++Robert Cormier. Rag and Bone Shop**. An innocent twelve year old is interrogated by an expert who wants him to confess to the murder of a young girl.

**Farmer, Nancy. House of the Scorpion**. Matt isn't quite sure why Cecelia has hidden him away all his life but he knows that everything is about to change. He discovers that he is the clone of El Patron, the most powerful man in the country. What plans does El Patron have for him?

**Fleischman, Paul. Whirligig**. After inadvertently causing a death, a teen pays unusual repentance.

**Greene, Bette. Summer of My German Soldier**. When German prisoners of war are brought to her Arkansas town during World War II, 12-year-old Patty, a Jewish girl, befriends one of them and must deal with the consequences of that friendship.

**Kadohata, Cynthia. Kira,Kira**. Kate and her family face many hardships as Japanese Americans in rural Georgia.

**++ Krakauer, Jon. Into the Wild**. Heartbreaking story of an idealistic young man who walked into the Alaskan wilderness armed only with a small rifle and a 10-pound bag of rice, and whose corpse was found 4 months later by moose hunters.

**Levitin, Sonia. The Cure**. A 16-year-old boy living in 2407 collides with the past when he finds himself in Strasbourg in 1348 confronting the anti-Semitism that sweeps through Europe during the Black Plague.

**Lisle, Janet Taylor. The Art of Keeping Cool**. Two boys investigate family history and a suspected spy in the 1940's.

**McKernan, Victoria. Shackleton's Stowaway**. In 1914, Ernest Shackleton's ship was crushed by the ice and the men were stranded in Antarctica with no shelter or way home. Read this teen's diary to find out what happens to them.

**Meyer, L.A. Bloody Jack**. While disguised as a boy, Jacky Faber experiences adventure and romance on the high seas in this exciting page turner.

**Murphy, Jim. American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793**. A chronicle of the invisible spread of a deadly disease that not only crippled Philadelphia but also set off a constitutional crisis.

**Philbrick, Nathaniel. Revenge of the Whale: The True Story of the Whaleship Essex**. Nonfiction. Recounts the 1820 sinking of the whaleship "Essex" by an enraged whale and how the crew of young men survived against impossible odds.

**Westerfeld, Scott. Uglies Series: Uglies, Pretties, Specials, and Extras**. Set in a futuristic society, this series deals with technology, the meaning of beauty, individuality, and social status.

**Wolff, Virginia Euwer. True Believer**. Living in the inner city amidst guns and poverty, fifteen-year-old LaVaughn learns from old and new friends, and inspiring mentors, that life is what you make it--an occasion to rise to.

**Woods, Brenda. Emako Blue**. With her confident attitude, endearing nature, incredible singing voice, and exceptional beauty both inside and out, Emako makes a lasting impression on everyone. Friends share their memories after her untimely death.

**Woodson, Jacqueline. Locomotion**. Lonnie C. Motion gives his reader a glimpse into his life--what it's like to lose both parents and be separated from his only sister.

++ More challenging reading. May contain more mature language or subject matter. Parents, please review.