

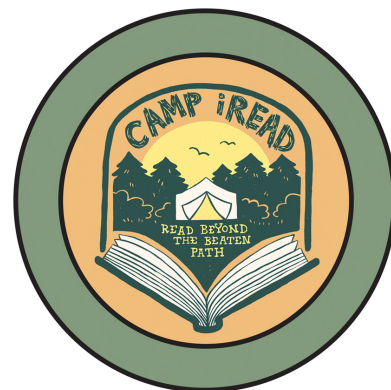
Grades 7 & 8 Summer Reading

Translated Documents

[Arabic](#) | [Portuguese](#) | [Spanish](#)

Incoming 7th grade and 8th grade students are encouraged to read books of their choice over the summer. Browse the reading suggestions below or ask a librarian.

Read & win Participate in the Library's *Read Beyond the Beaten Path* [Teen Summer Reading Challenge](#) to earn prizes and a chance to win gift cards to Amazon, Dairy Queen, Target, and more!



Find a great read

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- Sign up online for a [temporary eCard](#) to use online resources and digital books immediately.

7th GRADE BOOK SUGGESTIONS

Book Titles	Description	Theme	Notes
Posted by John David Anderson	A new girl's arrival and a cell phone ban	Bullying, making your voice heard	Realistic fiction

	at school triggers a wave of bullying		
<i>Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus</i> by Dusti Bowling	A girl born with no arms moves to Arizona and faces her fears, makes friends, and solves a mystery	Living with a visible disability, new to the neighborhood, friendship	Realistic fiction Sequel: <i>Momentous Events in the Life of a Cactus</i> Also try: <i>Roll With It</i> by Jamie Sumner
<i>Awkward</i> by Svetlana Chmakova	Penelope Torres tries to blend in with her new friends in the art club, until the art club goes to war with the science club	Starting a new school, making friends, making amends, being yourself, self-esteem,	Graphic novel, realistic fiction Berrybrook Middle School series Read-alike: Real Friends series by Shannon Hale, starting with <i>Real Friends</i>
<i>Ungifted</i> by Gordan Korman	Wacky mayhem fills tale of a eighth grade troublemaker who ends up in a genius academy	Tolerance, be yourself, fitting in, friendship	Realistic fiction, humorous Also by this author: <i>Restart</i> Also try: <i>Middle School: The Worst Years of My Life</i> by James Patterson
<i>Counting 7s</i> by Holly Goldberg Sloan	12-year-old genius and outsider Willow Chance must figure out how to connect with other people and find a surrogate family for herself after her parents are killed in a car accident	Living with an invisible disability, coping with death, smart girls, relationships	Realistic fiction Read-alike: <i>The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl</i> by Stacy McAnulty
<i>A Silent Voice</i> by	When Shoya meets	Bullying, deaf	Manga,

Yoshitoki Oima	Shoko six years after they were at school, he learns about the results of his bullying	character, redemption	realistic fiction
<i>Nowhere Boy</i> by Katherine Marsh	Two teens, one a Syrian refugee and one an American boy, are bound by a secret that sets them on the adventure of a lifetime	Friendship, diversity, courage, empathy, immigration, misfits united	Realistic fiction Also try graphic novel: <i>Illegal</i> by Eoin Colfer
<i>Class Act</i> by Jerry Craft	An eighth-grader faces unequal treatment at school which challenges his friendships	Diversity, friendship, facing prejudice	Graphic novel Realistic fiction Companion to <i>New Kid</i>
<i>The Thing About Jellyfish</i> by Ali Benjamin	A girl copes with intense grief over the loss of her best friend by studying jellyfish	Friendship, coping with grief, science	Realistic fiction Read-alike: <i>The Science of Breakable Things</i> by Tae Keller
<i>From the Desk of Zoe Washington</i> by Janae Marks	Avid baker Zoe Washington receives a letter on her twelfth birthday from her biological father, who is in prison for a terrible crime	Father-daughter relationship, family, facing racism, justice, love	Realistic fiction Also try: <i>Front Desk</i> by Kelly Yang
<i>All Summer Long</i> by Hope Larson	A coming-of-age story about summer and friendships	Self-discovery, friendships, music	Graphic novel, realistic fiction Eagle Rock trilogy Sequel: <i>All Together Now</i>
<i>Look Both Ways: a Tale Told in Ten Blocks</i> by Jason Reynolds	Interwoven stories of 10 middle schoolers walking home from school	African American friendships, family empathy, connections	Short stories Realistic fiction Also try this novel:

			<i>Harbor Me</i> by Jacqueline Woodson
<i>The Strange Case of Origami Yoda</i> by Tom Angelberger	Sixth-grader Tommy and his friends describe their interactions with a paper finger puppet of Yoda as they try to figure out whether or not the puppet can really predict the future	Middle-school slice of life, mystery	Realistic fiction, humorous Origami Yoda book series Also try: Star Wars Jedi Academy series (graphic novel) by Jeffrey Brown, starting with <i>Star Wars Jedi Academy</i>
<i>The Lightning Thief</i> by Rick Riordan	Percy attends a summer camp for demigods and becomes involved in a quest to prevent a war between the gods	Greek mythology, friendship, bravery, identity, adventure	Fantasy Percy Jackson & the Olympians series Also try: The Trials of Apollo series, starting with <i>The Hidden Oracle</i> The Storm Runner series by J. C. Cervantes, starting with <i>Storm Runner</i>
<i>The Girl Who Drank the Moon</i> by Kelly Regan Barnhill	A young girl raised by a witch, a swamp monster, and a Perfectly Tiny Dragon, must unlock the powerful magic buried deep inside her	Chosen one, magic, fairy tales, love	Fantasy Newbery winner Read-alike: <i>Lalani of the Distant Sea</i> by Erin Entrada Kelly
<i>The Screaming Staircase</i> by Jonathan Stroud	Young psychic detectives compete against other	Supernatural, resourcefulness, ghost hunters,	Fantasy, horror Lockwood & Co. series

	ghostbusting agencies investigating one of England's most haunted houses	scary	Read-alike: The Last Apprentice series by Joseph Delaney, starting with Revenge of the Witch
The Marvellers by Dhonielle Clayton	A new Conjuror at the Arcanum Training Institute must prove her innocence when a criminal escapes and her mentor disappears	Magic academy, diverse characters, acceptance, facing prejudice	Fantasy Read-alike: Amari and the Night Brothers by B.B. Alston
Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J. K. Rowling	Rescued from the outrageous neglect of his aunt and uncle, a young boy with a great destiny proves his worth while attending Hogwarts School for Wizards and Witches	Magic academy, good vs. evil, orphan, friendship, hidden heritage, adventure	Fantasy Harry Potter series For more magic academy reads, try: Keeper of the Lost Cities by Sharon Messenger
The Lumberjanes: Beware the Kitten Holy by Noelle Stevenson	Three best friends spend a summer at Lumberjane scout camp where they encounter magical creatures and help to save the world	Magic academy, friendship, girl power, supernatural enemies, LGBTQ diverse	Graphic novel, fantasy, mystery, humorous The Lumberjanes series Also try: The Unbeatable Squirrel Girl series by Ryan North, starting with Squirrel Power
The False Prince by Jennifer A. Nielsen	In the country of Carthya, four orphans undergo a brutal competition to be selected to	Political intrigue, secrets, false identities, adventure	Fantasy Ascendance series Read-alike:

	impersonate the king's long-missing son in an effort to avoid a civil war		The Queen's Thief series , starting with The Thief by Megan Whalen Turner
Aru Shah and the End of Time by Roshani Chokshi	12-year-old Aru Shah unwittingly releases an ancient demon from a cursed lamp at a museum during school break	Hidden heritage, Indian mythology, adventure, friendship, family	Fantasy Pandava series Read-alike: The Serpent's Secret by Sayantani DasGupta
Eragon by Christopher Paolini	A 15-year-old Dragon Rider realizes that his destiny is to fight the evil powers that will bring complete destruction to the Empire	Dragons, hidden heritage, good vs. evil, epic adventure	Fantasy Inheritance cycle Another dragon series to try: Wings of Fire by Tui Sutherland, starting with The Dragonet Prophecy
Pax by Sara Pennypacker	Peter, who has been sent to live with his grandfather while his father is at war, embarks on a journey filled with discoveries in order to be reunited with his fox	Told by animals, journey, family, wilderness, war, love	Animal story, adventure Sequel: Pax: Journey Home Read-alike: A Wolf Called Wonder by Rosanne Parry
Out from Boneville by Jeff Smith	Three modern cartoon cousins get lost in a pre-technological valley, making new friends and out-running dangerous enemies	Adventure, separated relatives, quest	Graphic novel, fantasy, humorous Bone series, award winning Also try: Amulet series by Kazu Kibushi, starting with The Stonekeeper

<p><i>The Graveyard Book</i> by Neil Gaiman</p>	<p>Nobody Owens is a normal boy except that he has been raised by ghosts and other denizens of the graveyard</p>	<p>Unusual family, orphan, scary</p>	<p>Fantasy, horror Also in graphic novel format Newbery award Try another scary read by author: <i>Coraline</i></p>
<p><i>Doll Bones</i> by Holly Black</p>	<p>Three friends embark on a real-life quest to Ohio to bury a doll made from the ashes of a dead girl</p>	<p>Growing up, family, quest, friendship, scary</p>	<p>Horror Ghost story Newbery Honor book Also try: <i>Small Spaces</i> by Katherine Arden</p>
<p><i>Holes</i> by Louis Sachar</p>	<p>Stanley Yelnats is sent to a boys correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself</p>	<p>Family mystery, friendship, justice, courage, overcoming bad luck</p>	<p>Adventure, magical realism, mystery Sequel: <i>Small Steps</i> For another adventure story with a family mystery, try: <i>Three Times Lucky</i> by Sheila Turnage</p>
<p><i>Hatchet</i> by Gary Paulsen</p>	<p>After a plane crash, 13-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the wilderness with only the aid of a hatchet</p>	<p>Wilderness survival, resilience, perseverance, courage</p>	<p>Adventure, survival fiction Brian's saga Also by author: <i>Northwind</i></p>
<p><i>The Canyon's Edge</i> by Dusti Bowling</p>	<p>Following the death of her mother in a restaurant shooting, Nora is left struggling to stay alive when a climbing trip with</p>	<p>Post-traumatic stress disorder, family, healing, wilderness survival</p>	<p>Adventure, survival fiction Novel in verse Another survival novel by this</p>

	her father goes terribly wrong		author: Across the Desert
Peak by Roland Smith	A fourteen-year-old boy attempts to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mount Everest	Mountaineering, compassion, persistence	Adventure, survival fiction Peak series Also try biography: No Summit Out of Sight: The True Story of the Youngest Person to Climb the Seven Summits by Jordan Romero
Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz	After the death of a guardian uncle, fourteen-year-old Alex Rider is coerced to work for Britain's intelligence agency, MI6	Courage, ingenuity, adventure	Spy fiction, thriller Alex Rider series Read-alikes: CHERUB series, starting with The Recruit by Robert Muchamore City Spies by James Ponti
The Case of the Missing Marquess by Nancy Springer	Enola Holmes, younger sister of detective Sherlock Holmes, travels to London in disguise to unravel the disappearance of her missing mother	Resourcefulness, strong girls, Victorian England	Detective mystery, historical Enola Holmes series Also try: A Wells & Wong Mystery series by Robin Stevens, starting with Murder is Bad Manners

<p><u>Greenglass House</u> by Kate Milford</p>	<p>An innkeeper's son solves a mystery during the winter holidays when guests start disappearing</p>	<p>Cozy mystery, smuggler folklore, secrets</p>	<p>Fantasy mystery Greenglass House series Also try: <u>The Mysterious Benedict Society</u> by Trenton Lee Stewart</p>
<p><u>Space Case</u> by Stuart Gibbs</p>	<p>Dash Gibson and two tech-savvy friends investigate the suspicious death of the moon base's doctor</p>	<p>Who-dunit on the moon, space, living in close quarters, friendship</p>	<p>Mystery, science fiction Moon Base Alpha series Also by author: FunJungle mystery series, starting with <u>Belly Up</u></p>
<p><u>The Westing Game</u> by Ellen Raskin</p>	<p>Sixteen unlikely people gather for the reading of a millionaire's will and to uncover the murderer to inherit</p>	<p>Puzzle mystery</p>	<p>Classic mystery</p>
<p><u>The Strangers</u> by Margaret Haddix</p>	<p>Three siblings investigate why their mother went missing and uncover their ties to an alternate world</p>	<p>Family, secrets, parallel worlds, memories, codes</p>	<p>Mystery, science fiction Greystone Secrets series Also by author: <u>The Missing series</u>, starting with <u>Found</u></p>
<p><u>When You Reach Me</u> by Rebecca Stead</p>	<p>Twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes from an anonymous source that seems to defy</p>	<p>Friendship, mystery, connections,</p>	<p>Mystery, science fiction Another great read by this author: <u>Liar & Spy</u></p>

	the laws of time and space		
<u><i>The Last Cuentista</i></u> by Donna Barba Higuera	A Mexican American girl colonizing a new planet holds the key to defeating the mind-controlling Collective who have erased memories of the remaining crew	Resistance to a authoritarian entity, storytelling, courage, importance of memories and individuality	Science fiction, space 2022 Newbery Award winner Read-alike: <u><i>The Giver</i></u> by Lois Lowry
<u><i>Dragon Pearl</i></u> by Yoon Ha Lee	Min, a 13-year-old girl with fox-magic, stows away on a battle cruiser and impersonates a cadet in order to solve the mystery of what happened to her older brother in the Thousand World Space Forces	Korean mythology, siblings, family, identity, ghosts, pirates, rescue	Science fiction, space opera, thriller For more action-packed space adventure, try: <u><i>Last Day on Mars</i></u> by Kevin Emerson
<u><i>Sal & Gabi Break the Universe</i></u> by Carlos Hernandez	In order to heal after his mother's death, 13-year-old Sal learns to reach into time and space to retrieve things--and people--from other universes.	Friendship, coping with death, living with diabetes, superpowers, Cuban American character, bullying,	Science fiction, time travel, humorous Sal & Gabi book series
<u><i>The City of Ember</i></u> by Jeanne DuPrau	In the year 241, 12-year-old Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a Messenger in her decaying but beloved city, perhaps even to glimpse Unknown Regions	Community, band of survivors, friendship, teamwork, censorship	Dystopian fiction Books of Ember series Also try the Underland series by Suzanne Collins, starting with <u><i>Gregor the Overlander</i></u>

<p><i>The Last Kids on Earth</i> by Max Brallier</p>	<p>After a monster apocalypse hits town, average 13-year-old Jack Sullivan builds a team of friends to help slay the eerily intelligent monster known as Blarg</p>	<p>Band of survivors, monster mayhem, loss, love, zombies, foster child</p>	<p>Graphic novel hybrid, science fiction, horror, humorous</p> <p>Last Kids on Earth series</p>
<p><i>Cinder</i> by Marissa Meyer</p>	<p>Cinder, a gifted mechanic and cyborg on a plague-ravaged earth observed by the lunar people, must uncover secrets about her past in order to protect the world</p>	<p>Fairy tale-inspired, cyborg, identity, prejudice, bravery</p>	<p>Science fiction</p> <p>Lunar chronicles</p> <p>Sequel: <i>Scarlet</i></p> <p>Series continues with a graphic novel serie: <i>Wires & Nerve</i></p>
<p><i>Steelheart</i> by Brandon Sanderson</p>	<p>David, whose father was killed by an Epic, a human with superhuman powers, joins the Reckoners --the only people who are trying to kill the Epics and end their tyranny</p>	<p>Superhuman powers, vengeance vs. justice, power corrupts, hope</p>	<p>Science fiction</p> <p>Reckoners trilogy</p> <p>Read-alike: Renegades series by Marissa Meyer, starting with Renegades</p>
<p><i>Ghost</i> by Jason Reynolds</p>	<p>Ghost, a naturally talented runner and troublemaker, is recruited for an elite middle school track team</p>	<p>Identity, poverty, overcoming your past, running</p>	<p>Sports fiction</p> <p>Track series</p> <p>Sequel: <i>Patina</i></p>
<p><i>Roller Girl</i> by Victoria Jamieson</p>	<p>A girl discovers roller derby right as she and her best friend are growing apart</p>	<p>Friendship, following one's dreams, girl power</p>	<p>Graphic novel, sports fiction</p> <p>Newbery Honor book</p> <p>Also by author: <i>All's Faire in Middle School</i></p>

<p><i>Heat</i> by Mike Lupica</p>	<p>Cuban-American orphan and pitching prodigy is on the run from social services and banned from playing Little League baseball</p>	<p>Baseball, family, identity, coping with loss, immigrants</p>	<p>Sports fiction More baseball dramas by the author: <i>Strike Zone</i>, <i>The Big Field</i>, and <i>The Batboy</i></p>
<p><i>The Girl Who Threw Butterflies</i> by Mick Cochrane</p>	<p>Eighth-grader Molly's ability to throw a knuckleball earns her a spot on the baseball team, which helps her feel connected to her recently deceased father and in other aspects of her life</p>	<p>Baseball, family, coping with grief, self-confidence</p>	<p>Sports fiction For another girl-centric sports-drama, try: <i>Out of Left Field</i> by Ellen Klages</p>
<p><i>We Dream of Space</i> by Erin Entrada Kelly</p>	<p>Three 7th-grade siblings in Delaware in 1986, awaiting the launch of the Space Shuttle Challenger, struggle with personal anxieties</p>	<p>Trouble at home, family, enduring bonds, space shuttle Challenger</p>	<p>Historical fiction, 1980s Newbery Honor book Also try: <i>Planet Earth is Blue</i> by Nicole Panteleakos</p>
<p><i>A Night Divided</i> by Jennifer A. Nielsen</p>	<p>When 12-year-old Gerda's family is divided by the rise of the Berlin Wall, she devises daring plan to be reunited inspired by a coded message from her father</p>	<p>Escape, courage, friendship, forgiveness</p>	<p>Historical fiction, 1960s Germany Try another historical novel about a divided country: <i>The Night Diary</i> by Veera Hiranandani</p>
<p><i>The Wednesday Wars</i> by Gary D. Schmidt</p>	<p>Every Wednesday afternoon at school, 7th-grader Holling is stuck in the classroom with his teacher who insists</p>	<p>Friendship, family, facing fears, power of literature</p>	<p>Historical fiction, 1960s, humorous Also by this author: <i>Okay for Now</i></p>

	on teaching Shakespeare		
<i>Stella by Starlight</i> by Sharon M. Draper	When a burning cross set by the Klan causes panic and fear in 1932 Bumblebee, NC, tween Stella must face prejudice and find the strength to demand change in her segregated town	Civil rights, facing racism	Historical fiction, 1930s Read-alike: <i>Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry</i> by Mildred D. Taylor Also try: <i>One Crazy Summer</i> by Rita Williams-Garcia
<i>Wolf Hollow</i> by Lauren Wolk	12-year-old Annabelle faces a manipulative and violent new bully who targets people Annabelle cares about, including a homeless World War I veteran	Bullying, life during wartime, community, family, courage	Historical fiction Other great reads by this author: <i>Beyond the Bright Sea</i> and <i>Echo Mountain</i>
<i>Number the Stars</i> by Lois Lowry	In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis	War, courage, friendship, self-sacrifice	Historical fiction, Holocaust Also try: <i>Prisoner B-3087</i> by Alan Gratz <i>When the World Was Ours</i> by Liz Kessler
<i>Refugee</i> by Alan Gratz	Three tweens in different time periods embark on journeys to search for refuge	Immigrant experiences, survival, resilience, WWII, Cuba, Syria	Historical fiction Also try his other historical novels: <i>Allies</i> and <i>Ground Zero</i>
<i>Show Me A Sign</i> by Ann Clare LeZotte	Mary is kidnapped from her deaf community in	Deaf community, prejudice, grief, family, island life	Historical fiction, 1800s

	Martha's vineyard to undergo experiments by a local "scientist"		Martha's Vineyard Also try: Prairie Lotus by Linda Sue Park
The Journey of Little Charlie by Christopher Paul Curtis	When his poor sharecropper father is killed in an accident leaving the family in debt, Charlie strikes a deal with Cap'n Buck to track down some people accused of stealing to repay the debt	Poverty, racism, slavery, plantation life, compassion, morality	Historical fiction, Civil War era Other award-winning novels by the author: Bud, Not Buddy , The Watsons Go to Birmingham , and Elijah of Buxton
The Inquisitor's Tale: Or, The Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog by Adam Gidwitz	Three 13th-century travelers impart the whimsical tales of a monastery oblate, a Jewish refugee and a psychic peasant girl, who must escape evil knights and save their land from a flatulent dragon	Culturally, religiously diverse, medieval culture, shared humanity, tolerance, empathy, supernatural	Graphic novel, historical fantasy For another historical-based graphic novel, try: The Queen of the Sea by Dylan Meconis
Superman Smashes the Klan: A Graphic Novel by Gene Luen Yang	Brother and sister meet a young Superman when he helps them with terrorist attacks	Facing racism, immigrant experience, embracing your identity	Graphic novel, superhero fantasy in a historical setting Also try: the Ms. Marvel series by Willow G. Wilson, starting with Ms. Marvel #1, No Normal
Two Truths and a Lie: It's Alive! by Ammi-Joan Paquette	Blends strange but true facts about the natural world with a handful of fictional	Critical thinking, nature, science, truth vs. falsehood	Nonfiction, nature

	accounts, challenging readers to discover which two out of every three stories are true		
<u><i>All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys' Soccer Team</i></u> by Christina Soontornvat	2018 Thai cave rescue of the trapped Wild Boars soccer team and the engineering operation that saved the lives of 13 young people	Bravery, cooperation, Thai culture, cave diving	Nonfiction, adventure Read-alike: <u><i>Trapped: How the World Rescued 33 Miners From 2,000 Feet Below the Chilean Desert</i></u> by Marc Aronson
<u><i>Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World: the Extraordinary True Story of Shackleton and the Endurance</i></u> by Jennifer Armstrong	1914 Shackleton Antarctic expedition of the trapped Endurance and crew's perilous journey to reach inhabited land	Perseverance, wilderness survival	Nonfiction, history adventure Also try: <u><i>Race to the Bottom of the Earth: Surviving Antarctica</i></u> by Rebecca Barone
<u><i>How We Got to the Moon: The People, Technology, and Daring Feats of Science Behind Humanity's Greatest Adventure</i></u> by John Rocco	Illustrated, oversized history of the Apollo space program that led to the moon landing	Collaboration, technology, diversity	Nonfiction, science Also try: <u><i>Team Moon: How 400,000 People Landed Apollo 11 on the Moon</i></u> by Catherine Thimmesh
<u><i>Chasing Lincoln's Killer</i></u> by James Swanson	Tells the story of the pursuit and capture of John Wilkes Booth and gives a day-by-day account of the wild chase to find this killer and his accomplices	Criminal investigation, intrigue, mystery	Nonfiction, history Also try: <u><i>Lincoln's Grave Robbers</i></u> by Steve Sheinkin

<p><u><i>The Big Book of Monsters: The Creepiest Creatures From Classic Literature</i></u> by Hal Johnson</p>	<p>An illustrated compendium of monster profiles from 25 works of classic literature, including Dracula, Cyclops and the Invisible Man</p>	<p>Imaginary creatures in literature, origin stories, scary</p>	<p>Nonfiction, monsters and literature</p> <p>Read-alike: <u><i>Monstrous: The Lore, Gore, and Science Behind Your Favorite Monsters</i></u> by Carlyn Beccis</p>
<p><u><i>Almost American Girl: An Illustrated Memoir</i></u> by Robin Ha</p>	<p>Teen graphic memoir about immigration, belonging, and how arts can save a life</p>	<p>South Korean immigrant, identity</p>	<p>Graphic novel, memoir</p> <p>Also try: <u><i>American Born Chinese</i></u> by Gene Luen Yang</p>
<p><u><i>Wink</i></u> by Rob Harrell</p>	<p>After being diagnosed with a rare eye cancer, 12-year-old Ross discovers how music, art, and true friends can help him survive</p>	<p>Dealing with illness, coping with grief and anger, friendship, acceptance</p>	<p>Memoir, Humorous</p> <p>Also try graphic novel memoir: <u><i>Smile</i></u> by Raina Telegemeier</p>
<p><u><i>Brazen: Rebel Ladies Who Rocked the World</i></u> by Penelope Bagieu</p>	<p>Profiles inspiring women--some who are world famous and some who are little known, including Nellie Bly, Mae Jemison, Hedy Lamarr, Josephine Baker, and Naziq al-Abid</p>	<p>Women role models</p>	<p>Graphic novel, collective biography</p> <p>Read-alike: <u><i>Rad American Women A-Z: Rebels, Trailblazers, and Visionaries Who Shaped Our History ... and Our Future!</i></u> by Kate Schatz</p>
<p><u><i>Life in Motion: An Unlikely Ballerina: Young Reader's Edition</i></u> by Misty Copeland</p>	<p>The first female African American principal dancer in American Ballet Theatre history recounts her road to</p>	<p>African American ballet dancer, facing racism, poverty, family</p>	<p>Memoir, sports figure</p> <p>Try another biography of African American</p>

	stardom and her challenging home life		dancer: <i>Taking Flight: From War Orphan to Star Ballerina</i> by Michaela DePrince
<i>Free Lunch</i> by Rex Ogle	A sixth grader struggles with a painful home life and being economically disadvantaged	Poverty, trouble at home, new school, perseverance	Memoir, author Also try: <i>It's Trevor Noah: Now Born a Crime</i> by Trevor Noah
<i>The Genius Under the Table: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain</i> by Eugene Yelchin	Award-winning author and artist recounts his childhood in Cold War-era Russia as a young Jewish boy desperate to understand his place in his family	Identity, slice of life, family	Graphic novel memoir, artist Also try this graphic memoir about an artist: <i>The Wall: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain</i> by Peter Sis
<i>Drowned City: Hurricane Katrina and New Orleans</i> by Don Brown	Chronicles the tragedy and triumph of 2005 hurricane that decimated New Orleans	Hurricane Katrina, courage, natural disaster, survival	Graphic novel, historical

8th GRADE BOOK SUGGESTIONS

Check out the 7th grade list for great titles for 8th graders, too!

Book Titles	Description	Theme	Notes
<i>Stargirl</i> by Jerry Spinelli	Eccentric student Stargirl changes Mica's high school forever and tests whether love or appearing normal is more important	Pressure to fit in, individuality, love, kindness	Realistic fiction, romance Sequel: <i>Love, Stargirl</i> Also try: <i>Flipped</i> by Wendelin Van

			Draanen
<u>Drama</u> by Raina Telegemeier	Follows the emotional ups and downs of Callie and her schoolmates on the stage crew for a middle school production	Friendships, theater, romance, LGBTQ diverse	Graphic novel, realistic fiction Also by the author: <u>Smile</u> , <u>Guts</u> , <u>Sisters</u>
<u>To All the Boys I've Loved Before</u> by Jenny Han	Lara Jean writes love letters to all the boys she has loved and then hides them in a hatbox until one day those letters are accidentally sent	Culturally diverse, siblings, family, relationships	Realistic fiction, romance Also try: <u>P.S. I Like You</u> by Kasie West <u>Love & Gelato</u> by Jenna Evans Welch <u>Tweet Cute</u> by Emma Lord
<u>The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora</u> by Pablo Cartaya	During the summer, Arturo and new friend, poetry enthusiast Carmen, protest a land developer's plan to demolish his Abuela's restaurant	Family, friendship, community, protest, humor, Cuban American character	Realistic fiction, humorous Award winner
<u>A Long Walk to Water: Based On a True Story</u> by Linda Sue Park	A portrait of two Sudanese children: Lost Boy, Salva, who fled in 1985 and later immigrated to the United States, and Nya, who walks 8 hours a day to collect water for her village in 2008	Life during wartime, refugees, survival, courage, perseverance	Realistic fiction More great autobiographical graphic novels about refugee experiences: <u>When Stars Are Scattered</u> by Victoria Jamieson <u>Escape from Syria</u> by Samya Kullab
<u>Hope Was Here</u> by	When 16-year-old	Work ethic,	Realistic fiction,

Joan Bauer	Hope and her aunt move to Wisconsin to work as waitress and cook in the local diner, they become involved with a political campaign to oust the town's corrupt mayor	family, resilience, honest, humanity, activism, self-discovery	humorous Also by the author: Close to Famous Also try: Keeping the Moon by Sarah Dessen
Ungifted by Gordan Korman	Wacky mayhem fills tale of a eighth grade troublemaker who ends up in a genius academy	Tolerance, be yourself, fitting in, friendship	Realistic fiction, humorous Also by this author: Restart Also try: Middle School: The Worst Years of My Life by James Patterson
Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds	As Will, fifteen, sets out to avenge his brother's fatal shooting, seven ghosts who knew Shawn board the elevator and reveal truths Will needs to know	Grief, fear, revenge, gun violence, African American street culture	Realistic fiction, novel in verse *mature readers Also in graphic novel format
Piecing Me Together by Renee Watson	High-school junior Jade would rather participate in the school's Study Abroad program than join a mentorship program for at-risk girls	Race relations, poverty, power of art, identity, opportunity, friendship, self-exploration, community	Realistic fiction Newbery award winner Also try: The Only Black Girls in Town by Brandy Colbert
Dress Coded by Carrie Firestone	Molly starts a podcast to protest the school's sexist dress codes which leads to a full-blown revolution	Girl power, protest friendship, sexism, gender expectations	Realistic fiction Also try: The Prettiest by Brigit Young

<p><i>One For the Murphys</i> by Lynda Mullaly Hunt</p>	<p>Experiences of foster kid Carley, who uses humor and street smarts to cope with her unpredictable life until the loving, Murphy family offers her more stability and a greater sense of belonging than she ever thought possible</p>	<p>Finding family, foster care, love, stability</p>	<p>Realistic fiction</p> <p>Also try: <i>Orbiting Jupiter</i> by Gary D. Schmidt</p> <p><i>Homecoming</i> by Cynthia Voigt</p>
<p><i>Drums, Girls & Dangerous Pie</i> by Jordan Sonnenblick</p>	<p>When his younger brother is diagnosed with leukemia, 13-year-old Steven tries to deal with his complicated emotions, his school life, and his desire to support his family</p>	<p>Coming of age, family, hope, solidarity, love</p>	<p>Realistic fiction</p> <p>Also by the author: <i>Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip</i></p>
<p><i>Pumpkinheads</i> by Rainbow Rowell</p>	<p>Working at a pumpkin patch every autumn, two seasonal best friends organize ultimate Halloween plans to celebrate their last working year together</p>	<p>Culturally diverse, friendship, slice of life, seizing the day</p>	<p>Graphic novel, realistic fiction</p>
<p><i>The Thief</i> by Megan Whelan Turner</p>	<p>Gen flaunts his ingenuity as a thief and relishes the adventure which takes him to a remote temple of the gods where he will attempt to steal a precious stone</p>	<p>Political intrigue, fate, mythology, appearances can be deceiving, loyalty</p>	<p>Fantasy, historical</p> <p>Queen's Thief series</p> <p>Also try: The Song of the Lioness Quartet by Tamora Pierce, starting with <i>Alanna: The First Adventure</i></p>
<p><i>Six of Crows</i> by Leigh Bardugo</p>	<p>Six dangerous outcasts must learn to work together after they are offered an</p>	<p>Criminals, misfits, difficult pasts, belonging, vengeance,</p>	<p>Fantasy</p> <p>Six of Crows series</p>

	impossible heist that can save the world from destruction	magic, rescue, teamwork	Another fantasy series set in the Grishaverse: Grisha trilogy, starting with Shadow and Bone
Unwanted by Lisa McMann	In a society that purges 13-year-olds who are creative, identical twins are separated, one to attend University and one supposedly Eliminated, but ends up in a place where youths hone their abilities and learn magic	Magic academy, things are not always what they seem, secrets, friendship, brothers, power of art	Dystopian fantasy The Unwanteds series For more magic academy reads, try: The School for Good and Evil by Soman Chainani
The Ruins of Gorlan by John Flanagan	When 15-year-old Will is rejected by battleschool, he becomes the reluctant apprentice to the mysterious Ranger Halt, and winds up protecting the kingdom from danger	Good vs. evil, coming of age, bullying, courage, friendship, loyalty	Medieval fantasy, adventure The Ranger's Apprentice series Also by this author: The Brotherband Chronicles, starting with The Outcasts
The Goose Girl by Shannon Hale	On her way to marry a prince she's never met, Princess Anidori is betrayed by her guards and her lady-in-waiting and must become a goose girl to survive until she can reveal her true identity and reclaim the crown that is rightfully hers	Rightful heir, betrayal, courage	Fantasy, fairy tale Books of Bayern series Also try: Fairest by Gail Carson Levine Enchanted by Alethea Kontiss Princess of the Midnight Ball by Jessica Day George

<p><i>The Hobbit</i> by J. R. R. Tolkien</p>	<p>Bilbo Baggins, a respectable, well-to-do hobbit, is chosen by Gandalf the wizard to take part in an adventure from which he may never return</p>	<p>Good vs. evil, trust, fellowship, greed, heroism, morality</p>	<p>Fantasy, classic, adventure</p> <p>Also by this author: Lord of the Rings series, starting with <i>The Fellowship of the Ring</i></p>
<p><i>Nimona</i> by Noelle Stevenson</p>	<p>Lord Blackheart, a villain with a vendetta, and his sidekick, Nimona, an impulsive shapeshifter, must prove to the kingdom that Sir Goldenloin and the Institution of Law Enforcement and Heroics aren't the heroes everyone thinks they are</p>	<p>Good vs. evil, quests, morality, appearances, supernatural, LGBTQ diverse, adventure</p>	<p>Graphic novel, fantasy</p> <p>Read-alike: Delilah Dirk series, starting with <i>Delilah Dirk and the Turkish Lieutenant</i> by Tony Cliff</p> <p>Also by the author: Lumberjanes series, starting with <i>Beware the Kitten Holy</i></p>
<p><i>The Screaming Staircase</i> by Jonathan Stroud</p>	<p>Young psychic detectives compete against other ghostbusting agencies investigating one of England's most haunted houses</p>	<p>Supernatural, resourcefulness, ghost hunters, scary</p>	<p>Fantasy, horror</p> <p>Lockwood & Co. series</p> <p>Read-alike: The Last Apprentice series by Joseph Delaney, starting with <i>Revenge of the Witch</i></p>
<p><i>Sabriel</i> by Garth Nix</p>	<p>Sabriel, daughter of the necromancer Abhorsen, must journey into the mysterious and magical Old Kingdom to rescue her father from the Land of the Dead</p>	<p>Family, responsibility, destiny, sacrifice, death, adventure, supernatural, magic</p>	<p>Fantasy, horror</p> <p>Old Kingdom series</p> <p>Also try: His Dark Materials series, starting with <i>The Golden Compass</i> by</p>

			Philip Pullman
<i>Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children</i> by Ransom Riggs	After a family tragedy, Jacob explores an abandoned orphanage off the coast of Wales, discovering disturbing facts about the children who were kept there	Supernatural, magic, family, belonging, time	Fantasy, horror Miss Peregrine series Also try: <i>A Monster Calls</i> by Patrick Ness
<i>Booked</i> by Alexander Kwame	Soccer-lover Nick learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams	Soccer, bullying, trouble at home, family, identity	Sports fiction Novel in verse Also by this author: <i>Crossover</i> and <i>Rebound</i>
<i>Dairy Queen</i> by Catherine Gilbert Murdock	After spending her summer running the family farm and training the rival school's quarter-back, 16-year-old D.J. decides to try out as QB not anticipating the reactions of those around her	Football, comfortable in your own skin, family, romance	Sports fiction, romance Dairy Queen trilogy
<i>QB1</i> by Mike Lupica	Jake Cullen, fourteen, lives in the shadows of his father and older brother until he becomes the starting quarter-back for the high school football team and gets the chance to shine	Father-son relationship, self-confidence, determination	Sports fiction, football Also by the author: <i>Million Dollar Throw</i> and <i>Game Changers</i>
<i>The Running Dream</i> by Vendelin Van Draanen	When a school bus accident leaves 16-year-old Jessica an amputee, she returns to school with a	Running, living with a disability, friendship, self-esteem, courage,	Sports fiction, running Also try a soccer-centric read:

	prosthetic limb and her track team finds a way to help rekindle her dream of running	determination	<i>Braced</i> by Alyson Gerber
<i>Haikyu!!</i> by Haruichi Furudate	Playing for his idol's high school volleyball team, Shoyo wants to beat his rival Tobio, the King of the Court, next season, but the new season brings him a surprising new teammate	Volleyball, teamwork, friendship, pushing yourself to be better	Manga, sports
<i>96 Miles</i> by J. L. Esplin	During a massive blackout in rural Nevada, two brothers struggle to survive without their self-reliance-obsessed dad and without enough water cross the desert for help	Family, outdoor survival, loyalty, forgiveness, resilience	Adventure, survival fiction Also try: <i>The Canyon's Edge</i> by Dusti Bowling (novel in verse)
<i>Hatchet</i> by Gary Paulsen	After a plane crash, 13-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the wilderness with only the aid of a hatchet	Wilderness survival, resilience, perseverance, courage	Adventure, survival fiction Brian's saga Also by author: <i>Northwind</i>
<i>I Am Still Alive</i> by Kate Alice Marshall	A disabled teen deals with the death of her mother and the troubles of her father while stranded in the woods during winter	Coping with death, resilience, hope, physical disability, family relationships	Adventure, survival Also try: <i>Not If I Save You First</i> by Ally Carter
<i>Loot: How to Steal a Fortune</i> by Jude Watson	A final note left by his notorious jewel thief father to "find jewels" leads March to discover Jules, the twin sister he never	Jewel thieves, curses, orphans, family	Thriller, adventure Also try: <i>The Great Greene Heist</i> by Vivian

	knew he had--and the perfect partner to carry on the family business		Johnson
<i>The Girl I Used to Be</i> by April Henry	Years after surviving the attack that ended her mother's life and made her father the prime suspect, Olivia finds out new information that compels her to search for the killer before she becomes the next victim	Identity, orphan, serial killer, friendship, truth	Mystery, thriller Also by the author: The Point Last Seen series, starting with <i>The Body in the Woods</i>
<i>Skink–No Surrender</i> by Carl Hiaasen	With the help of an eccentric ex-governor, a teenaged boy searches for his missing cousin in the Florida wilds	Environment, online predators, self-discovery, friendship	Mystery, adventure, humorous Also by the author: <i>Chomp</i> , <i>Hoot</i> , and <i>Scat</i>
<i>Ali Cross</i> by James Patterson	Famed detective's son Ali searches for a missing friend and clues proving his father's innocence against a backdrop of neighborhood burglaries	Detectives father-son relationship, family	Mystery, detective Also try: T.O.A.S.T series, starting with <i>Framed</i> by James Ponti
<i>The Inheritance Games</i> by Jennifer Barnes	Avery Grambs is inherit stranger billionaire Tobias Hawthorne's fortune if she moves into his mansion and solves the puzzles, and riddles while evading danger around every turn	Inheritance, secrets, identity, murder, wealth, riddles	Mystery Inheritance games series Sequel: <i>Hawthorne Legacy</i> Also try: <i>The Westing Game</i> by Ellen Raskin
<i>Jackaby</i> by William Ritter	Newly arrived in 1892 New England, Abigail	Supernatural, individuality, be	Fantasy mystery Historical

	Rook assists R. F. Jackaby, an investigator of the unexplained with the ability to see supernatural beings, with a case of serial murder	true to one's self, confidence	Jackaby series Also try: Lockwood & Co. series by Jonathan Stroud, starting with The Screaming Staircase The Last Apprentice series by Joseph Delaney, starting with Revenge of the Witch
Etiquette & Espionage by Gail Carriger	In an alternate England of 1851, 14-year-old Sophronia is enrolled in a finishing school where, her lessons include not only dance, dress, and etiquette, but also diversion, deceit, and espionage	Strong female, boarding schools, steampunk, robots, supernatural, friendship	Historical fantasy, 1850s, adventure, humorous Finishing school series For sci-fi steampunk series try: Airborn by Kenneth Oppel Leviathan by Scott Westerfeld
The Maze Runner by James Dashner	Sixteen-year-old Thomas wakes up with no memory in the middle of a maze and realizes he must work with the community in which he finds himself if he is to escape	Cooperation, memory, identity, order vs. chaos, sacrifice, apocalypse	Dystopian fiction Maze Runner trilogy Also by the author: The Mortality Doctrine, starting with The Eye of Minds
Life As We Knew It by Susan Beth	Through journal entries 16-year-old	Climate-change apocalypses,	Post-apocalyptic fiction

Pfeffer	Miranda describes her family's struggle to survive after a meteor hits the moon, causing worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions	family, survival, hope	Also try: Ship Breaker by Paolo Bacigalupi
The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins	In a future America, 16-year-old Katniss's skills are put to the test when she voluntarily takes her younger sister's place in an annual survival competition to the death	Family, sacrifice, rebellion, love, oppression, inequality, war, materialism, friendship	Dystopian fiction The Hunger Games series Also try: The Testing by Joelle Charbonneau
Legend by Marie Lu	In a dark future of a divided North America, 15-year-olds Day, a famous criminal, and June, the brilliant soldier hired to capture him, discover that they have a common enemy	Class warfare, family, coming of age, resistance to government, star-crossed lovers	Dystopian fiction Legend series Another great series by this author: Warcross
Uglies by Scott Westerfeld	Just before their 16th birthdays, when they will be transformed into beauties whose only job is to have a great time, Tally's best friend runs away and Tally must find her and turn her in, or never become pretty	Beauty, conformity, technology, friendship, loyalty	Dystopian fiction Uglies series Also try: The Belles by Dhonelle Clayton
Scythe by Neal Shusterman	In a world where disease has been eliminated and the only way to die is to be randomly killed	Coming of age, mortality, morality, corruption, justice,	Dystopian fiction Arc of a Scythe series

	('gleaned') by professional reapers ('scythes'), two teens must compete with each other to become a scythe, the winner killing the other	compassion, corruption	Michael L. Printz award winner Also by this author: Unwind dystology, starting with Unwind
Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell 25 by Richard Paul Evans	Michael Vey, a 14-year old who has Tourette's syndrome and special electric powers, along with others like him, rely on his powers to save themselves from a diabolical group seeking to control them	Good vs. evil, courage, loyalty, friendship, evil corporations, misfits	Science fiction, adventure Michael Vey series Also try: Maximum Rides series by James Patterson, starting with The Angel Experiment
The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams	Chronicles the off-beat and occasionally extraterrestrial journeys, notions, and acquaintances of galactic traveler Arthur Dent	Happiness, meaning, power, knowledge	Science fiction, classic, humorous Hitchhiker's series Try another classic sci-fi: Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card
Miles Morales: Spider-Man by Jason Reynolds	Miles is conflicted about his identity as the new Spider-Man, but when his scholarship is threatened, he uncovers a plot that puts his friends and neighborhood at risk	Identity, superhero powers, family, race relations, responsibility, friendship	Science fiction, superhero Also by the author: Miles Morales: Shock Waves graphic novel
Ms. Marvel, 1, No Normal by Willow G. Wilson	Conservative Muslim Kamala Khan, a Pakistani American girl from Jersey City tries to use her	Culturally diverse, superhero powers, coming of age,	Science fiction graphic novel, superhero Ms. Marvel series

	suddenly acquired superhuman powers a to help her community	responsibility, friendship, fitting in	Also try: Shadow of the Batgirl by Sarah Kuhn
Last Pick by Jason Walz	In a world where aliens have taken over Earth, abducted every human they deemed useful, and abandoned the rest, twins Sam and Wyatt struggle to start a revolution of the unwanted	Alien invasion, living with an invisible disability, resourcefulness, family, misfits, diverse characters, inclusion	Science fiction graphic novel Last pick series
Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson	After being sold to a cruel couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War	Slavery, facing racism, family, friendship, war, spy, courage	Historical fiction, Revolutionary War Seeds of America trilogy Also try this Revolutionary war tale: Hamilton and Peggy!: A Revolutionary Friendship by Laura Elliott
The Girl in the Blue Coat by Monica Hesse	In 1943 Nazi-occupied Amsterdam, teen Hanneke must find a Jewish girl who has seemingly vanished into thin air, and is pulled into a web of resistance activities and secrets	Resistance, betrayal, guilt, courage, social responsibility, hope	Historical fiction, World War II Read-alike: The Light in Hidden Places by Sharon Cameron
Echo by Pam Munoz Ryan	A harmonica travels across years and over continents and seas to touch the lives of	Music, magic, survival, family, perseverance, faith	Historical fiction, magical realism Newbery award

	three embattled, music-obsessed children – and, quite possibly, save a life		winner Another great title by this author: <i>Esperanza Rising</i>
<i>We Are Not Free</i> by Traci Chee	14 2nd-generation Japanese American teens in San Francisco find their bond tested by widespread discrimination and incarcerations of people of Japanese ancestry during World War II	Japanese internment, facing racism, identity, war	Historical fiction, World War II Award winner Also try in graphic novel format: <i>They Called Us Enemy</i> by George Takei
<i>Refugee</i> by Alan Gratz	Three tweens in different time periods embark on journeys to search for refuge	Immigrant experiences, survival, resilience, WWII, Cuba, Syria	Historical fiction Also try his other historical novels: <i>Allies</i> and <i>Ground Zero</i>
<i>Lucky Strikes</i> by Louis Bayard	Set in Depression Era Virginia, this is the story of orphaned Amelia and her struggle to keep her siblings together	Great Depression poverty, family, resilience	Historical fiction, 1930s Also try: <i>Moon Over Manifest</i> by Clare Vanderpool
<i>Lifeboat 12</i> by Susan Hood	In 1940, a group of British children, their escorts, and some sailors struggle to survive in a lifeboat when the ship taking them to safety in Canada is torpedoed	Sea survival, courage, hope, compassion	Historical fiction, WWII, survival Novel in verse
<i>The Hired Girl</i> by Laura Amy Schlitz	14-year-old Joan Skraggs chronicles her life in a journal when she leaves her family's Pennsylvania farm	Coming of age, friendship, gender expectations, faith,	Historical fiction, 1910s Read-alikes: <i>The Downstairs Girl</i> by Stacey Lee

	to work as a hired girl in Baltimore in the summer of 1911		<i>Hattie Big Sky</i> by Kirby Larson
<i>March, Book One</i> by John Lewis	Account of author's struggle for civil and human rights from his youth in rural Alabama and his life-changing meeting with Martin Luther King, Jr.	Activism, facing racism, Civil Rights, protest	Graphic novel memoir, history Award winning book March series Followed by <i>Run series</i>
<i>The Prince and the Dressmaker</i> by Jen Wang	Only his friend and Parisian dressmaker Frances knows Prince Sebastian's secret, that he dresses as the glamorous Lady Crystallia by night, but Frances growing fame threatens Sebastian's secret	LGBTQ diverse, identity, social acceptance, gender expectation, individuality, friendship	Historical graphic novel Also try: The Witch Boy series by Molly Ostertag, starting with <i>The Witch Boy</i>
<i>Fallout: Spies, Superbombs, and the Ultimate Cold War Shutdown</i> by Steve Sheinkin	The nuclear arms race between the US and Soviet Union during the Cold War	nuclear war, espionage, science	Nonfiction, Cold War history (1960s) Follow-up to <i>Bomb: Race to Build and Steal the World's Most Dangerous Weapon</i>
<i>The Unwanted: Stories of the Syrian Refugees</i> by Don Brown	Events of Syrian refugees' attempt to escape the horrors of their country's civil war	War stories, refugees, resilience, hope	Graphic novel, nonfiction, history
<i>All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys' Soccer Team</i> by Christina	2018 Thai cave rescue of the trapped Wild Boars soccer team and the engineering operation that saved	Bravery, cooperation, Thai culture, cave diving	Nonfiction, adventure Read-alike: <i>Trapped: How the</i>

Soontornvat	the lives of 13 young people		<i>World Rescued 33 Miners From 2,000 Feet Below the Chilean Desert</i> by Marc Aronson
<i>Born to Fly: The First Women's Air Race Across America</i> by Steve Sheinkin	The gripping story of the fearless women pilots who aimed for the skies—and beyond	Women pilots, 9-day air race, courage, endurance	Nonfiction, history, biography 1920s Also try: <i>Amelia Lost: The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart</i> by Candace Fleming
<i>The Boys in the Boat: The True Story of an American Team's Epic Journey to Win Gold at the 1936 Olympics</i> by Daniel Brown	Describes the American rowing team's triumphant and unlikely win during the 1936 Olympics	Friendship, determination, teamwork, trust, following your dreams	Nonfiction, Sports Also try: <i>Outcasts United: The Story of a Refugee Soccer Team That Changed a Town</i> by Warren St. John
<i>Lost in the Pacific: Not a Drop to Drink</i> by Tod Olson	When the B-17 bomber carrying America's greatest war hero across the Pacific Ocean gets lost, there is no other option but an emergency landing, that leaves the crew stranded without food or water	Sea survival, WWII, teamwork, courage	Nonfiction, survival Also try: <i>Dive!: World War II Stories of Sailors & Submarines in the Pacific</i> by Deborah Hopkinson
<i>Spooked!: How a Radio Broadcast and the War of the Worlds Sparked the 1938 Invasion of America</i> by Gail Jarrow	Describes the panic induced when listeners believed Orson Welles' radio broadcast of "The War of the Worlds" to be news of an actual alien invasion	Radio program, hysteria, hoaxes, fake news	Nonfiction, 1930s history

<p><u><i>The Boys Who Challenged Hitler: Knud Pedersen and the Churchill Club</i></u> by Phillip Hoose</p>	<p>The true story of a group of boy resistance fighters in Denmark after the Nazi invasion</p>	<p>Resistance, bravery</p>	<p>Nonfiction, WWII history</p> <p>Also try: <u><i>Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow</i></u> by Susan Campbell Bartoletti</p>
<p><u><i>Anne Frank's Diary: The Graphic Adaptation</i></u> by Ari Folman</p>	<p>Anne Frank's diary authorized by the Anne Frank Foundation and using text from the diary</p>	<p>Coming of age, family, isolation, war, prejudice, Holocaust, survival</p>	<p>Graphic novel, World War II nonfiction</p> <p>Also try: <u><i>The Diary of a Young Girl</i></u> by Anne Frank</p> <p><u><i>The Boy On The Wooden Box: How the Impossible Became Possible ... on Schindler's List</i></u> by Leon Leyson</p>
<p><u><i>Hidden Figures: Young Reader's Edition</i></u> by Margot Lee Shetterly</p>	<p>True story about four female African-American mathematicians at NASA who helped achieve some of the greatest moments in our space program</p>	<p>Strong women, STEM</p>	<p>Collective biography, mathematicians</p> <p>Also try: <u><i>Women in Science: 50 Fearless Pioneers Who Changed the World</i></u> by Rachel Ignotofsky</p>
<p><u><i>The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind (Young Reader's Edition)</i></u> by William Kamkwamba</p>	<p>True story of 14-year-old William Kamkwamba, who built a windmill out of junkyard scraps to bring electricity to his famine-stricken Malawi village</p>	<p>Ingenuity, poverty, magic vs. science, invention, recycling</p>	<p>Memoir, inventor</p>
<p><u><i>Gone to the Woods:</i></u></p>	<p>Details Hatchet</p>	<p>Belonging,</p>	<p>Memoir,</p>

<p><u><i>Surviving a Lost Childhood</i></u> by Gary Paulsen</p>	<p>author's turbulent upbringing, time in the Army, and how a love of nature, reading, and kindness saved him</p>	<p>wilderness survival, resilience</p>	<p>writer</p>
<p><u><i>Courage to Soar: A Body in Motion, A Life in Balance</i></u> by Simone Biles</p>	<p>US Olympic gymnast presents the story of how she overcame early childhood challenges to become the most decorated US female gymnast and the only female gymnast to ever win three consecutive World Championship titles</p>	<p>Gymnastics, adoption, family staying positive, perseverance</p>	<p>Memoir, sports Also try: <u><i>Fierce: How Competing for Myself Changed Everything</i></u> by Aly Reisman <u><i>Breakaway: Beyond the Goal</i></u> by Alex Morgan</p>
<p><u><i>Undefeated: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indians Football Team</i></u> by Steve Sheinkin</p>	<p>Football and Native American history come together in this true story of how the legendary Carlisle Indians football team began</p>	<p>Identity, facing racism, football culture, courage</p>	<p>Memoir, sports figure Also try: <u><i>We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball</i></u> by Kadir Nelson</p>
<p><u><i>I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood up for Education and Changed the World</i></u> by Malala Yousafzai</p>	<p>Documents the educational pursuits of the Nobel Peace Prize nominee who became an international symbol of hope and inspiration when she challenged the traditions of her Pakistan community</p>	<p>Women's rights, activism, courage, religion, power of education</p>	<p>Memoir, education Also try this novel about a girl fighting educational and social injustice: <u><i>Amal Unbound</i></u> by Aisha Saeed</p>
<p><u><i>Becoming Kareem: On and Off the Court</i></u> by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar</p>	<p>Follows the New York basketball star's path to fame and his activism for social change</p>	<p>Self discovery, perseverance, activism, basketball</p>	<p>Memoir, sports figure Also try: <u><i>Proud: Living My</i></u></p>

			<i>American Dream</i> by Ibtihaj Muhammad
<i>Almost American Girl: An Illustrated Memoir</i> by Robin Ha	Teen graphic memoir about immigration, belonging, and how arts can save a life	South Korean immigrant, identity	Graphic novel, memoir Also try: <i>American Born Chinese</i> by Gene Luen Yang
<i>Unbroken: An Olympian's Journey From Airman to Castaway to Captive (Young Reader's Ed.)</i> by Laura Hillenbrand	True story of Louis Zamperini, a juvenile delinquent-turned-Olympic athlete and World War II pilot, crashed into the ocean and survived for weeks on a life raft only to become a prisoner of war	Courage, perseverance, survival, war, human spirit, dignity	Biography, Sports figure, WWII pilot