

Eighth Grade Summer Reading Assignment

Mrs. Amy Mowrer

Directions:

Enjoy reading this summer! Expand your mind by choosing something you will love and something you would not normally pick to read. Read **three** books from the 8th Grade Summer Reading List (one from each category); select books that appeal to you and are the appropriate reading level. You will do a book talk & project in the fall on your choice of books; you may choose to make notes to prepare, but it is not required.

Classics	Non-Fiction	Young Adult Fiction
<p>20,000 Leagues Under the Sea by Verne, Jules: Professor Pierre Aronnax and his two companions find themselves held prisoner by the peculiar Captain Nemo aboard the Nautilus, an unusual submarine.</p>	<p>Beyond Magenta by Kuklin, Susan: The true stories of six transgender or gender-neutral young adults, before, during, and after their personal acknowledgment of gender preference. Their unique emotional and physical journeys are told through interviews, portraits, family photographs, and candid images.</p>	<p>The 5th Wave by Yancy, Richard: After the 1st wave, only darkness remains. After the 2nd, only the lucky escape. And after the 3rd, only the unlucky survive. After the 4th wave, only one rule applies: trust no one. To stay alone is to stay alive, Cassie believes, until she meets Evan Walker. He may be Cassie's only hope for rescuing her brother-or even saving herself. But Cassie must choose: between trust and despair, between defiance and surrender, between life and death. <u>To give up or to get up.</u></p>
<p>The Call of the Wild by London, Jack : A comfortable family dog named Buck is stolen and sold into a harsh life as a sled dog in the 1890s Klondike, where he reverts to his wild nature.</p>	<p>*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Skloot, Rebecca: Henrietta Lacks, as HeLa, is known to present-day scientists for her cells from cervical cancer. She was a poor Southern tobacco farmer who worked the same land as her slave ancestors, yet her cells were taken without her knowledge and still live decades after her death. Cells descended from her may weigh more than 50M metric tons.</p>	<p>*Life as We Knew It by Pfeffer, Susan Beth: Miranda's disbelief turns to fear in a split second when a meteor knocks the moon closer to the earth. As summer turns to Arctic winter, Miranda, her two brothers, subsist on stockpiled food and limited water in the warmth of a wood-burning stove. Told in journal entries, this is the heart-pounding story of Miranda's struggle to hold on to the most important resource of all — hope — in an increasingly desperate and <u>unfamiliar world</u></p>
<p>*The Chronicles of Narnia by Lewis, C.S.: Four children explore another world populated with unique characters where a battle between good and evil is being waged, and in which they will eventually rule.</p>	<p>The Pregnancy Project by Rodriguez, Gaby: The true story of a high school senior whose faked pregnancy, part of a senior project, rocked her community and made international headlines.</p>	<p>The Selection by Cass, Kira: For thirty-five girls, the Selection is the chance of a lifetime. The opportunity to escape the life laid out for them since birth. To be swept up in a world of glittering gowns and priceless jewels. To live in a palace and compete for the heart of gorgeous Prince Maxon.</p>

Classics	Non-Fiction	Young Adult Fiction
<p>The Hound of the Baskervilles by Doyle, Arthur Conan: The tracks of an enormous hound near the corpse of Sir Charles Baskerville on his estate in the moorlands bring Sherlock Holmes and Watson from the city to investigate.</p>	<p>Terrible Typhoid Mary by Bartoletti, Susan Campbell: A True Story of the Deadliest Cook in America. A riveting biography of Mary Mallon which looks beyond the tabloid scandal of Mary's controversial life. How she was treated by medical and legal officials reveals a lesser-known story of human and constitutional rights, entangled with the science of pathology and enduring questions about who Mary Mallon really was.</p>	<p>*Uglies by Westerfield, Scott: Tally is about to turn sixteen, and she can't wait. In just a few weeks she'll have the operation that will turn her from a repellent ugly into a stunning pretty. And as a pretty, she'll be catapulted into a high-tech paradise where her only job is to have fun. When her best friend runs away, Tally learns about a whole new side of the pretty world-- and it isn't very pretty. The authorities offer Tally a choice: find her friend and turn her in, or never turn pretty at all. Tally's choice will change her world forever...</p>
<p>Murder on the Orient Express by Christie, Agatha: When a wealthy American is found dead on the Orient Express train while traveling from Istanbul to Paris, Belgian Detective Hercule Poirot suspects that one of thirteen passengers may have committed the crime.</p>	<p>This Land is Our Land by Osborne, Linda Barrett: A History of American Immigration. Explores the way government policy and popular responses to immigrant groups evolved throughout U.S. history, particularly between 1800 and 1965.</p>	<p>Miss Peregrine's School for Peculiar Children by Riggs, Ransom: After his grandfather's unexpected death, Jacob feels compelled to visit the island off the coast of Wales which was his grandfather's childhood home. There he finds the children from his bedtime stories and grandfather's mysterious photographs and the orphanage he thought was long ago destroyed.</p>
<p>Watership Down by Adams, Richard: Forced from their home in Sandleford Warren by the intrusion of man, a courageous band of Berkshire rabbits face adversity, hardship and predators as they pursue a new place called "home."</p>	<p>Undefeated by Sheinkin, Steve: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team. Sheinkin provides a true underdog sports story-- and an unflinching look at the U.S. government's violent persecution of Native Americans and the school that was designed to erase Indian cultures.</p>	<p>Peek by Smith, Roland: Fourteen-year-old Peak Marcello has a passion for climbing, and when he is gets in trouble for scaling tall buildings; his mom and stepdad ship him out of the country to climb Mount Everest with his father.</p>
<p>A Wrinkle in Time by L'Engle, Madeleine: Meg Murry, her brother, Charles Wallace, along with their neighbor, Calvin O'Keefe, travel through time and space to find their scientist father and battle a growing cosmic evil.</p>	<p>Loving Vs. Virginia- A Documentary Novel of the Landmark Civil Rights Case by Powell, Patricia Hruby: Written in blank verse, the story of Mildred Loving, an African American girl, and Richard Loving, a Caucasian boy, who challenge the Virginia law forbidding interracial marriages in the 1950s.</p>	<p>Fablehaven by Mull, Brandon: For centuries, mystical creatures of all description were gathered to a hidden refuge called Fablehaven to prevent their extinction. Kendra and her brother Seth have no idea their grandfather is the current caretaker of Fablehaven. When the rules get broken, an arcane evil is unleashed, forcing Kendra and Seth to face the greatest challenge of their lives. To save her family, Fablehaven, and perhaps the world, Kendra must find the courage to do what she fears most.</p>

* Denotes Mrs. Mowrer's favorite in each category if you are having trouble deciding.