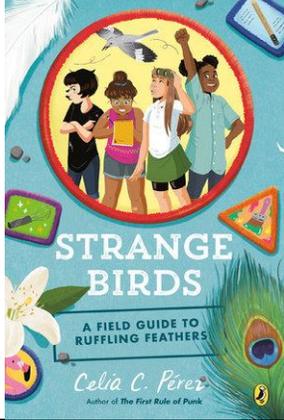
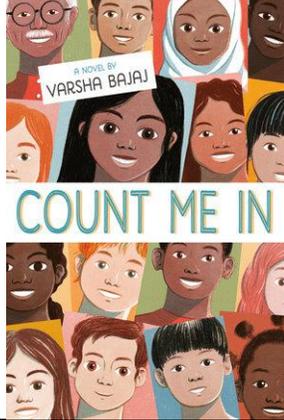
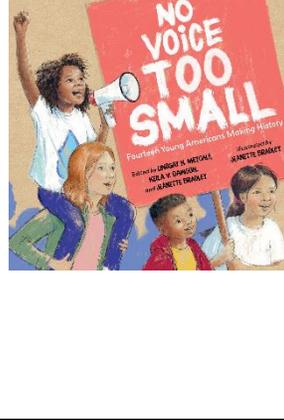


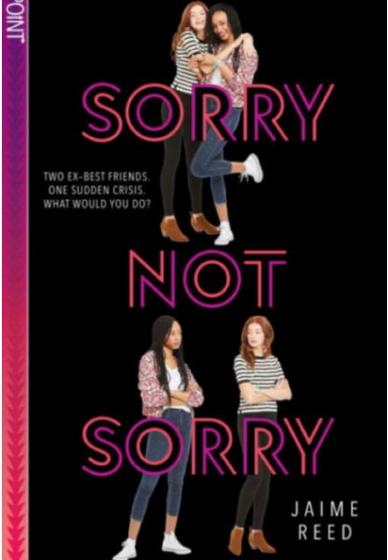
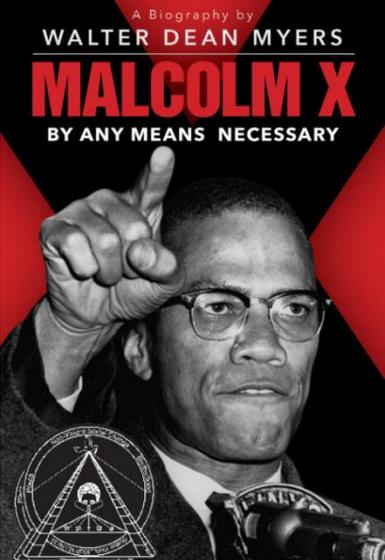
## 8<sup>th</sup> grade Suggested Summer Reading List

**Summer Assignment: Please choose two novels to read this summer. For one of the books, please write a reflection on what you learned and how it connects to your life. For the second one, please create a visual representation of your connection to the book. These assignments will constitute your first grades of the year and are due on Friday, August 27<sup>th</sup>.**

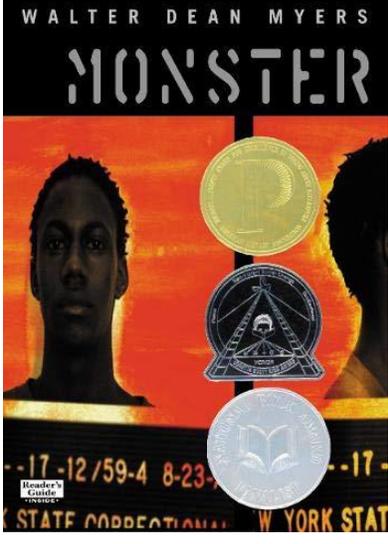
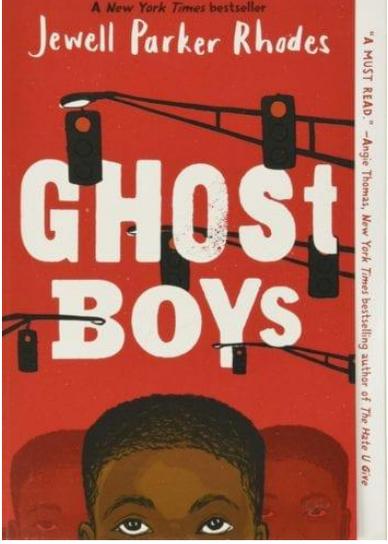
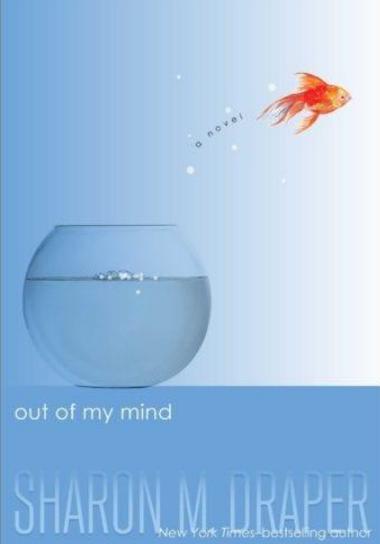
**Below are some books we thought you might enjoy! We encourage you to choose at least one from this list. Happy summer reading!**

Strange Birds	Count Me In	No Voice Too Small	Finding Junie Kim
			
<p>In <i>Strange Birds: A Field Guide to Ruffling Feathers</i> by Celia C. Pérez, a diverse group of girls find unity despite their differences in order to end an outdated and problematic tradition in a local Girl Scout–type group called the Floras. The novel touches on environmental justice and intersectional feminism as Ofelia, Aster, Cat, and Lane explore ways to protest that have varying levels of risk for each of them due to their identities and relative privilege.</p>	<p><i>Count Me In</i> by Varsha Bajaj is the story of two middle schoolers, Karina and Chris. Told in alternating voices, the novel follows their unlikely friendship and how an incident of anti-Asian violence involving Karina’s grandfather rocks their community. Karina uses social media to post her feelings, bringing in support from the entire community.</p>	<p>By: Lindsay H. Metcalf, Keila V. Dawson, and Jeanette Bradley / Illustrated by: Jeanette Bradley</p> <p>This all-star anthology covers fourteen youth activists calling for change and fighting for justice across the United States. These change-makers represent a wide range of life experiences and causes, including racial justice, clean water, LGBTQ+ rights, mental health, and more, Beautifully illustrated poems by #ownvoices authors, plus secondary text, spotlight the efforts and achievements of such luminaries.</p>	<p>For fans of <i>Inside Out</i> and <i>Back Again</i> and <i>Amina’s Voice</i> comes a breathtaking own voices story of family, hope, and survival from Ellen Oh, cofounder of <i>We Need Diverse Books</i>. When Junie Kim is faced with middle school racism, she learns of her grandparents’ extraordinary strength and finds her voice. Inspired by her mother’s real-life experiences during the Korean War, Oh’s characters are real and riveting.</p> <p>“Both unique and universal, timely and time</p>

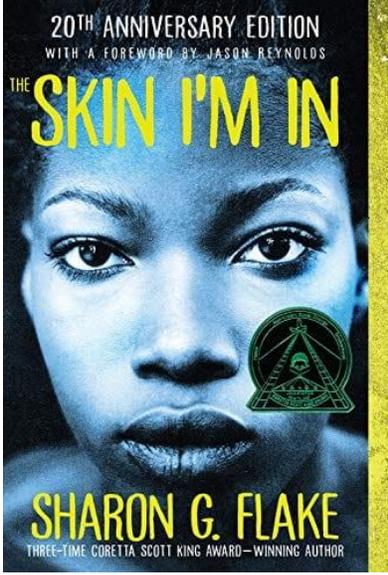
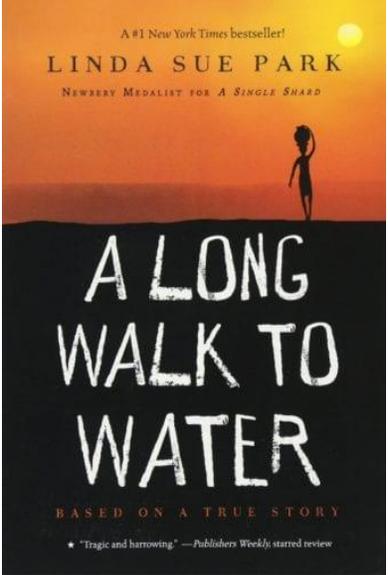
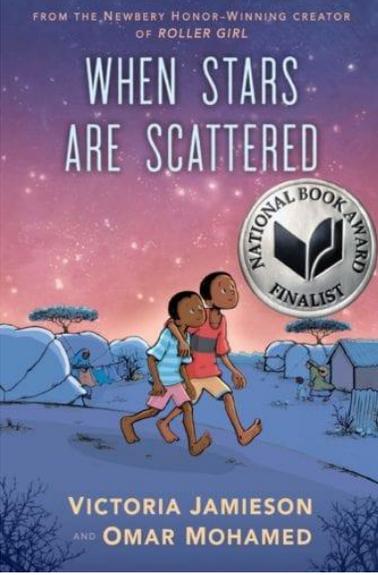
## 8<sup>th</sup> grade Suggested Summer Reading List

Quarantine	Sorry not Sorry	Malcolm X
		
<p>Oliver wants a girlfriend, and there's a girl back home who might be interested in him. The problem is, he has to spend his spring break on a volunteer trip in the Dominican Republic. Flora, on the other hand, isn't really looking for a boyfriend. She just wants to end a miserable spring break visiting her dad and her new stepmom in the Dominican Republic. The solution to both their problems? Get back home to New York ASAP. Sadly, they won't be getting there anytime soon. Their hopes are dashed when Flora's impulsiveness lands them in quarantine — just the two of them. Now, the two teens must come together in order to survive life in a bubble for 30 days. In that time, love will bloom. But is it the real thing, or just a placebo effect?</p>	<p>Janelle and Alyssa used to be friends. Best friends. They knew each other's deepest secrets and went through the hardest times together. But that was then. Now? Their status is somewhere between frenemies and full-on rivals. Janelle is all about making a difference in her community, while Alyssa reigns over the shallowest girls in school. Until the day Alyssa collapses and is rushed to the hospital. Suddenly, everyone knows about her declining health and race against time. And, in a stunning twist of fate, the only person who might be able to save Alyssa's life is Janelle. But will the girls' bitter past get in the way of their futures?</p>	<p>As a fourteen-year-old he was Malcolm Little, the president of his class and a top student. At sixteen he was hustling tips at a Boston nightclub. In Harlem he was known as Detroit Red, a slick street operator. At nineteen he was back in Boston, leading a gang of burglars. At twenty he was in prison. It was in prison that Malcolm Little started the journey that would lead him to adopt the name Malcolm X, and there he developed his beliefs about what being black means in America. From streetwise teenager to the militant leader of hundreds of thousands in the Nation of Islam, Malcolm X was one of the most respected, and most feared, men in American history. Even today, years after his assassination, young people still listen to his speeches and read his autobiography.</p>

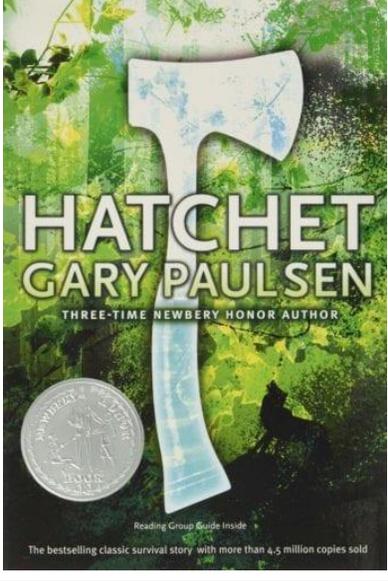
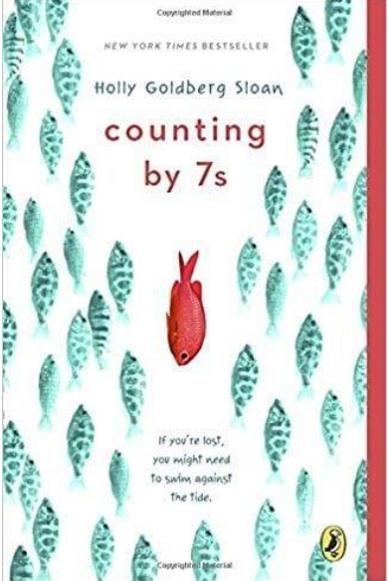
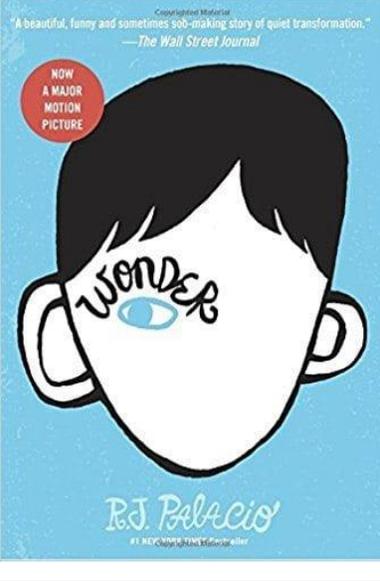
## 8<sup>th</sup> grade Suggested Summer Reading List

Monster	Ghost Boys	Out of My Mind
		
<p>The recipient of multiple awards, this novel follows Steve, an amateur filmmaker. As a way of coping with the horrific events that entangle him, he decides to transcribe his trial into a script, just like in the movies.</p>	<p>Twelve-year-old Jerome is shot by a police officer who mistakes his toy gun for a real one. Now a ghost, Jerome watches the devastation unleashed on his family and community in the wake of what they see as an unjust and brutal killing. Soon, Jerome meets another ghost: Emmett Till, a boy from a very different time but similar circumstances.</p>	<p>Follow eleven-year-old Melody, who is not like most people. She can't walk. She can't talk. She can't write. All because she has cerebral palsy. But she also has a photographic memory; she can remember every detail of everything she has ever experienced. She's the smartest kid in her whole school, but NO ONE knows it.</p>

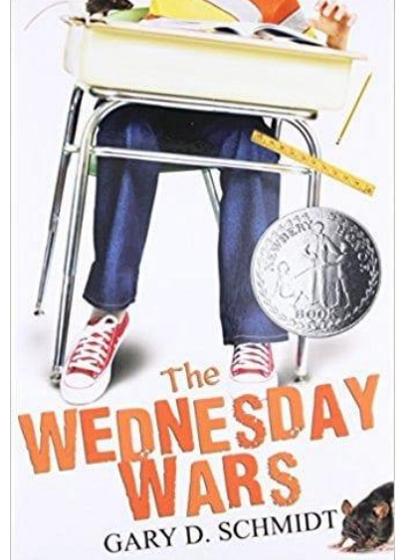
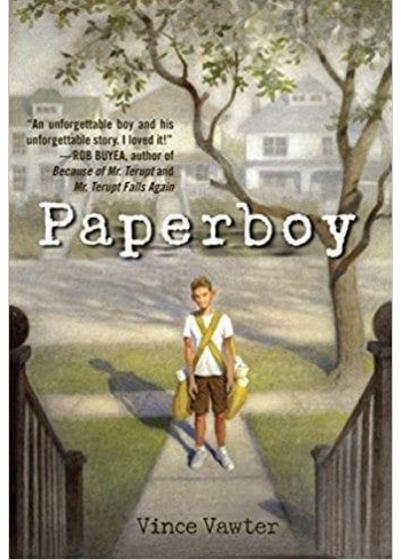
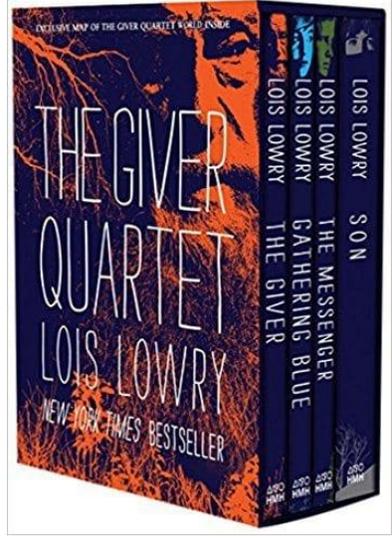
## 8<sup>th</sup> grade Suggested Summer Reading List

Skin I'm in	A Long Walk to Water	When Stars are Scattered
		
<p>Maleeka suffers every day from the taunts of the other kids in her class—about her homemade clothes, her good grades, or her dark, black skin. A new teacher starts at their school. Her face is blotched with a startling white patch, but she loves her skin. Can Maleeka learn to do the same?</p>	<p>A tale of two stories, told in alternating sections, about two eleven-year-olds in Sudan—a girl in 2008 and a boy in 1985.</p>	<p>A graphic novel about growing up in a refugee camp, as told by a former Somali refugee.</p>

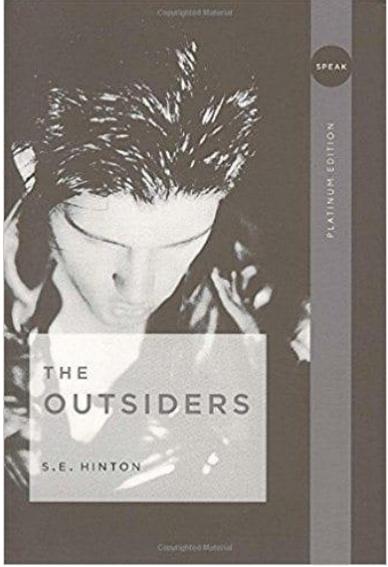
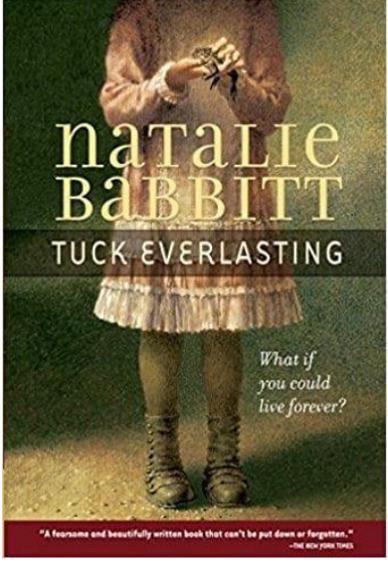
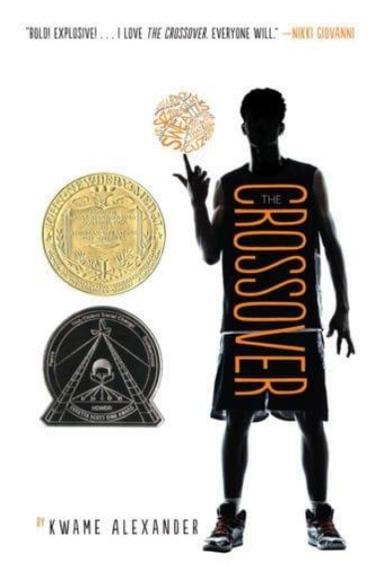
## 8<sup>th</sup> grade Suggested Summer Reading List

Hatchet	Counting by 7s	Wonder
		
<p>Thirteen-year-old Brian Robeson is traveling by single-engine plane to visit his father, when the plane crashes and kills the pilot. Brian is alone in the Canadian wilderness with nothing but his clothing, a tattered windbreaker, and the hatchet his mother had given him as a present.</p>	<p>Genius Willow Chance loses both parents in a car crash, but she is able to both change her life and impact those around her.</p>	<p>Born with extraordinary physical deformities, Auggie finally braves going to an actual school. He is stared at and tormented, but he also finds friendship. Middle schoolers will cheer for him and cry for him.</p>

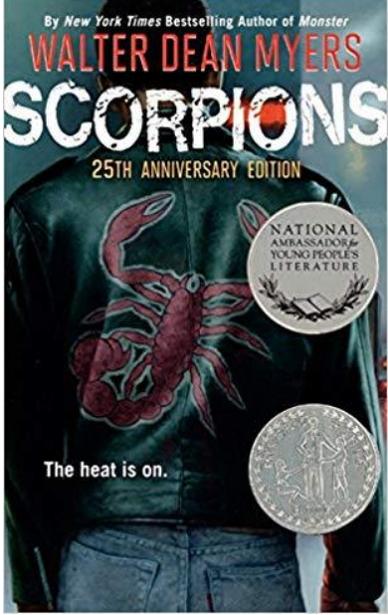
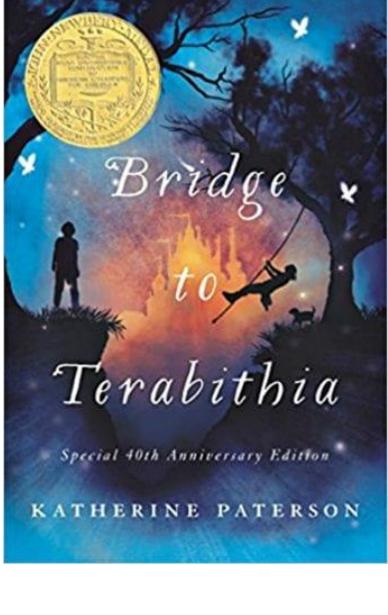
## 8<sup>th</sup> grade Suggested Summer Reading List

The Wednesday	Paperboy	The Giver
		
<p>Holling Hoodhood is attending seventh grade in the late 1960s. While the Vietnam War consumes his father’s attention, Holling is locked into Wednesday lessons with a teacher who insists he read the plays of Shakespeare.</p>	<p>Little Man is an amazing ball player, but he can barely say a word—not even his own name—without stuttering. So when he takes over his best friend’s paper route for the month of July, Little Man’s not exactly looking forward to interacting with the customers.</p>	<p>Jonas lives in a society in which the government controls everything: childbearing, careers, marriages. His utopia has sacrificed emotions and uniqueness in favor of a safe and predictable life. When Jonas learns that life could be different, he can never turn back to the life he’s always known.</p>

## 8<sup>th</sup> grade Suggested Summer Reading List

The Outsiders	Tuck Everlasting	Crossover
		
<p>Ponyboy and his brothers, Darry and Sodapop have a tough life. They know they can count on their friends—true friends who will do anything for them. Unfortunately, the Socs, a vicious gang of rich kids, make them prove their loyalties after a night of fighting goes too far.</p>	<p>Is eternal life really that wonderful? Ten-year-old Winnie Foster discovers that, for the immortal Tuck family, the answer is more complicated than you might expect.</p>	<p>Basketball-loving twins Josh and Jordan find their way through isolation and conflict in this novel in verse by master poet, Kwame Alexander.</p>

## 8<sup>th</sup> grade Suggested Summer Reading List

Scorpions	Star	Bridge to Terabithia
 <p>By New York Times Bestselling Author of <i>Monster</i> <b>WALTER DEAN MYERS</b> <b>SCORPIONS</b> 25TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION</p> <p>NATIONAL AMBASSADOR for YOUNG PEOPLE'S LITERATURE</p> <p>The heat is on.</p>	 <p>JERRY SPINELLI</p>	 <p>BRIDGES TO TERABITHIA</p> <p>BRIDGE to TERABITHIA</p> <p>Special 40th Anniversary Edition</p> <p>KATHERINE PATERSON</p>
<p>Twelve-year-old Jamal already has to be the man of the house now that his older brother is in jail. Will he also take his brother's place as leader of a gang?</p>	<p>Leo's a normal kid in a normal town. When Stargirl shows up with her rat, her ukelele, and her crazy ideas, nobody knows quite what to make of her.</p>	<p>Jesse Aarons knows all about hard work, but his new friend Leslie teaches him about the power of his imagination. Keep a box of tissues handy.</p>