

LTMS 8th Grade Language Arts Summer Reading List

Please select **two** books from the list below to read during summer break. Be prepared for an assessment activity when school begins in the fall.

Anthem by Ayn Rand

In a future world, only one man dares to think, strive, and love as an individual in the midst of a paralyzing collective humanity.

The Coffin Quilt: The Feud Between the Hatfields and the McCoys by Ann Rinaldi

In the 1880s, young Fanny McCoy witnesses the growth of a terrible and violent feud between her Kentucky family and the West Virginia Hatfields, complicated by her older sister Roseanna's romance with a Hatfield.

Dacey's Song by Cynthia Voigt

Now that the four abandoned Tillerman children are settled in with their grandmother, Dacey finds that their new beginnings require love, trust, humor, and courage.

The Green Glass Sea by Ellen Klages

While her father works on the Manhattan Project, eleven-year-old gadget lover and outcast Dewey Kerrigan lives in Los Alamos Camp, and becomes friends with Suze, another young girl who is shunned by her peers.

Homecoming by Cynthia Voigt

Abandoned by their mother, four children begin a search for a home and an identity.

The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros

A young girl living in a Hispanic neighborhood in Chicago ponders the advantages and disadvantages of her environment and evaluates her relationships with family and friends.

Monster by Walter Dean Myers

While on trial as an accomplice to a murder, sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon records his experiences in prison and in the courtroom in the form of a film script as he tries to come to terms with the course his life has taken.

Uglies Trilogy by Scott Westerfield

Students must read all 3 titles. *Uglies* is the first book of the trilogy. The second book is *Pretties* and the third is *Specials*. It's about a world in which everyone has an operation when they turn sixteen, making them supermodel beautiful. Big eyes, full lips, no one fat or skinny. This seems like a good thing, but it's not. Especially if you're one of the uglies, a bunch of radical teens who've decided they want to keep their own faces.

Z for Zachariah by Robert O'Brien

After living alone for a year, believing herself to be the only survivor of a nuclear holocaust, sixteen-year-old Ann makes a startling discovery--a scientist named John Loomis has also survived--but this pleasant surprise very quickly turns sinister.

Challenging Reads

Andromeda Strain by Michael Crichton

For five days, scientists struggle to identify and control a deadly new virus threatening the United States.

Around the World in 80 Days by Jules Verne

Phileas Fogg, an English gentleman, bets 20,000 pounds that he can travel around the world in only eighty days.

MORE ON REVERSE SIDE

The Beekeeper's Apprentice by Laurie King

Mary Russell, an intelligent young woman, becomes the apprentice of Sherlock Holmes.

Contact by Carl Sagan

Scientist Eleanor Arroway risks her life and reputation in an attempt to respond when radio telescopes on Earth receive a signal indicating the existence of life twenty-six light-years away in the vicinity of the star Vega.

David Copperfield by Charles Dickens

A young boy in 19th-century London runs away from an unhappy home, finds employment in a wine factory, and becomes acquainted with a wide variety of characters in the city streets.

Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte

When a penniless governess falls in love with the brooding master of Thornfield, she is unaware of the tragic events that will follow.

The Memory Keeper's Daughter by Kim Edwards

Dr. David Henry, forced to deliver his own twins during a snowstorm in 1964 with only a nurse to help him, makes a decision that has far-reaching effects on his life, and the lives of his wife and son, when his infant daughter is born with Down Syndrome, and in a vain attempt to protect his wife, he orders the nurse to take the baby to an institution.

The Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane

During his service in the Civil War, a young Union soldier matures to manhood and finds peace of mind as he comes to grips with his conflicting emotions about war.

Roots by Alex Haley

A black American traces his family's origins back to the African who was brought to America as a slave in 1767.

The Time Machine by H.G. Wells

This story relates the adventures of a scientist who invents a machine that transports him into the future.