

Summer Reading

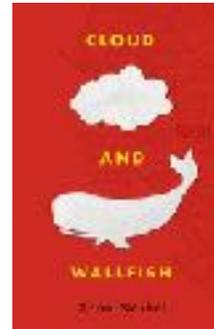
Educational researchers have conducted studies on the impact that summer vacation has on academic outcomes. The findings suggest that the break from school can have a negative effect causing a drop in reading scores from the spring to the fall. Researchers call this the “Summer Slide.”

Additionally, NPC Research and the Collaborative Summer Library Program reviewed four comprehensive research syntheses conducted since 2000. The overarching conclusion was that summer reading decreases summer learning loss and increases reading achievement.

Reading just 4 to 6 books, for middle schoolers, has the potential to prevent a decline in reading achievement scores from the spring to the fall. When students choose reading materials and read for enjoyment, they receive gains in reading achievement, including better reading comprehension, vocabulary, and even writing style. The longer that this voluntary reading is practiced, the more consistent and positive the results.

With that in mind, the eighth grade language arts teachers would like to encourage incoming eighth graders to read **at least four books** this summer. Three of those books are student-choice novels. It is our hope that they choose a novel that interests them and that they want to read. Teachers are recommending that one out of those four books be a selection from either the fiction or nonfiction list. All students will complete an assignment based on one of these books upon returning to school in the fall.

Fiction List



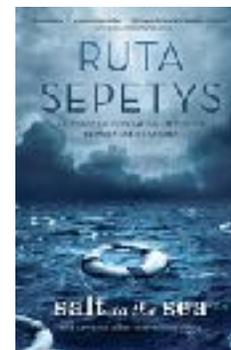
Cloud and Wallfish by Anne Nesbet

Picked up by his parents and taken to the airport with stern instructions to avoid answering questions, Noah is rushed to East Berlin, where he confronts astonishing secrets about his and his family's true identity.



Everlost by Neal Shusterman

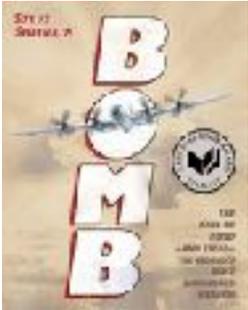
When Nick and Allie are killed in a car crash, they end up in Everlost, or limbo for lost souls, where, although Nick is satisfied, Allie will stop at nothing--even skinjacking--to break free.



Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys

As WW II is drawing to a close, thousands of refugees are on a desperate trek toward freedom. When the paths of three youth converge, they find strength, courage, and trust in one another tested with each step closer to safety.

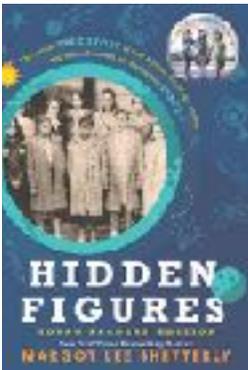
Nonfiction List



Bomb: the Race to Build and Steal the World's Most Dangerous Weapon by Steve Sheinkin

Examines the history of the atomic bomb, discussing the discovery of the behavior of uranium when placed next to radioactive material, and the race to build the bomb.

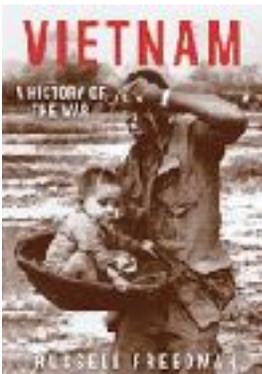
Examines the history of the atomic bomb, discussing the discovery of the behavior of uranium when placed next to radioactive material, and the race to build the bomb.



Hidden Figures: the Untold True Story of Four African-American women who helped launch our nation into space (Young Readers' Edition) by Margot Lee Shetterly

The true story of four African-American female mathematicians at NASA who helped achieve great space program moments.

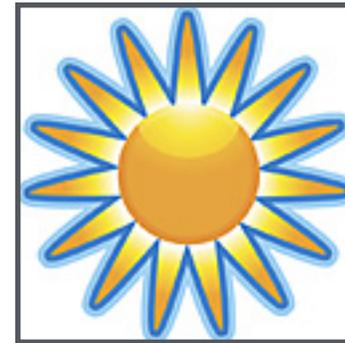
The true story of four African-American female mathematicians at NASA who helped achieve great space program moments.



Vietnam: A History of a War by Russell Freedman

An overview of America's involvement in Vietnam and how America got caught up in Cold War politics in Vietnam.

The events in Vietnam as well as those at home are disclosed.



Hinsdale Middle School

Recommended

8th Grade

Summer Reading

2017