

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List 2021

**Students are required to read 2 (two) books that he/she has not read or tested on previously.**

***Bronx Masquerade*** by Nikki Grimes

While studying the Harlem Renaissance, students at a Bronx high school read aloud poems they have written, revealing their innermost thoughts and fears to their formerly clueless classmates.

Interest level: UG    Book level: 4.5    24,229 words/167 pgs

***Corner of the Universe*** by Ann Martin

During the summer that Hattie turns twelve, her world is turned upside down with the startling arrival of an uncle no one has ever spoken about. Adam's "school" -- an institution for the mentally disabled -- is being closed.

Interest level: UG    Book level: 4.5    42,500 words/189 pgs

***Double Dutch*** by Sharon Draper

Three eighth-grade friends, preparing for the International Double Dutch Championship jump rope competition in their home town, cope with Randy's missing father, Yo Yo's encounter with the class bullies, and a secret Delia is too embarrassed to share.

Interest level: MG    Book level: 4.9    44,912 words/183 pgs

***Secrets, Lies and Algebra*** by Wendy Lichtman

Eighth-grader Tess is having trouble in school and with her friends. A boy she secretly likes asks her to cheat for him, and she suspects her mom's friend has been murdered. Luckily, Tess has always loved math, and she uses mathematical concepts to help her solve the dilemmas she's facing.

Interest level: MG+    Book level: 5.9    27,785 words/183 pgs

***The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise*** by Dan Gemeinhart

Twelve-year-old Coyote and her father rush to Poplin Springs, Washington, in their old school bus to save a memory box buried in a park that will soon be demolished.

Interest level: MG    Book level: 4.7    83,218 words /341 pgs

***The Outsiders*** by S E Hinton

Rivalry between rich and poor gangs in 1960s Oklahoma leads to the deaths of three teenagers and intense soul-searching for one of the kids involved, a sensitive fourteen-year-old writer named Ponyboy.

Interest level: UG    Book level: 4.7    48,523 words/188 pgs

***Soldier's Heart*** by Gary Paulson

Eager to enlist, fifteen-year-old Charley has a change of heart after experiencing both the physical horrors and mental anguish of Civil War combat.

Interest level: MG    Book level: 5.7    15,206 words/104 pgs

***Day of the Pelican*** Katherine Paterson

After her thirteen year old brother is captured and beaten by the Serbian police, Meli and her family flee their homeland in search of safety. This heartwarming contemporary tale illustrates the power of family despite prejudice and persecution.

Interest level: MG    Book level: 5.2    40,005 words /145 pgs



Clark-Shaw Magnet School

***Death Cloud*** by Andrew Lane

In 1868, with his army officer father posted to India and his mother mysteriously "unwell," fourteen-year-old Sherlock is sent to stay with his uncle and aunt in Hampshire, where he uncovers his first murder. The plot contains violence. Book #1

Interest level: MG+ Book level: 6.3 72409 words/311 pgs

***Million Dollar Throw*** by Mike Lupica

Eighth-grade star quarterback Nate gets a chance to win a million dollars if he can complete a pass during the halftime of a New England Patriot's game, and he is nearly overwhelmed by the pressure to succeed.

Interest level: MG Book level: 5.4 54427 words/244 pgs

***Code Talker: A Novel About the Navajo Marines of World War Two*** by Joseph Bruchac

After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.

Interest level: MG Book level: 6.4 56,150 words/231 pgs

***H.I.V.E.: Higher Institute of Villainous Education*** by Mark Walden

Swept away to a hidden academy for training budding evil geniuses, Otto, a brilliant orphan, Wing, a sensitive warrior, Laura, a shy computer specialist, and Shelby, an infamous jewel thief, plot to escape the prison known as H.I.V.E. Book #1

Interest level: MG Book level: 7.5 65,909/304 pgs

This book selection is located as an e-book on Big Universe @ <https://www.biguniverse.com/signin>  
Student login is the same username and login to get on a MCPSS school computer.  
Group username: mcpss

***The Fat Boy Chronicles; Inspired by a True Story*** by Diane Lang

Jimmy Winterpock, 187 pounds at the age of fourteen, finds the constant taunts over his weight difficult to bear, but his life changes when his friend Paul enlists him in helping solve a local murder case. The coauthor is Michael Buchanan.

Interest level: MG+ Book level: 5.2 61283 words/219 pages