

West Seneca West Middle School

Summer 2019 Reading List for Grade 8

Incoming 8th graders are expected to read **two** books from the list. Students will be given an assignment in September.

Book Title / Series Number if available	Author	Year	Genre	Lexile
1. <u><i>Eleanor & Park</i></u> It's the start of a new school year when 10th-graders Eleanor and Park meet on the bus. They are two star-crossed misfits: she's a new student and is often left out. He's a skinny townie who tries to stay out of the spotlight. Their slowly evolving relationship is life-changing for them both.	Rainbow Rowell	2013	Realistic fiction	580
2. <u><i>Monument 14 / bk. 1 of 3</i></u> A strange weather phenomenon forces students to take cover in a superstore. The 14 children and teenagers take refuge while the world outside gets torn apart from a series of escalating disasters. The group must figure out how to survive in their new world.	Emmy Laybourne	2012	Science fiction	590
3. <u><i>The Running Dream</i></u> * A school bus accident leaves 16-year-old Jessica an amputee. She returns to school with a prosthetic leg. Her track team searches for a way to help rekindle her dream of running.	Wendelin Van Draanen	2011	Sports fiction	650
4. <u><i>Matched / bk. 1 of 3</i></u> Cassia has always had complete trust in the Society to make decisions for her, but when she is being paired with her ideal mate, a second face flashes on the screen. She begins to doubt the Society's inability to be wrong as she tries to decide which boy she truly loves.	Ally Condie	2010	Science fiction	680
5. <u><i>The Angel Experiment / bk. 1 of 8</i></u> * The "bird kids" are the result of genetic experimentation. The mutant Erasers abduct the youngest bird kid. The bird kids take off in pursuit to locate their friend and they struggle to figure out what they are meant to do.	James Patterson	2005	Fantasy fiction	700
6. <u><i>One of Us is Lying</i></u> It's a murder mystery: five students walk into detention. Only four walk out. Simon, the outcast who leads the school's gossip app, has been murdered. He had dirt on all those with him. This is a fast-paced thriller with twists that might surprise even the most hardened mystery reader.	Karen M. McManus	2017	Mystery fiction	730
7. <u><i>H₂O / bk. 1 of 2</i></u> Ruby Morris heard about the asteroid that almost collided with Earth but years later, dust from that asteroid infects water molecules with an alien virus that kills humans on contact. Alone and thirsty, Ruby holds tight to the unlikely hope that her father is still alive.	Virginia Bergin	2015	Science fiction	740
8. <u><i>The Crossover</i></u> The Bell twins Josh and Jordan are stars on the basketball court. There are some differences between them the two are comrades in life - Josh shaves his head and Jordan loves his locs. But then Jordan gets a girlfriend, and before Josh knows it, things start to change.	Kwame Alexander	2014	Sports fiction	750
9. <u><i>Midwinterblood</i></u> This story is about two characters whose identities shift as they are reborn throughout time. The story is told in reverse, and introduces readers to a stranded WWII pilot and two children in 1848 who are told a ghost story. It goes all the way back to a king and queen in a Time Unknown.	Marcus Sedgwick	2013	Fantasy fiction	770
10. <u><i>Projekt 1065</i></u> It is 1943, and 13-year-old Michael O'Shaunessey is son of the Irish ambassador to Nazi Germany. He is also a spy for the British Secret Service. Pretending that he agrees with the Hitler Youth is hard enough but soon both his and his parents' lives get a lot more dangerous.	Alan Gratz	2016	Historical fiction	780
11. <u><i>Sunrise Over Fallujah / bk. 2 of 2</i></u> Robin Perry (nicknamed Birdy) is sent to Iraq in 2003 as a member of Civilian Affairs Battalion. Perry and the rest of his unit soon find their good intentions in the war being replaced with survival and despair. <i>This is a follow-up to <u>Fallen Angels</u>, which is on the 7th grade summer reading list.</i>	Walter Dean Myers	2011	Realistic fiction	780
12. <u><i>The Secret Life of Bees</i></u> * Lily Owens' life has been shaped around the blurred memory of the afternoon her mother was killed. When Lily's stand-in mother, Rosaleen, insults three of the town's fiercest racists, Lily decides they should both escape to a town that holds the secret to her mother's past.	Susan Monk Kidd	2002	Coming-of-age fiction	840
13. <u><i>Paper Towns</i></u> One month before graduating from his Central Florida high school, Quentin "Q" Jacobsen basks in the predictable boringness of his life. That is, until the beautiful and exciting Margo Roth Spiegelman, Q's neighbor and classmate, takes him on a midnight adventure and then mysteriously disappears.	John Green	2008	Mystery fiction	850
14. <u><i>The House on Mango Street</i></u> * Esperanza Cordero is a young Latina girl growing up in Chicago, inventing for herself who and what she will become. Esperanza uses poems and stories to figure out the advantages and disadvantages of her environment.	Sandra Cisneros	1984	Coming-of-age fiction	870
15. <u><i>Bucking the Sarge</i></u> * This story is filled with unforgettable, hilarious characters. Luther T. Farrell, 14, has to get out of his neighborhood. His mom, the Sarge, is involved in shady business with her rental properties. Luther just wants to go away to college, but first he makes friends with one of his mother's tenants.	Christopher Paul Curtis	2004	Humorous fiction	1000
16. <u><i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time</i></u> * Christopher is a mathematically-gifted, autistic 15-year-old boy. Despite his overwhelming fear of interacting with people, he decides to investigate the murder of a neighbor's dog and uncovers secret information about his mother.	Mark Haddon	2003	Mystery fiction	1180

* Indicates an e-book is available for self-checkout in the school library catalog, Destiny: <http://libraries.wscschools.org>



Turn to back for
information on
locating print
book copies



HOW TO LOCATE BOOKS:

1. West Middle school library catalog, Destiny:

- a. <http://libraries.wscschools.org> (choose "West Middle" on right side)
- b. Students may log into the Destiny catalog using their school username and password to search for books. To reset your password during the summer, call the Information Technology department at 677-3832.
- c. Students may check out summer books from the school library in June before school ends and return them in September. E-books and audio books may be checked out any time online in Destiny. The borrowing time is 3 weeks; then the book is automatically returned.

2. Buffalo & Erie County public library:

- a. <http://www.buffalolib.org> (to search for a book, choose "Library Catalog" from across the top)
- b. The public library offers print, audio and e-books. Try one of the free apps that link to your public library card and are available on many different devices: Overdrive, Libby or Sora.
- c. Phone numbers for local branches:
 - i. West Seneca, 716-674-2928
 - ii. Orchard Park, 716-662-9851
 - iii. Lackawanna, 716-823-0630
 - iv. Julia Boyer Reinstein (Cheektowaga), 716-668-4991
 - v. Anna Reinstein (Cheektowaga), 716-892-8089
- d. How to get a library card: <http://www.buffalolib.org/content/borrower-information>

3. Local book stores:

- a. Monkey See Monkey Do Bookstore, 9060 Main St., Clarence NY 14031, 716-204-8417, www.monkeysread.com
- b. Dog Ears Bookstore, 688 Abbott Rd., South Buffalo NY 14220, 716-823-2665, www.dogearsbookstore.org
- c. Talking Leaves Elmwood, 951 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo NY 14224, 716-884-9524, www.facebook.com/talkingleavesbooks
- d. Barnes & Noble McKinley Mall, 3701 McKinley Parkway, Hamburg NY 14219, 716-822-0832, www.bn.com
- e. Barnes & Noble Eastern Hills Mall, 4401 Transit Road, Clarence NY 14221, 716-634-1011, www.bn.com
- f. Barnes & Noble Amherst, 1565 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst NY 14228, 716-837-7209, www.bn.com

4. Online book stores:

- a. www.powells.com
- b. www.amazon.com

