

2021 Summer Reading

*Summer Reading Suggestions for Grade 8
Prepared by Mrs. Goodwin, MS/HS Librarian*



Award Winning Books

Title	Summary	Author	Interest Level	Reading Level	Lexile	Grade
<u>A Place Inside of Me: A Poem to Heal the Heart</u>	This powerful poem captures a Black child's wide range of emotions over the passage of a year—from joy to sorrow and anger when he learns of a shooting, and, subsequently, to hope and love. (Caldecott Honor Book)	Zetta Elliott	K-3			All grade levels
<u>Box: Henry Brown Mails Himself to Freedom</u>	The true story of Henry “Box” Brown, who shipped himself to freedom in a box, is told in 51 emotionally intense poems that have implications for the present day. (Newbery Honor Book)	Carole Boston Weatherford	5-8			All grade levels
<u>Exquisite: The Poetry and Life of Gwendolyn Brooks</u>	The biography of Pulitzer-winning poet Gwendolyn Brooks reveals her childhood dreams and inspirations, her challenges with race, gender, and poverty, and her desires to share stories through poetry. (Sibert Honor Book)	Suzanne Slade	K-3			All grade levels
<u>Almost American Girl: An Illustrated Memoir</u>	Ha shares her experience of a surprise move from South Korea to Alabama with her single mom. Feeling out of place in her new stepfamily and high school, she acclimates with the help of a comic-making class.	Robin Ha	YA			Grades 6-8

<u>Dragon Hoops</u>	This graphic novel intertwines the history of basketball with the triumphs and tribulations of the athletes on the champion team at the high school where Yang teaches.	Gene Luen Yang	YA			Grades 6-8
<u>Elatsoe</u>	When her cousin is killed, Ellie must delve into the town's evil past and use her Lipan Apache family's ability to call spirits back to life in order to identify and bring the murderer to justice.	Darcie Little Badger	YA			Grades 6-8
<u>The Magic Fish</u>	In this graphic novel, Tién and his mother struggle to communicate, but find a way to tell their truths through the telling of fairy tales, both old and new.	Trung Le Nguyen	YA		HL400 L	Grades 6-8
<u>Raybearer</u>	At Tarisai's birth her mother makes a wish that Tarisai is compelled to obey -- kill the emperor's son. Tarisai must learn to resist the command when she becomes part of the prince's council and his best friend.	Jordan Ifueko	YA			Grades 6-8
<u>Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You: A Remix of the National Book Award-winning Stamped from the Beginning</u>	An exploration of racism in the United States through the past 400 hundred years is presented with humanity and wit.	Jason Reynolds & Ibram X	YA		1000L	Grades 6-8
<u>Superman Smashes the Klan</u>	Superman helps a young Chinese American, Roberta Lee, fight racism in Metropolis while dealing with his own issues with assimilation.	Gene Luen Yang	YA			Grades 6-8
<u>This Light Between Us: A Novel of World War II</u>	Pen pals for 10 years, Japanese American Alex Maki and French Jewish girl Charlie Lévy share a coming-of-age story and fantastical romance amidst historically accurate - and heartbreaking - injustice.	Andrew Fukuda	YA			Grades 6-8