

Reading List for 8th Grade

Exploration

Boston Jane: An Adventure, by
Jennifer L. Holm

Carry On, Mr. Bowditch, by Jean
Latham

*Commodore Perry in the Land of the
Shogun*, by Rhoda Blumberg

The Glass Sentence, by S.E. Grove

The Secret Journeys of Jack London:

The Wild, by Christopher Golden and
Tim Lebbon

Daughter, by Katherine Kirkpatrick

The Time Travelers (The Gideon
Trilogy),

by Linda Buckley-Archer

Renaissance & Shakespeare

Duchessina, by Carolyn Meyer

King of Shadows, by Susan Cooper

Nine Days a Queen:

The Short Life and Reign of Lady

Jane Grey, by Ann Rinaldi

The Perilous Guard, by Elizabeth

Marie Pope

Red-Headed Princess, by Geraldine

McCaughrean

The Total Tragedy of a Girl Named

Hamlet, by Erin Dionne

Around Africa

Conversations with Myself, by Nelson
Mandela

Home of the Brave, by Katherine
Applegate

*Nelson Mandela's Favorite African
Folktales*

*Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to
Freedom* (abridged), by editor Chris
van Wyk

The Red Pencil, by Andrea Davis
Pinkney

The Return, by Sonia Levitin

*Waiting for the Rain: A Novel of South
Africa*, by Sheila Gordon

Endangered, by Eliot Schrefe

Around the World

One Half from the East, by Nadia
Hashimi

Egg and Spoon, by Gregory Maguire

A Girl Named Disaster, by Nancy
Farmer

Books in Verse

Brown Girl Dreaming, by Jacqueline
Woodson

The Crossover, by Kwame Alexander

*The Death of the Hat: A Brief History
of Poetry in 50 Objects* selected,
by Paul B. Janeczko

Make Lemonade, by Virginia Euwer

Wulf Out of the Dust, by Karen Hesse

Red Butterfly, by A.L. Sonnichsen and
Amy June Bates

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Books in Verse

Serafina's Promise, by Ann E. Burg
The Surrender Tree:
Poems of Cuba's Struggle for
Freedom,
by Margarita Engle
Garvey's Choice, by Nikki Grimes
Full Cicada Moon, by Marilyn Hilton
Booked, by Kwame Alexander
Blue Birds, by Caroline Starr Rose

Take Me Away

The Accidental Highwayman, by Ben
Trip
Atlantis Rising, by T. A. Barron
The Lost Years, by T. A. Barron
City of Beasts, by Isabel Allende
Dragons at Crumbling Castle and
Other Tales, by Sir Terry Pratchett
Egg & Spoon, by Gregory MacGuire

The Last Dragon Slayer, by Jasper F.
Forde
The Riverman, by Aaron
Starmer
Time out of Time, by Maureen Doyle
McQuerry The Scourge, by Jennifer
Nielsen

Friendships

Athlete vs. Mathlete, by W.C. Mack
The Chocolate War, by Robert
Cormier

Rhyme Schemer, by K.A. Holt
Standing Against the Wind, by Traci L.
Jones
The Skin I'm In, by Sharon Flake
Money Hungry and Begging for
Change, by Sharon Flake
S.O.R. Losers, by AVI
Stargirl, by Jerry Spinelli
Counting by 7s, by Holly Sloan
Goodbye Stranger, by Rebecca Stead
Marcello in the Real World, by
Francisco Stork
The Moves Make the Man, by Bruce
Brooks
Trouble, by Gary Schmidt
Turn Left at the Cow, by Lisa Bullard
Wolf Hollow, by Lauren Wolk
Nothing But Trouble, by Jacqueline
Davies
Lily and Dunkin, by Donna Gephart
The Moorchild, by Eloise McGraw
As Brave As You, by Jason Reynolds

Mystery

Finding the Worm, by Mark Goldblatt
When Zachary Beaver Came to Town,
by Kimberly Willis Holt
The Wolf Keepers, by Elise Broach
All Rise for the Honorable Perry T.
Cook, by Leslie Connor

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Survival

Angry Waters, by Walt Morey
Crazy Jack, by Donna Jo Napoli
Hold Tight, Don't Let Go: A Novel of Haiti,
by Laura Rose Wagner
Jungle of Bones, by Ben Mikaelson
The Magical Adventures of Pretty Pearl,
by Virginia Hamilton
Masterminds, by Gordon Korman
Paper Things, by Jennifer Richards Jacobsen
A Solitary Blue, by Cynthia Voight

Historic Tales

Echo: A Novel, by Pam Muñoz Ryan
Going Over, by Beth Kephart
The Great Molasses Flood: Boston 1919,
by Deborah Kops
I Lived on Butterfly Hill, by Marjorie Agosín
Lincoln's Grave Robbers, by Steve Sheinkin
The Madman of Piney Woods,
by Christopher Paul Curtis
Soldier Bear, by Bibi Dumon Tak
Vango: Between Sky and Earth,
by Timothée de Fombelle
War Horse, by Michael Morpurgo
An Elephant in the Garden: Inspired by a True Story, by Michael Morpurgo

A Night Divided, by Jennifer A. Nielsen

The Inquisitor's Tale, or, The Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog, by Adam Gidwitz
The Winter Horses, by Philip Kerr
Fever 1793, by Laurie Halse Anderson
Chains (The Seeds of America Trilogy),
by Laurie Halse Anderson
The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate, by Jacqueline Kelly
Chasing Secrets by Gennifer Choldenko

Amazing Events

In the Shadow of Liberty: The Hidden History of Slavery, Four Presidents, and Five Black Lives,
by Kenneth C. Davis
Bubonic Panic: When Plague Invaded America, by Gail Jarrow
Red Madness:
How a Medical Mystery Changed What We Eat, by Gail Jarrow
We Will Not Be Silent: The White Rose Student Resistance Movement That Defied Adolf Hitler, by Russell Freedman
Dive! World War II Stories of Sailors & Submarines in the Pacific,
by Deborah Hopkinson
Vietnam: A History of a War, by Russell Freedman

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Amazing People

The Circuit, by Francisco Jimenez
Dead End in Norvelt, by Jack Gantos

Ida M. Tarbell:

The Woman Who Challenged Big Business—and Won, by Emily Arnold McCully

The Family Romanov:

Murder, Rebellion, and the Fall of Imperial Russia, by Candace Fleming

How They Choked:

Failures, Flops, and Flaws of the Awfully Famous, by Georgia Bragg

90 Miles to Havana, by Enrique Floris-Galbis

Taking Flight: From War Orphan to Star Ballerina, by Michaela de Prince

Tasting the Sky: A Palestinian Childhood,

by Ibtisam Barakat

Irena's Children: Young Readers Edition;

A True Story of Courage, by Mary Cronk Farrell

Breakthrough! How Three People Saved "Blue Babies" and Changed Medicine Forever, by Jim Murphy

Hidden Figures Young Readers' Edition,

by Margot Lee Shetterly

The Boys in the Boat (Young Readers Adaptation), by Daniel James Brown

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind,

Young Reader's Edition,

by William Kamkwamba

The Finest Hours:

The True Story of a Heroic Sea Rescue,

by Michael Tougias

Unbroken (The Young Adult Adaptation):

An Olympian's Journey from Airman to Castaway to Captive, by Laura Hillenbrand

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

Chasing Space Young Readers' Edition, by Leland Melvin

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

The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism & Treachery, by Steve Sheinkin

Undefeated: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team, by Steve Sheinkin

Sachiko: A Nagasaki Bomb Survivor's Story, by Caren Stelson

Blood Brother: Jonathan Daniels and His Sacrifice for Civil Rights, by Rich Wallace

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Amazing People

*Amelia Lost: The Life and
Disappearance of Amelia Earhart*, by
Candace Fleming

My Life with the Chimpanzees, by
Jane Goodall