



Middle School Summer Reading Guide 2021

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the 2021 Middle School Summer Reading Guide. Here you will find a list of the book choices, as well as instructions and expectations for the activities/projects we would like you to complete for the beginning of next school year.

Please acquire your summer reading choices on your own, from wherever you like, at whatever price point you like (new or used, purchased or borrowed from a friend or the public library), in whatever medium you like (traditional paperback, online, iBook, Kindle, or audiobook). Unless a particular edition or translation is indicated, any copy will suffice.

Initiated by the English Department in 1975, required summer reading has long been a tradition at The Prairie School, for both Middle and Upper School students. The Department believes that reading and learning should end neither in June nor with the curriculum, and strongly encourages students to take advantage of the time to read literature of their choosing — even above and beyond what we ask them to read for school. No matter the grade, required and independent reading helps students practice and improve their reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. It provides, too, a common reading experience among students in the same class and enhances future classroom activities.

Have a wonderful summer of reading!

Sincerely,

Kathy Boero, Head of Middle School

Jennifer Cobb, Grade 5 Reading Teacher) — jcobb@prairieschool.com

Alicia Gasser, Grade 6 English Teacher) — agasser@prairieschool.com

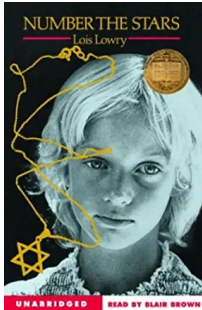
Tameka Tate, Grades 7/8 English Teacher) — ttate@prairieschool.com

P.S. Many of our current students will rely on Google Classroom to complete their assignments this summer. If you are new to Prairie this year and would like access to Google Classroom to aid with your assignments, please email your teacher (addresses above) to obtain the code to join the class!

Grade 5

Book Selections

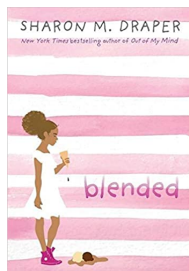
Students should read **two** books during the summer from the list below, and need to complete the assignment detailed below for the book they consider their favorite book of the summer. If they are having a hard time finding a “good fit” book, please email Mrs. Jenny Cobb at jcobb@prairieschool.com for assistance. If your child chooses to read more, he/she can earn extra credit for reading above and beyond two required books.



Number the Stars by Lois Lowry (1989)*

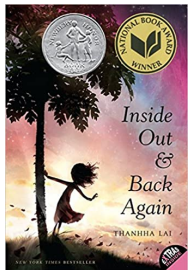
In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.

**Note: If you are taking the summer course “Getting Started on Summer Reading 5,” you must read *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry. The course will be offered June 21-24 at Prairie ([click here for more information](#)).*



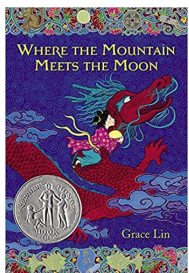
Blended by Sharon Draper

Eleven-year-old Isabella is used to these kinds of comments - her father is black, her mother is white - but that doesn't mean she likes them. And now that her parents are divorced (and getting along WORSE than ever), Isabella feels more like a push-me-pull-me toy.



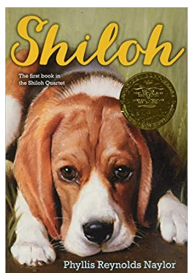
Inside Out and Back Again by Thanhha Lai

For all the ten years of her life, Hà has only known Saigon: the thrills of its markets, the joy of its traditions, and the warmth of her friends close by. But now the Vietnam War has reached her home. Hà and her family are forced to flee as Saigon falls, and they board a ship headed toward hope. In America, Hà discovers the foreign world of Alabama: the coldness of its strangers, the dullness of its food . . . and the strength of her very own family.



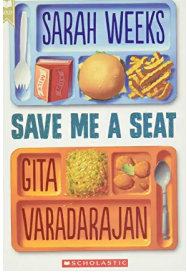
Where the Mountain Meets the Moon by Grace Lin

In the valley of Fruitless mountain, a young girl named Minli lives in a ramshackle hut with her parents. In the evenings, her father regales her with old folktales of the Jade Dragon and the Old Man on the Moon, who knows the answers to all of life's questions. Inspired by these stories, Minli sets off on an extraordinary journey to find the Old Man on the Moon to ask him how she can change her family's fortune. She encounters an assorted cast of characters and magical creatures along the way, including a dragon who accompanies her on her quest for the ultimate answer.



Shiloh by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

When Marty Preston comes across a young beagle in the hills behind his home, it's love at first sight—and also big trouble. It turns out the dog, which Marty names Shiloh, belongs to Judd Travers, who drinks too much and has a gun—and abuses his dogs. So when Shiloh runs away from Judd to Marty, Marty just has to hide him and protect him from Judd. But Marty's secret becomes too big for him to keep to himself, and it exposes his entire family to Judd's anger. How far will Marty have to go to make Shiloh his?



Save Me a Seat by Sarah Weeks

Ravi has just moved to the United States from India and has always been at the top of his class; Joe has lived in the same town his whole life and has learning problems--but when their lives intersect in the first week of fifth grade they are brought together by a common enemy (the biggest bully in their class) and the need to take control of their lives.



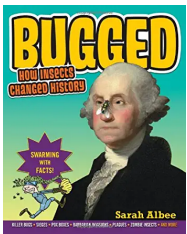
WildFire by Rodman Philbrick

Newbery Honor author Rodman Philbrick sends readers straight into the nightmare of a raging wildfire as 12-year-old Sam is trapped by explosive flames and deadly smoke that threaten to take his life. Can he survive? Lungs burning, Sam's only goal is to keep moving. Drought has made the forest a tinderbox, and Sam struggles to remember survival tricks he learned from his late father. Then, when he least expects it, he encounters Delphy, an older girl who is also lost. Their unlikely friendship grows as they join forces to find civilization.



Space Case by Stuart Gibbs

It's a murder mystery on the moon in this humorous and suspenseful space adventure from the author of *Belly Up* and *Spy School* that *The New York Times Book Review* called "a delightful and brilliantly constructed middle-grade thriller."



Bugged: How Insects Changed History by Sarah Albee

There are about ten quintillion insects in the world and some of them have affected human history in tremendous ways! For as long as humans have been on earth, we've co-existed with insects...for better or for worse. Once you begin to look at world history through fly-specked glasses, you begin to see the mark of these minute life forms at every turn. Beneficial bugs have built empires. Bad bugs have toppled them. Bugged is not your everyday history book.

Assignment (Due on the 2nd day of school)

Pictures with Captions

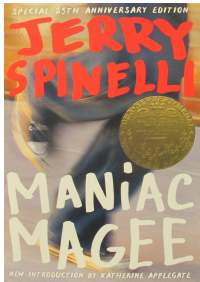
- Divide an 8 1/2" X 11" piece of paper into six even sections (if you want more space, use a poster board or any larger size piece of paper).
- Each section should include a picture and a caption. The caption should be detailed, but not take up more than half the section. [Click here](#) for a link to an example graphic organizer.
- Work must be neat and edited for display at school.
- **Fiction:** Include one of the following pieces of information in each of the six sections:
 - Title, author, and your name
 - Setting (where and when)
 - Main character — describe the character in at least four sentences
 - One major problem the character had and the solution
 - Two events that helped solve this problem
 - What did the character learn?
- **Nonfiction:** Include one of the following pieces of information in each of the six sections:
 - Title, author, and your name
 - Describe the subject your researched in at least four sentences
 - The most interesting fact

- The most helpful text feature
- One example of something the author did that you liked
- The part of the book that you will remember most

Grade 6

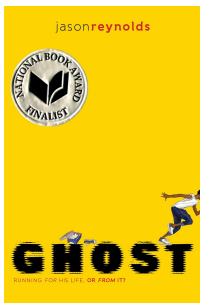
Book Selections

Each student should read **two** books, but only do a project for **one** of those books. Should students have any questions regarding summer reading, they can reach out to Mrs. Gasser at agasser@prairieschool.com.



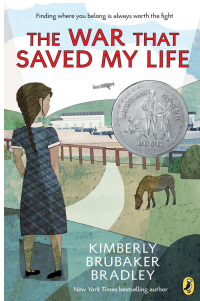
Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli

Jefrey Lionel "Maniac" Magee might have lived a normal life if a freak accident hadn't made him an orphan. After living with his unhappy and uptight aunt and uncle for eight years, he decides to run--and not just run away, but run. This is where the myth of Maniac Magee begins, as he changes the lives of a racially divided small town with his amazing and legendary feats.



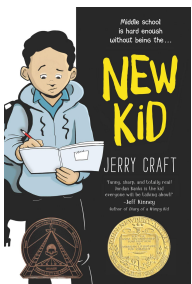
Ghost by Jason Reynolds (*Book #1 in a series of 4*)

Running. That's all that Ghost (real name Castle Cranshaw) has ever known. But never for a track team. Nope, his game has always been ball. But when Ghost impulsively challenges an elite sprinter to a race -- and wins -- the Olympic medalist track coach sees he has something: crazy natural talent. Thing is, Ghost has something else: a lot of anger, and a past that he is trying to outrun. Can Ghost harness his raw talent for speed and meld with the team, or will his past finally catch up to him?



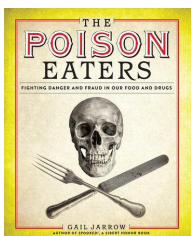
The War That Saved My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley (*Book #1 of 2*)

Ten-year-old Ada has never left her one-room apartment. Her mother is too humiliated by Ada's twisted foot to let her outside. So when her little brother Jamie is shipped out of London to escape the war, Ada doesn't waste a minute—she sneaks out to join him. So begins a new adventure of Ada, and for Susan Smith, the woman who is forced to take the two kids in. As Ada teaches herself to ride a pony, learns to read, and watches for German spies, she begins to trust Susan—and Susan begins to love Ada and Jamie. But in the end, will their bond be enough to hold them together through wartime? Or will Ada and her brother fall back into the cruel hands of their mother?



New Kid by Jerry Craft (*Book #1 of 2; graphic novel*)

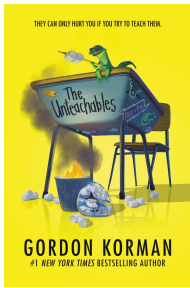
Seventh grader Jordan Banks loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade. As he makes the daily trip from his Washington Heights apartment to the upscale Riverdale Academy Day School, Jordan soon finds himself torn between two worlds—and not really fitting into either one. Can Jordan learn to navigate his new school culture while keeping his neighborhood friends and staying true to himself?



The Poison Eaters: Fighting Danger and Fraud in our Food and Drugs by Gail Jarrow (*nonfiction*)

Formaldehyde, borax, salicylic acid. Today, these chemicals are used in embalming fluids, cleaning supplies, and acne medications. But in 1900, they were routinely added to food that Americans ate from cans and jars. Often products weren't safe because unregulated, unethical companies added these and other chemicals to trick consumers into buying spoiled food or harmful medicines. Chemist Harvey Washington Wiley recognized these dangers and

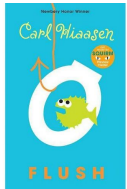
began a relentless thirty-year campaign to ensure that consumers could purchase safe food and drugs, eventually leading to the creation of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, or FDA. Acclaimed nonfiction and Sibert Honor winning author Gail Jarrow uncovers this intriguing history in her trademark style that makes the past enthrallingly relevant for today's young readers.



***The Unteachables* by Gordon Korman**

The Unteachables are a notorious class of misfits, delinquents, and academic train wrecks. Like Aldo, with anger management issues; Parker, who can't read; Kiana, who doesn't even belong in the class—or any class; and Elaine (rhymes with pain). The Unteachables have been removed from the student body and isolated in room 117. Their teacher is Mr. Zachary Kermit, the most burned-out teacher in all of Greenwich. He was once a rising star, but his career was shattered by a cheating scandal that still haunts him. After years of phoning it in, he is finally one year away from early retirement. But the superintendent has his own plans to torpedo that idea—and it involves assigning Mr. Kermit to the Unteachables. The

Unteachables never thought they'd find a teacher who had a worse attitude than they did. And Mr. Kermit never thought he would actually care about teaching again. Over the course of a school year, though, room 117 will experience mayhem, destruction—and maybe even a shot at redemption.



***Flush* by Carl Hiaasen**

Noah's dad is sure that the owner of the *Coral Queen* casino boat is flushing raw sewage into the harbor—which has made taking a dip at the local beach like swimming in a toilet. He can't prove it though, and so he decides that sinking the boat will make an effective statement. Right. The boat is pumped out and back in business within days and Noah's dad is in the local lock-up. Now Noah is determined to succeed where his dad failed. He *will* prove that the Coral

Queen is dumping illegally . . . somehow.

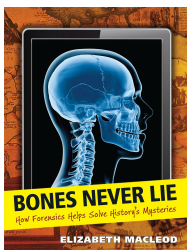


***Other Words for Home* by Jasmine Warga**

"I am learning how to be sad and happy at the same time."

Jude never thought she'd be leaving her beloved older brother and father behind, all the way across the ocean in Syria. But when things in her hometown start becoming volatile, Jude and her mother are sent to live in Cincinnati with relatives. At first, everything in America seems too fast and too loud. The American movies that Jude has always loved haven't quite prepared her for starting school in the US—and her new label of "Middle Eastern," an identity she's never known before. But this life also brings unexpected surprises—there are new friends, a whole new family, and a school musical that Jude might just try out for. Maybe

America, too, is a place where Jude can be seen as she really is.



***Bones Never Lie: How Forensics Help Solve History's Mysteries* by Elizabeth McLeod (Nonfiction)**

How did King Tut really die? The mystery of the young pharaoh's death is only one of the puzzles that modern science has helped solve. Thanks to forensics—the science of examining physical evidence—we now know that King Tut died of malaria. We also know that stomach cancer, and not arsenic as suspected, killed Napoleon. Seven intriguing stories about historical royal figures whose demise was suspicious, and hard scientific facts about crime-solving techniques make each event seem like an episode of CSI rather than a history lesson. Kids

will be fascinated to find out how scientists use autopsy results, DNA testing, bone fragments, and even insects to determine the cause of death. At times a gripping whodunit, at others an exercise in deductive reasoning, this book will be hard to put down for any kids who love mysteries, murder, and suspense.

Assignment (Due on the 2nd day of school)

Choose one of the projects listed below to complete for one of the books you read. You will report on the second book that you read when you return to school in the fall. The written work for your chosen project may

be done on a computer or neatly handwritten. Carefully edit your work for display at school!

Option #1: Literature Letter

- Write a letter addressed to your teacher, Mrs. Gasser.
- Determine if your book is fiction or nonfiction.
- Use the corresponding graphic organizer (on **page 9** or **page 11**) to help you organize your letter. The organizers have different openers for each paragraph. This is not a summary of the book, so please make sure to use the graphic organizer!

Option #2: Pictures with Captions

- Divide an 8 1/2" X 11" piece of paper into six even sections (if you want more space, use a poster board or any larger size piece of paper).
- Each section should include a picture and a caption. The caption should be detailed, but not take up more than half the section. [Click here](#) for a link to an example graphic organizer.
- Work must be neat and edited for display at school.
- **Fiction:** Include one of the following pieces of information in each of the six sections:
 - Title, author, and your name
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 - Main character — describe the character in at least four sentences
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 - What did the character learn?
- **Nonfiction:** Include one of the following pieces of information in each of the six sections:
 - Title, author, and your name
 - Describe the subject your researched in at least four sentences
 - The most interesting fact
 - The most helpful text feature
 - One example of something the author did that you liked
 - The part of the book that you will remember most

Grade 6 Graphic Organizer (Option #1: Literature Letter)

Sample (See **page 9** or **page 11** below for the graphic organizer you should use for your assignment!)

Fiction Book	Nonfiction book
Share: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Book title● Author● Main characters● Setting (time and place) and share a sentence or two about what the book is about.	Share: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Book title● Author● A one to two sentence summary about the focus of the book.● If relevant, share the setting (time and place) of the book.
Paragraph #2 Share: Problem in the story with two to three important details	Paragraph #2 Share: Story I learned & three facts about the story
Paragraph #3 (see graphic organizer for choices)	Paragraph #3 Share: Story I learned & three facts about the story
Paragraph #4 (see graphic organizer for choices)	Paragraph #4 (see graphic organizer for choices)
Paragraph #5 (see graphic organizer for choices)	Paragraph #5 (see graphic organizer for choices)

Lit Letter Graphic Organizer — Fiction (*Use this one for your assignment!*)

Paragraph #1

Book title: _____

Author: _____

Main characters: _____

Setting (time and place) and share a sentence or two about what the book is about.

Paragraph #2 The problem in the book is.....

Sentence starter: _____

Example #1 _____

Example #2 _____

Paragraph #3 (see choices below)

Sentence starter: _____

Example #1 _____

Example #2 _____

Paragraph #3 Choices:

- *“The book reminded me of...” or “What I read makes me think about...”*
- *“The character I liked the most was _____, because...” OR “I think the character feels...because”*
- *“This story teaches a lesson about...”*
- *“I was surprised that...”*

Paragraph #4 (see choices below)

Sentence starter: _____

Example #1 _____

Example #2 _____

Paragraph #4 Choices:

- *An “aha moment” I found was.... This moment changed things for the character because*
- *A “contrast or contradiction moment” I found was.... I realized the character was doing that because....*
A “tough question” I came across was.... This made me wonder about.....
- *An “again and again” signpost I found was.... This kept showing up again and again because.....*
- *A “memory moment” I found was.....This might be important because....*
- *I found a “Word of the Wiser” moment. (share what was said) I believe the character learned.....*

Paragraph #5 (see choices below)

Sentence starter: _____

Example #1 _____

Example #2 _____

Paragraph #5 Choices:

- *“The part of the book that I will remember is...because...”*
- *“I rated this book a _____ because...”*
- *“The ending was too _____ (predictable, sad, happy, open), and I would change...”*

Lit Letter Graphic Organizer — Nonfiction *(Use this one for your assignment!)*

Paragraph #1

Book title: _____

Author: _____

A one to two sentence summary about the focus of the book.

If relevant, share the setting (time and place) of the book.

Paragraph #2 Share a story you learned from the book and how it relates to the topic. Share at least three facts.

Story I learned _____

Fact # 1 _____

Fact #2 _____

Fact #3 _____

Paragraph #3 Share a second story you learned from the book and how it relates to the topic. Share at least three facts.

Story I learned _____

Fact # 1 _____

Fact #2 _____

Fact #3 _____

Paragraph #4 (Choose from below)

Sentence starter: _____

Example #1 _____

Example #2 _____

Paragraph #5 (Choose from below)

Sentence starter: _____

Example #1 _____

Example #2 _____

Paragraphs #4 & #5 Choices (pick two different openers):

- *What surprised you in this book? Why did it surprise you? Give two details to back up your ideas.*
- *What changed, challenged or confirmed what they already knew from the nonfiction text. Give two details to back up your thinking.*
- *What was your favorite part of the book? Why? Share two ideas to back up your thinking. How would you rate the book? Share two details to back up your rating.*

Grade 7

Book Selections

Choose **two** books to read from the two different clusters below (Diversity/Social Awareness, English/Social Studies, or Math/Science). You may earn extra credit points for reading an additional book. This summer, I want you to embark on an adventure with your friends or family! It can be in a fort you build out of sheets, exploring a tree house, or sitting around a campfire in your own backyard. Find a place where you can read a book and make memories with others!

Cluster #1: Diversity/Social Awareness



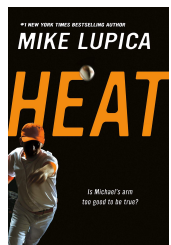
***Amina's Voice* by Hena Khan**

A Pakistani-American Muslim girl struggles to stay true to her family's vibrant culture while simultaneously blending in at school after tragedy strikes her community.



*****Stand Up, Yumi Chung* by Jessica Kim**

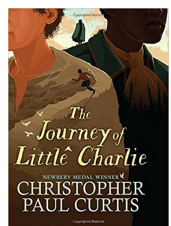
Instead of spending the summer studying her favorite YouTube comedians, Yumi Chung is enrolled in test-prep tutoring. Until Yumi stumbles on an opportunity to attend a comedy camp for kids.



***Heat* by Mike Lupica**

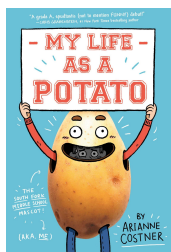
Michael Arroyo has a pitching arm that throws serious heat. His seventeen-year-old brother takes care of him and if Social Services hears of their situation, they will be separated in the foster-care system — or worse, sent back to Cuba.

Cluster #2: English/Social Studies



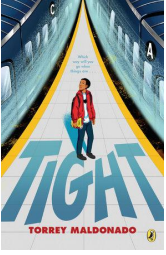
***The Journey of Little Charlie* by Christopher Paul Curtis**

Twelve-year-old Charlie is down on his luck and agrees to track down some folks accused of stealing. He comes face-to-face with the fugitives and discovers their true identities.



*****My Life As A Potato* by Arianne Costner**

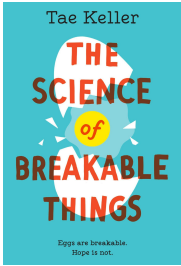
Ben Hardy believes he's cursed by potatoes. After accidentally causing the mascot to sprain an ankle, Ben is sentenced to Spud duty for the final basketball games of the year.



****Tight** by Torrey Maldonado

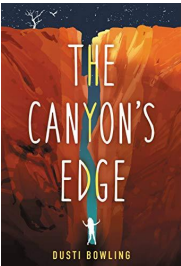
Bryan knows what's tight for him — reading comics, drawing superheroes, and hanging out with no drama. And now Bryan's friend Mike pressures him with ideas of fun that are crazy risky.

Cluster #3: Math/Science



The Science of Breakable Things by Tae Keller

When Natalie's science teacher suggests that she enter an egg drop competition, she thinks it could be the perfect solution. With the prize money, she can fly her mother, who is suffering from depression, to see the miraculous Cobalt Blue Orchids.



The Canyon's Edge by Dusti Bowling

One year after a random shooting changed their family forever, Nora and her father are exploring a slot canyon deep in the Arizona desert. But when they reach the bottom of the canyon, the unthinkable happens.



Reaching for the Moon: The Autobiography of NASA Mathematician Katherine Johnson by Katherine Johnson

As a young girl, Katherine showed an exceptional aptitude for math. Growing up in an era of brutal racism and sexism, Katherine faced daily challenges, but played a major role in helping to land the first men on the moon.

****denotes emerging readers**

Assignment

When you have finished reading your book selections, complete the checklist below:

- ☐ Your teacher, Ms. Tate, has put together a mason jar of goodies for you to enjoy as you read your selected book! Extra mason jars are available in the Middle School Office — you can email kforsman@prairieschool.com or call (262) 752-2551 to pick yours up.
- ☐ Design half of the outside of your mason jar with the setting of your first chosen book. Designs can be illustrated on a piece of paper and then wrapped around your jar, or you can paint directly onto it.
- ☐ Design the other half of your mason jar to represent the setting of your second chosen book.
- ☐ Choose “7 Reasons How” stems below to complete, based on the cluster(s) to which your book(s) belong (5 sentence minimum response per question). Cut them out, fold them in half, and place them inside your mason jar.

If at any point you are unclear about any part of the project, please contact Ms. Tate at ttate@prairieschool.com for assistance.

Cluster #1: Diversity/Social Awareness

7 Reasons How...

- I learned something new about **diversity/culture** or how diversity/culture are **lacking** from this novel
- I believe **diversity** is so important in a school, work, or community setting
- I knew when a character had a good sense of **social awareness** in a situation that occurred in the novel
- I was able to understand both **perspectives** of a situation that occurred in the novel

Cluster #2: English/Social Studies

7 Reasons How...

- I made a **text-to-self**, **text-to-world**, or **text-to-text** connection
- I understood the **theme** (message) the author was trying to convey
- The characters were significantly impacted by the **historical time period**
- I can identify the **historical** from the **fictional** components of my novel

Cluster #3: Math/Science

7 Reasons How...

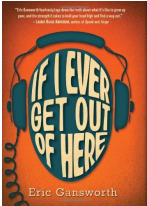
- **Math/Science** was represented in the novel (math is all around us...you might have to think deeply)
- You made an **inference** about something that was not explicitly stated and made **conclusions**
- I could construct a **mathematical story problem** around an event that occurred in the novel
- I could connect **Newton's Law of Motion** to an event that occurred in the novel

Grade 8

Book Selections

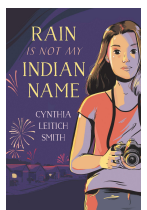
Choose **two** books to read from the two different clusters below (Diversity/Social Awareness, English/Social Studies, or Math/Science).

Cluster #1: Diversity/Social Awareness



***If I Ever Get Out of Here* by Eric Gansworth**

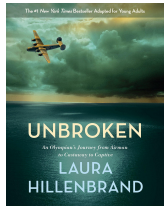
Lewis “Shoe” Blake is used to the joys and difficulties of life on the Tuscarora Indian reservation in 1975: the joking, the Fireball games, the snow blowing through his roof. What he’s not used to is white people being nice to him -- people like George Haddonfield, whose family recently moved to town with the Air Force. As the boys connect through their mutual passion for music, especially the Beatles, Lewis has to lie more and more to hide the reality of his family’s poverty.



***Rain is Not My Indian Name* by Cynthia Leitich Smith**

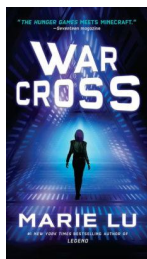
It’s been six months since Cassidy Rain Berghoff’s best friend, Galen, died, and up until now she has succeeded in shutting herself off from the world. But when controversy arises around Aunt Georgia’s Indian Camp in their mostly white Midwestern community, Rain decides to face the outside world again, with a new job photographing the campers for her town’s newspaper. Rain has to decide if she wants to keep a professional distance from her fellow Native teens.

Cluster #2: English/Social Studies



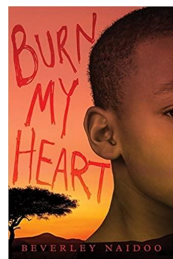
***Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand**

On a May afternoon in 1943, an American military plane crashed in the Pacific Ocean and disappeared, leaving only a spray of debris and a slick of oil, gasoline, and blood. Then, on the ocean surface, a face appeared. It was that of a young lieutenant, the plane’s bombardier, who was struggling to a life raft and pulling himself aboard. So began one of the most extraordinary sagas of the Second World War.



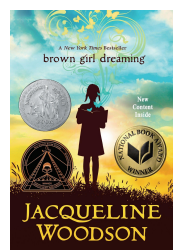
***War Cross* by Marie Lu**

For the millions who log in every day, Warcross isn’t just a game — it’s a way of life. Struggling to make ends meet, teenage hacker Emika Chen works as a bounty hunter, tracking down players who bet on the game illegally. Needing to make some quick cash, Emika takes a risk and hacks into the opening game of the international Warcross Championships — only to accidentally glitch herself into the action and become an overnight sensation.



***Burn My Heart* by Beverley Naidoo**

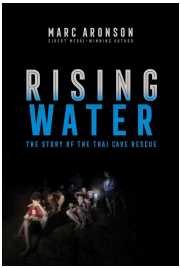
Mathew and Mugo, two boys — one white, one black — share an uneasy friendship in Kenya in the 1950s. They’re friends even though Mathew’s dad owns the land and everything on it. They’re friends despite the difference in their skin color. And they’re friends in the face of the growing Mau Mau rebellion, which threatens British settlers with violence as black Kenyans struggle to win back their land and freedom.



***Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson**

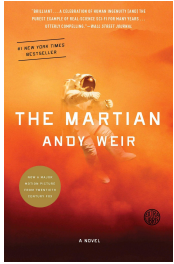
In vivid poems, Woodson shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child’s soul as she searches for her place in the world.

Cluster #3: Math/Science



Rising Water by Marc Aronson

On June 23rd, 2018, twelve members of the Wild Boars soccer team and their coach were exploring the Tham Luang Nang Non cave complex in northern Thailand when disaster struck. A rainy season downpour flooded the tunnels, trapping them as they took shelter on a shelf of the dark cave.



The Martian by Andy Weir

Six days ago, astronaut Mark Watney became one of the first people to walk on Mars. Now, he's sure he'll be the first person to die there. After a dust storm nearly kills him and forces his crew to evacuate while thinking him dead, Mark finds himself stranded and completely alone with no way to even signal Earth that he's alive — and even if he could get word out, his supplies would be gone long before a rescue could arrive.

Assignment

Complete the graphic organizer beginning on **page 18** for both of your summer reading books. There is a section provided to complete for Book #1, and a separate section for Book #2.

Grade 8 Graphic Organizer

Your Name:

BOOK #1

Book Title:

Book Author:

List 3 characters and describe a trait for each. Provide a quote from the book that provides support for this character trait (see sample character traits [here](#)).

Character 1:	Trait:
	Supporting Quote:
	Page #:
Character 2:	Trait:
Character 3:	Supporting Quote:
	Page #:
	Trait:
	Supporting Quote:
	Page #:

Describe the setting of your book. Provide quotes from the book that helped you figure out the setting.

Historical Context:	<p>What year does the book take place?</p> <p>What historical events are happening during the book?</p>
	<p>Supporting Quote:</p> <p>Page #:</p>
Physical Context	<p>What types of environments does the book take place in? (For example, what does the setting <i>look like</i> in the book? How does it <i>feel</i>? How does the physical environment shape the story?):</p>
	<p>Supporting Quote:</p> <p>Page #:</p>
Cultural Context	<p>What cultures are featured in the book? How are characters shaped by their “way of life” such as, belief, religion, art, music, traditions, language, nationality, race, history, marriage, food, etc.?:</p>
	<p>Supporting Quote:</p> <p>Page #:</p>

Explain the theme of your book and explain how it applies to the world around you. Provide 2 supporting quotes.

BOOK #2

Book Title:

Book Author:

List 3 characters and describe a trait for each. Provide a quote from the book that provides support for this character trait (see sample character traits [here](#)).

Character 1:	
Character 2: Character 3:	Supporting Quote:
	Page #:
	Trait:
	Supporting Quote: Page #: Trait: Supporting Quote: Page #:

Describe the setting of your book. Provide quotes from the book that helped you figure out the setting.

Historical Context:	What year does the book take place?: What historical events are happening during the
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	book?:
	Supporting Quote:
	Page #:
Physical Context	What types of environments does the book take place in? (For example, what does the setting <i>look like</i> in the book? How does it <i>feel</i> ? How does the physical environment shape the story?):

	<p>Supporting Quote:</p> <p>Page #:</p>
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