Summer Reading List 2018 Going Into 8th Grade

Please select and read TWO from the following list by the first day of school:

**Heist Society** by Carter, Ally  
Lexile 800

A group of teenagers uses its combined talents to re-steal several priceless paintings and save fifteen-year-old Kat Bishop's father, himself an international art thief, from a vengeful collector. *Series*

**The Brain Finds a Leg** by Chatterton, Martin  
Lexile 900

In Farrago Bay, Australia, thirteen-year-old Sheldon is recruited by a new student, Theo Brain, to help investigate a murder which is tied not only to bizarre animal behavior but also to a diabolical plot to alter human intelligence.

**Deadly** by Chibbaro, Julie  
Lexile 930

New York City in 1793 is reeling from typhoid fever and sixteen-year-old Prudence is hired, against convention, by the Sanitation Department to discover how the disease is being spread.

**The Demon King** by Chima, Cinda Williams  
Lexile 760

The first in a high fantasy series that tells of the intertwining fates of former street gang leader Han Alister and headstrong Princess Raisa as Han takes possession of an amulet that once belonged to an evil wizard and Raisa uncovers a conspiracy in the Grey Wolf Court. *Series*

**And Then There Were None** (alternate title: *Ten Little Indians*) by Christie, Agatha  
Lexile 570

Ten people, each with something to hide and something to fear, are invited to a lonely mansion on Indian Island by a host who, surprisingly, fails to appear. And then, one by one, they begin to die.

**Clockwork Angel** by Clare, Cassandra  
Lexile 780

Sixteen-year-old Tessa Gray travels to England in search of her brother only to be abducted by the Dark Sisters, residents of London's Downworld, home to the city's supernatural folk, and she becomes the object of much attention when it is discovered she has the power to transform at will into another person.

**Diamonds in the Shadow** by Cooney, Caroline  
Lexile 750

The Amabo family, refugees from a tyrannical regime in an African country, is beginning to adjust to its new life with a good-hearted American family -- even as another African refugee is pursuing a dangerous course that will impact both families.

**Matched** by Condi, Ally  
Lexile 680

Cassia has always trusted the Society to make the right choices for her: what to read, what to watch, what to believe. So when Xander's face appears on-screen at her Matching ceremony, Cassia knows he is her ideal mate ... until she sees Ky Markham's face flash for an instant before the screen fades to black.

**Red Kayak** by Cummings, Priscilla.  
Lexile 800

Living near the water on Maryland’s Eastern Shore, thirteen-year-old Brady and his best friends J.T. and Digger become entangled in a tragedy which tests their friendship and their idea about right and wrong.
**Summer Reading List 2018 Going Into 8th Grade**

*Jason and Kyra* by Davidson, Dana  
Lexile 750

Brainy, less-than-popular Kyra Evans and basketball captain Jason Vincent become Cross High's most unlikely couple, falling fast for each other while working on a project, but their love is threatened by an unexpected betrayal.

*The Guinea Pig Scientists: Bold Self-Experimenters in Science and Medicine* by Dendy, Leslie A. Lexile 1100

Recounts the true and amazing stories of ten scientists and medical researchers who endured extreme hardship and discomfort in order to test new discoveries and inventions in the fields of medicine and science.

*Gym Candy* by Deuker, Carl  
Lexile 970

Freshman running back Mick Johnson works hard to make his dream of football stardom come true, finding the edge he needs to become bigger, stronger, and faster with the help of steroids despite consequences to his health and social life.

*Total Tragedy of a Girl Named Hamlet* by Dionne, Erin  
Lexile 750

Hamlet's attempts to be a "normal" eighth grader become increasingly difficult when her genius seven-year-old sister and her eccentric Shakespeare scholar parents both begin to attend her school.

*The Hound of the Baskervilles* by Doyle, Arthur Conan, Sir  
Lexile 590

Sherlock Holmes is asked to investigate the tale of a mysterious death and a hound that haunts the lonely moors around the Baskervilles' ancestral home.

*Bewitching Season* by Doyle, Marissa.  
Lexile 790

Persephone and Penelope, seventeen-year-old twins, are to be presented at court in London and meet Princess Victoria when they suddenly are catapulted into a romantic adventure involving their governess (a magician tutor), and a sinister Irish magician. *Series*

*Fire from the Rock* by Draper, Sharon M  
Lexile 830

In 1957, honor student Sylvia Patterson is thrilled to be chosen to be among the first African American students to attend the all-white Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, but threats of violence by racist mobs cause Sylvia to reconsider.

*The Three Musketeers* by Dumas, Alexandre  
Lexile 960

Young d’Artagnan comes to Paris to join the Musketeers who serve King Louis XIV and try to foil the evil plots of Cardinal Richelieu.

*The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba’s Struggle for Freedom* by Engle, Margarita.  
Lexile 820

Using free verse poetry, Rosa tells her story of healing, revolution, slavery, survival, and hope for freedom during three revolutions in Cuba between 1868 and 1898.
Summer Reading List 2018 Going Into 8th Grade

Prom & Prejudice by Eulberg, Elizabeth Lexile 690

For Lizzie Bennett, a music scholarship student at Connecticut’s exclusive, girls-only Longbourn Academy, the furor over prom is senseless, but even more puzzling is her attraction to the pompous Will Darcy, best friend of her roommate’s boyfriend.

The Rivalry: Mystery at the Army-Navy Game by Feinstein, John Lexile 800

Two teen reporters stumble across an illegal betting ring when they team up with major Washington news reporters to cover one of the fiercest rivalries of college football. Series

Incarceron by Fisher, Catherine Lexile 600

Finn is struggling to escape from the Inside of Incarceron, a prison controlled by technology, while Claudia, the privileged warden’s daughter, is trapped in a forced seventeenth century world on the Outside. Series

Sir Charlie Chaplin: The Funniest Man in the World by Fleischman, Sid Lexile 950

Charlie Chaplin, who was raised by a mentally ill mother and an alcoholic, mostly absent, father, spent his childhood in the depths of poverty but grew to international fame as perhaps “the funniest man in the world” in vaudeville, silent movies, and finally “talkies” at the end of his career.

Beastly by Flinn, Alex Lexile 610

Kyle Kingsbury, a vain, spoiled, private school student who judges others by their appearances, is turned into a frightening monster by a girl he humiliates. In order to break the spell, Kyle must find true love.

The War to End All Wars: World War I by Freedman, Russell Lexile 1220

This is a narrative history of World War I that features archival photographs and describes how advanced military weaponry impacted the course of the war.

The Graveyard Book by Gaiman, Neil Lexile 820

Toddler Bod, short for Nobody, crawls into a graveyard after his family is brutally murdered. He is then raised lovingly and carefully to the age of eighteen by the graveyard’s ghosts and otherworldly creatures. Newbery Award 2009

The Red Necklace: A Story of the French Revolution by Gardner, Sally Lexile 820

In the late eighteenth-century, Sido, the twelve-year-old daughter of a self-indulgent marquis, and Yann, a fourteen-year-old Gypsy orphan raised to perform in a magic show, face a common enemy at the start of the French Revolution. Series

Ruby Red by Gier, Kerstin Lexile 680

Sixteen-year-old Gwyneth Shepherd unexpectedly travels through time to the eighteenth century where she discovers a mystery about her real birth date and finds to her dismay that she must work with Gideon -- another time traveler who hates her!

Once by Gleitzman, Morris Lexile 640

After living in a Catholic orphanage for nearly four years, a naive Jewish boy runs away and embarks on a journey across Nazi-occupied Poland to find his parents.
Summer Reading List 2018 Going Into 8th Grade

*The Red Umbrella* by Gonzalez, Christina Diaz  
Lexile 710

In 1961, fourteen-year-old Lucia’s comfortable life in Cuba ends when communists take control of the country. Lucia and her younger brother are sent by their parents to live with a foster family in Nebraska and must adapt to a new language and way of life.

*Gone* by Grant, Michael  
Lexile 620

In a small town on the coast of California, everyone over the age of fourteen suddenly disappears. A battle ensues between the remaining town residents and the students from a local private school. *Series*

*The Big Time: A Football Genius Novel* by Green, Tim  
Lexile 660

Troy has a talent for predicting professional football teams’ plays, but his talent complicates his own seventh grade team’s drive to the Georgia State Championship, especially when the father he never knew shows up.

*Planet Middle School* by Grimes, Nikki  
Lexile 710

A series of poems describes all the baffling changes at home and at school in twelve-year-old Joylin's transition from tomboy basketball player to not-quite-girly girl.

*Uprising* by Haddix, Margaret Peterson  
Lexile 790

Newly arrived in New York from Italy in 1911, Bella gets a job at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory working long hours under terrible conditions alongside hundreds of other immigrants. When a spark ignites a bit of cloth, the factory becomes engulfed in flames.

*Girl, Stolen* by Henry, April  
Lexile 700

When an impulsive carjacking turns into a kidnapping, Griffin, a high school dropout, finds himself more in sympathy with his wealthy, blind victim, sixteen-year-old Cheyenne, than with his greedy father.

*Legend* by Lu, Marie  
Lexile 780

In a dark future, when North America has split into two warring nations, fifteen-year-olds Day, a famous criminal, and prodigy June, the brilliant soldier hired to capture him, discover that they have a common enemy.

*Kiki Strike: Inside the Shadow City* by Miller, Kristen  
Lexile 890

Life becomes interesting for Ananka when, at the age of twelve, she discovers a room in the park across from her apartment and meets a mysterious girl called Kiki who claims that she wants to explore a subterranean world.

*Life As We Knew It* by Susan Pfeffer, Beth  
Lexile 770

Through journal entries sixteen-year-old Miranda describes her family's struggle to survive after a meteor hits the moon, causing worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions.
The True Meaning of Smekday by Rex, Adam

Twelve-year-old Gratuity "Tip" Tucci is left to fend for herself after Earth is colonized by aliens and her mother is abducted, and must try to stop another invasion with only the help of a cat named Pig and an alien named J. Lo.

When You Reach Me by Stead, Rebecca

As her mother prepares to be a contestant on the 1980s television game show, "The $20,000 Pyramid," a twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seems to defy the laws of time and space.