Summer Reading Suggestions for Incoming 8th Graders: 2019

**Fiction Titles**

*Booked* by Kwame Alexander
Twelve-year-old Nick loves soccer and hates books, but soon learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams. Told in verse.

*Everything That Makes You* by Moriah McStay
In alternating voices, Fiona experiences her teen years in two ways: with and without a disfiguring accident that occurred at age six.

*Just Jaime* by Terri Libenson
At the end of seventh grade, Jaime and Maya's friendship is tested when their priorities are divided.

*Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* by Ransom Riggs
After a family tragedy, Jacob feels compelled to explore an abandoned orphanage on an island off the coast of Wales, discovering disturbing facts about the children who were kept there.

*A Monster Calls* by Patrick Ness
13yo Conor awakens one night to find a monster outside his bedroom window, but not the one from the recurring nightmare that began when his mother became ill—an ancient, wild creature that wants him to face truth and loss.

*Rhyme Schemer* by K.A. Holt
A novel in verse about Kevin's journey from bully to being bullied, as he learns about friendship, family, and his talent for poetry.

*Drama* by Raina Telgemeir
Callie rides an emotional roller coaster while serving on the stage crew for a middle school production of a play as various relationships start and end, and others never quite get going.

*I Am Still Alive* by Kate Alice Marshall
Stranded alone in the unforgiving Canadian wilderness, Jess is determined to survive and seek revenge on her father's murderers.

*Life as We Knew It* by Susan Beth Pfeffer
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.

*New Kid* by Jerry Craft
7th grader Jordan loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to art school, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where he is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade.

*Rory's Promise* by Michaela MacColl
In this historical fiction novel, when orphans Rory and Violet are sent West from New York City to be adopted, Rory is determined to keep them together at all costs.

*Trapped* by Michael Northrop
The day the blizzard started, no one knew that it was going to keep snowing for a week. That for those in its path, it would become not just a matter of keeping warm, but of staying alive.

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Nonfiction Titles

**Can I See Your I.D.?**: True Stories of False Identities by Chris Barton
Stories of people who have taken on false identities in the name of survival or something more sinister.

**Do You Know Who You Are?**: Discover the Real You by Megan Kaye
Learn about your skills, dreams, desires, and personality by through fun quizzes and guided exercises.

**Extreme Longevity**: Discovering Earth's Oldest Organisms by Karen Latchana Kenney
Some creatures can outlive humans by centuries. Read about these extreme examples of longevity, how aging happens, and what genes help animals live so long.

**A Few Red Drops**: the Chicago Race Riots of 1919 by Claire Hartfield
Examines the racial tensions between white immigrants and African Americans which led to the incidents which caused the 1919 Chicago Race Riots.

**The Good, the Bad, and the Barbie**: a Doll's History and Her Impact on Us by Tanya Le Stone
The background behind Barbie’s concept and toy’s development, and how the toy was an opportunity for girls to imagine themselves in different roles rather than just caretakers.

**How They Croaked**: the Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous by Georgia Bragg
A look at the deaths of several famous people throughout history and the circumstances surrounding those deaths.

**Primates**: the Fearless Science of Jane Goodall, Dian Fossey, and Birut Galdikas by Jim Ottaviani
This is the true story of three scientists who risked their lives for research that forever changed the way we think of primates- including ourselves.

**Rhythm Ride**: a Road Trip Through the Motown Sound by Andrea Davis Pinkney
A narrative history of the Motown music label covering the historical context, personalities, and ongoing legacy of the 'sound of young America.'

**Who Wins?**: 100 Historical Figures Go Head to Head and You Decide the Winner! by Clay Swartz
Rates historical figures on skills such as bravery, leadership, and fitness and challenges the reader to envision their success in various- and oftentimes- ridiculous situations.

**Unlikely Heroes**: 37 Inspiring Stories of Courage and Heart from the Animal Kingdom by Jennifer S. Holland
Thirty-seven stories of acts of animal heroism, including a pod of dolphins that saved swimmers from a shark attack.

**Witches!**: the Absolutely True Tale of Disaster in Salem by Rosalyn Schanzer
Tells the story of the victims, the accused witches, and the scheming officials that turned a mysterious illness into a witch hunt.