



Hingham Public Schools Summer Reading
Students Entering Grade 8
Summer 2020

Instructions:

- All students entering grade 8 at Hingham Middle School are asked to read one of the selections from the following list.
- Please complete this [note-taking template](#) as you read your selected text.
- Please note that one title on the list is located in the public domain and is therefore readily accessible online at no charge.

Grade 8 Choices (Select 1)		
Author	Title	Synopsis
Avi	<i>Nothing But the Truth</i>	9 th grader Philip Malloy was suspended from school for singing along to <i>The Star-Spangled Banner</i> , causing what his teacher called "a disturbance." But was he squelched by the school system for standing up for his ideals? What happened at Harrison High changes everything for everyone in ways no one could have ever predicted. Amazon.com
Lauren Hillenbrand	<i>Unbroken: An Olympian's Journey from Airman to Castaway to Captive (Young Adult Adaptation)</i>	In this captivating and lavishly illustrated young adult edition of her award-winning bestseller, Laura Hillenbrand tells the story of a former Olympian's courage, cunning, and fortitude following his plane crash in enemy territory. This adaptation of <i>Unbroken</i> introduces a new generation to one of history's most thrilling survival epics. Amazon.com
Michael Hingson	<i>Thunderdog</i>	<i>Thunder Dog</i> allows you entry stairwell B in the World Trade Center to experience survival through the eyes of a blind man and his beloved guide dog. It's the 9/11 story that will forever change your spirit and your perspective, illustrating how the rare trust between a man and his guide dog can inspire an unshakable faith in each one of us. Amazon.com
Julian Houston	<i>New Boy</i>	In late 1950s Virginia, opportunity is scarce for an African American, so Rob's parents enroll him in a Connecticut boarding school. But times are changing, and a movement is rising where Rob's friends are on the verge of taking action against segregation. There is even talk about sitting in at a lunch counter that refuses to serve black people. How can Rob hope to make a difference when he's a world away? Amazon.com
William Kamkwamba	<i>The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind</i>	William Kamkwamba was born in Malawi, a country where magic ruled and modern science was mystery. It was also a land withered by drought and hunger. With a small pile of old science textbooks, some scrap metal, tractor parts, and bicycle halves, he embarked on a daring plan to forge an unlikely contraption and small miracle that would change the lives around him. Amazon.com
Mark Pfetzer	<i>Within Reach: My Everest Story</i>	Mark Pfetzer at age 16 was the youngest climber on Mount Everest to reach 26,000 feet, and his gripping autobiography focuses exclusively on his mountain climbing achievements. Recounted in diary format, Pfetzer's story opens during the 1996 Everest expedition. Readers will be swept up in the details of the people and places Pfetzer meets in his travels. Publisher's Weekly

Ann Rinaldi	<i>A Break with Charity: A Story about the Salem Witch Trials</i>	Susanna desperately wants to join the circle of girls who meet every week at the parsonage. What she doesn't realize is that the girls are about to set off a torrent of false accusations leading to the imprisonment and execution of countless innocent people. Susanna faces a painful choice. Should she keep quiet and let the witch-hunt panic continue, or should she "break charity" with the group--and risk having her own family members named as witches? Amazon.com
Tom Rinaldi	<i>The Red Bandanna (Young Readers Adaptation)</i>	On September 11, 2001, Welles was at his job on the 104th floor of the South Tower of the World Trade Center when the Twin Towers were attacked. What he did next would alter the course of many lives. That day, the legend of the Man in the Red Bandanna was born. Award-winning ESPN reporter Tom Rinaldi brings Welles's inspirational story of selflessness and compassion to life in this young readers' adaptation of his <i>New York Times</i> bestselling book. Amazon.com
William Ritter	<i>Jackaby</i>	Newly arrived in New England, 1892, Abigail Rook meets R. F. Jackaby, an extraordinary investigator. Abigail's gift for noticing detail gets her a job as Jackaby's assistant. On her first day, Abigail finds herself in the midst of a thrilling case involving a serial killer. The police are convinced it's an ordinary villain, but Jackaby is certain the foul deeds are the work of a creature whose very existence the local authorities seem adamant to deny. Amazon.com
Schroff and Tresniowski	<i>An Invisible Thread</i>	<i>An Invisible Thread</i> tells of the life-long friendship between a busy sales executive and a disadvantaged young boy, and how both of their lives were changed by what began as one small gesture of kindness. Amazon.com
Ruta Sepetys	<i>Between Shades of Gray</i>	Fifteen-year-old Lina lives an ordinary life in Lithuania until Soviet officers invade her home and tear her family apart. Separated from her father, Lina, her mother, and her brother travel to a Siberian work camp, where Lina finds solace in her art. Risking everything, she imbeds clues of their location in her drawings and secretly passes them along, hoping they will make their way to her father's prison camp. Will Lina's strength help her family survive? Amazon.com
Robert Louis Stevenson	<i>Treasure Island</i> (public domain – free online)	When a mysterious sailor dies in sinister circumstances at the Admiral Benbow inn, young Jim Hawkins stumbles across a treasure map among the dead man's possessions. But Jim soon becomes only too aware that he is not the only one who knows of the map's existence, and his bravery and cunning are tested to the full when, with his friends Squire Trelawney and Dr Livesey, he sets sail in the Hispaniola to track down the treasure. With its swift-moving plot and memorably drawn characters—Blind Pew and Black Dog, the castaway Ben Gunn and the charming but dangerous Long John Silver—Stevenson's tale of pirates, treachery and heroism was an immediate success when it was first published in 1883 and has retained its place as one of the greatest of all adventure stories. Amazon.com
James L. Swanson	<i>Chasing Lincoln's Killer</i>	This fast-paced thriller gives a day-by-day account of the wild chase to find John Wilkes Booth and his accomplices. Based on Swanson's bestselling adult book <i>Manhunt: The Twelve-day Chase for Lincoln's Killer</i> , this young adult version is an accessible look at the assassination of a president, and shows readers how Lincoln's death impacted those closest to him. Amazon.com