

Entering 8th Grade Recommended Summer Reading List

<i>A Place to Call Home</i> (fiction)	Jackie French Koller
* <i>Up Country</i> (fiction)	Alden R. Carter
* <i>Sunrise Over Fallujah</i> (realistic fiction)	Walter Dean Myers
* <i>T4: A novel in verse</i> (historical fiction)	Ann Clare LeZotte
* <i>The House of the Scorpion</i> (science fiction)	Nancy Farmer
* <i>Afghan Dreams: Young Voices of Afghanistan</i> (non fiction)	O'Brien/ Sullivan
<i>Great Peacemakers: True Stories from Around the World</i> (bio)	Beller/ Chase

Please note: * Denotes more sensitive language, subject matter, and/or challenging text.

Book Synopses

A Place to Call Home: To keep her siblings from being separated in foster care, a 15-year-old girl tries to keep her mother's disappearance a secret.

Up Country: Carl knows he's playing with fire every time he fixes up a stolen car stereo to resell. But he needs the money; how else is he going to get away from his boozing mom and her endless parade of "classy guys"? Then one night his mother's drinking gets out of control and Carl's plan to get himself a decent life takes a nosedive.

Sunrise Over Fallujah: Robin "Birdy" Perry, a new army recruit from Harlem, isn't quite sure why he joined the army, but he's sure where he's headed: Iraq. Officially, the code name for their maneuvers is Operation Iraqi Freedom. But the young men and women in the CA unit have a simpler name for it: WAR.

T4: A novel in verse: When the Nazi party takes control of Germany, thirteen-year-old Paula, who is deaf, finds her world-as-she-knows-it turned upside down, as she is taken into hiding to protect her from the new law nicknamed T4.

The House of the Scorpion: In a future world where an evil empire called Opium is tucked in between the U.S. and Aztlán (formerly Mexico), a young clone named Matt comes of age.

Afghan Dreams: Young Voices of Afghanistan: From street workers to female students in newly formed academies, children who work in family businesses, and pickpockets who steal from visiting photographers, these are the faces of young Afghanis who universally wish for peace in their neighborhoods, in their country, in their lifetimes.

Great Peacemakers: True Stories from Around the World: It is said that the choices we make determine the lives we lead. In this book you will meet twenty inspiring individuals who have made peace their choice in life from a Vietnamese monk to a Brazilian musician, from a Swedish children's author to an Iranian-American architect.