

## 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE SUMMER READING

Choose **1** of the following books to read this summer:

**1. Auch, Mary Jane. [Ashes of Roses](#)**

Sixteen-year-old Rose Nolan arrives on Ellis Island in 1911 in the hopes of starting a new life, but after most of her family is sent back to Ireland, she must find her own way in a new country and fend for herself and her younger sister.

**2. Bruchac, Joseph. [Code Talker](#)**

After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.

**3. Hillenbrand, Laura. [Unbroken](#) (*Student version of this book is okay to read*)**

A biography of Olympic runner and World War II bombardier, Louis Zamperini, who had been rambunctious in childhood before succeeding in track and eventually serving in the military, which led to a trial in which he was forced to find a way to survive in the open ocean after being shot down.

**4. Klages, Ellen. [The Green Glass Sea](#)**

While her father works on the Manhattan Project, eleven-year-old gadget lover and outcast Dewey Kerrigan lives in Los Alamos Camp, and becomes friends with Suze, another young girl who is shunned by her peers.

**5. Lynch, Chris. [I Pledge Allegiance](#)**

Best friends Morris, Rudi, Ivan, and Beck, having been either drafted or enlisted in the military during the Vietnam War, pledge they will come home together, and Morris, a sailor on the USS "Boston," relies on that promise to stay strong while his courage and resolve are tested under attack.

**6. Sheinkin, Steve. [Bomb: the Race to Build and Steal the World's Most Dangerous Weapon.](#)**

Examines the history of the atomic bomb, discussing the discovery of the behavior of uranium when placed next to radioactive material, the race to build a bomb, and the impact of the weapon on societies around the world.

**7. Williams-Garcia, Rita. [One Crazy Summer](#)**

In the summer of 1968, after traveling from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to spend a month with the mother they barely know, eleven-year-old Delphine and her two younger sisters arrive to a cold welcome as they discover that their mother, a dedicated poet and printer, is resentful of the intrusion of their visit and wants them to attend a nearby Black Panther summer camp.

## Book Report Project Options

Choose **one** of the following projects to complete for your summer reading book.

1. Complete the Plot Map outline attached to this summer reading info sheet.
2. Complete "The Paper Bag" book report project using the description attached to this summer reading info sheet.
3. Complete the "Comic Strip" book report project using the description attached to this summer reading info sheet.

**Book reports are due on Friday, September 5.**

### **Paper Bag Book Report**

1. On a lunch-sized paper bag, write the title and author of the book and create an illustration that represents the book as a whole. Be sure to write your name on the front as well.
2. Put 4 items in the bag that can help you retell the story. Item 1 should tell about a character. Item 2 should tell about a setting. Item 3 should tell about a problem or major event in the story. Item 4 should tell the solution or ending to the story.
3. On paper, write the title, author, and then write one paragraph (4-5 sentences) for each item and describe how it relates to your story.
  - a. Ex. The first item in my bag is a \_\_\_\_\_. It represents the character because \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Comic Strip**

Use the descriptions below to complete an eight panel comic strip for your summer reading book.

1. Your comic strip must be in color, neatly done, and each scene should include a brief (1-2 sentence) description to explain the drawing.
  2. Dialogue should be included where appropriate.
  3. Also include a short writing on the comic strip about what you believe the major theme to be in the novel.
- **Box 1:** Depicts the setting of the story
  - **Box 2:** Depicts the main character of the story
  - **Box 3:** Depicts the conflict of the story
  - **Box 4, 5, and 6:** Depicts to major events that lead to the climax of the story
  - **Box 7:** Depicts the climax of the story
  - **Box 8:** Depicts how the story is resolved

Plot Map	
Title, Author	
<div>Rising Action</div> <div>List examples that create complications or suspense.</div>	<div>1.</div> <div>2.</div> <div>3.</div>
Climax	
<div>Falling Action</div> <div>Tension begins to decrease and the story moves towards the resolution.</div>	<div>1.</div> <div>2.</div> <div>3.</div>
Resolution	
Conflict	
Protagonist & Antagonist	
<div>Setting</div> <div>When &amp; Where</div>	
<div>Characters</div> <div>List and describe three characters.</div>	<div>1.</div> <div>2.</div> <div>3.</div>
Theme	