

Suggested Summer Reading

8th Grade Reading Choices

You can choose to read one of the following novels

The 7th Most Important Thing by: Shelley Persall

One Kid. One Crime. One Chance to Make Things Right.

It was a bitterly cold day when Arthur T. Owens grabbed a brick and hurled it at the trash picker. Arthur had his reasons, and the brick hit the Junk Man in the arm, not the head. But none of that matters to the judge --- he is ready to send Arthur to juvie for the foreseeable future. Amazingly, it's the Junk Man himself who offers an alternative: 120 hours of community service...working for him.

Arthur is given a rickety shopping cart and a list of the Seven Most Important Things: glass bottles, foil, cardboard, pieces of wood, lightbulbs, coffee cans, and mirrors. He can't believe it --- is he really supposed to rummage through people's trash? But it isn't long before Arthur realizes there's more to the Junk Man than meets the eye, and the "trash" he's collecting is being transformed into something more precious than anyone could imagine...

The Refugee by: Alan Gratz

Three different kids.

One mission in common: ESCAPE.

Josef is a Jewish boy in 1930s Nazi Germany. With the threat of concentration camps looming, he and his family board a ship bound for the other side of the world...

Isabel is a Cuban girl in 1994. With riots and unrest plaguing her country, she and her family set out on a raft, hoping to find safety and freedom in America...

Mahmoud is a Syrian boy in 2015. With his homeland torn apart by violence and destruction, he and his family begin a long trek toward Europe...

All three young people will go on harrowing journeys in search of refuge. All will face unimaginable dangers—from drownings to bombings to betrayals. But for each of them, there is always the hope of *tomorrow*. And although Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud are separated by continents and decades, surprising connections will tie their stories together in the end.

The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkein

The novel is about the journey of a hobbit called Bilbo Baggins, along with Gandalf The Gray, and twelve dwarves. The purpose for their journey was to reach the Misty Mountain and take back Thorin's treasures from the dragon, Smaug. Bilbo was to act as their "burglar", and also to increase their number, since they were thirteen travelers without him (which was, according to Gandalf, bad luck). It also tells the story of how the One Ring of Power passed into the possession of Bilbo.

A book report in any multimedia format (examples; Canva, KeyNote, powerpoint, Prezi, PowToons) of the students choice may be turned in to their 6th grade ELAR teacher August 19th when we return to school for Extra Credit.