
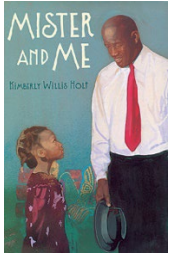
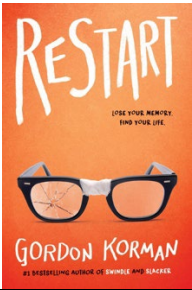
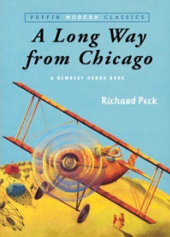


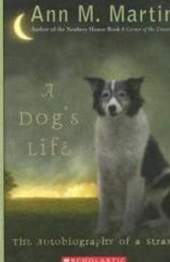

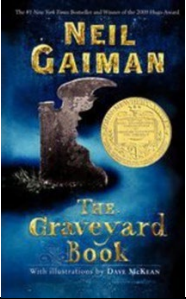
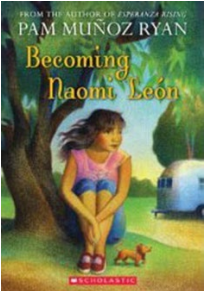


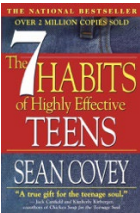
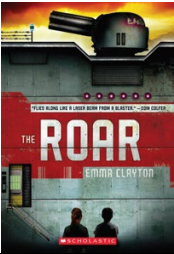
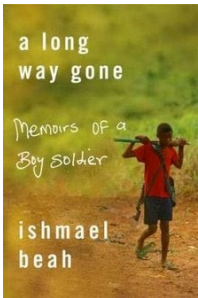
## Middle School Summer Reading Grade 6-8

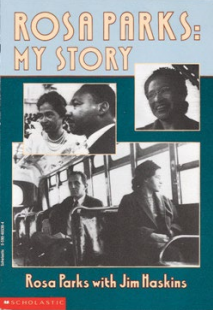

**Tips for Selecting a Book:** The higher the Lexile level, the more complex the text. Please read the Synopsis/Review and the Notes to help select a book.


TITLE	AUTHOR(S)	SYNOPSIS/REVIEW	NOTES
<b><i>Smile</i></b> 	Telgemeier, Raina	Raina just wants to be a normal sixth grader. But one night after Girl Scouts she trips and falls, severely injuring her two front teeth, and what follows is a long and frustrating journey with on-again, off-again braces, surgery, embarrassing headgear, and even a retainer with fake teeth attached. And on top of all that, there's still more to deal with: a major earthquake, boy confusion, and friends who turn out to be not so friendly.	Nonfiction 410L (graphic novel)  Grade 6
<b><i>Mister and Me</i></b> 	Holt, Kimberly Willis	In a small Louisiana mill town in 1940, Jolene doesn't remember her father, but that doesn't mean she wants a new one. As far as she's concerned, she and Momma and Grandpa are doing just fine on their own. So, when Leroy Redfield, a tall logger with a booming laugh, starts taking Momma dancing on Friday nights, Jolene is determined to get him out of their lives. Somehow, though, the man just won't go away, and as he patiently works to gain Jolene's acceptance, Jolene finds herself letting go of her resentment.	Fiction 710L  Grade 6
<b><i>Restart</i></b> 	Korman, Gordon	A boy who's been a bully and hanging out with the wrong friends get a new start after a memory-loss-inducing accident. But can someone really change who he is, or will the old him merely come back over time?	Fiction 730L  Grade 6
<b><i>A Long Way from Chicago</i></b>	Peck, Richard	Each summer Joey and his sister, Mary Alice, two city slickers from Chicago, visit Grandma Dowdel's seemingly sleepy Illinois town. Soon enough, they find that it's far from sleepy, and Grandma is far from your typical grandmother. From seeing their first corpse (and he isn't resting easy) to helping Grandma trespass, catch the sheriff in	Fiction 750L  Grade 6


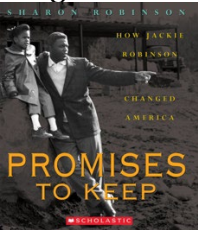
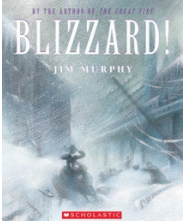
		his underwear, and feed the hungry all in one day, Joey and Mary Alice have nine summers they'll never forget!	
<b>Hoot</b> 	Hiaasen, Carl	Roy Eberhardt is new to his small Florida community of Coconut Cove. Unfortunately, Roy's first acquaintance in Florida is Dana Matherson, a well-known bully. Then again, if Dana hadn't been sinking his thumbs into Roy's temples and mashing his face against the school-bus window, Roy might never have spotted the running boy. And the running boy is intriguing: he was running away from the school bus, carried no books, and - here's the odd part – wore no shoes.	Fiction 760L  Grade 6
<b>The House with a Clock in its Walls</b> 	Bellairs, John Gorey, Edward	When Lewis Barnavelt, an orphan, comes to stay with his uncle Jonathan, he expects to meet an ordinary person. But he is wrong. Uncle Jonathan and his next-door neighbor, Mrs. Zimmermann, are both magicians! Lewis is thrilled. At first, watching magic is enough. Then Lewis experiments with magic himself and unknowingly resurrects the former owner of the house: a woman named Serenna Izard. It seems that Serenna and her husband built a timepiece into the walls – a clock that could obliterate humankind. And only the Barnavelts can stop it!	Fiction 800L  Grade 7
<b>A Dog's Life: Autobiography of a Stray</b> 	Martin, Ann M.	Squirrel and her brother Bone begin their lives in a toolshed behind someone's summer house. Their mother nurtures them and teaches them the many skills they need to survive as stray dogs. But when their mother is taken from them suddenly and too soon, the puppies are forced to make their own way in the world, facing humans both gentle and brutal, busy highways, other animals, and the changing seasons. When Bone and Squirrel become separated, Squirrel must fend for herself, and in the process makes two friends who in very different ways define her fate.	Fiction 800L  Grade 7
<b>A Week in the Woods</b>	Clements, Andrew	The fifth-grade Week in the Woods is a beloved tradition of Hardy Elementary, where Mark Chelmsley (the Fourth) is pretty much killing time before his parents send him off to an exclusive prep school. But then Mark realizes the Week might be a chance to prove	Fiction 820L  Grade 7

		<p>to Mr. Maxwell that he's not just another of the slacker rich kids the teacher can't stand. But it may be too late for Mark to change Mr. Maxwell's opinion of him. On the first day of the Week, the tension between teacher and student explodes, and in a reckless moment, Mark puts not only himself, but also Mr. Maxwell, in grave danger. Can two such strong adversaries work together to save their lives?</p>	
<p><b><i>The Graveyard Book</i></b></p> 	<p>Gaiman, Neil McKean, Dave</p>	<p>Nobody Owens, known to his friends as Bod, is a normal boy. He would be completely normal if he didn't live in a sprawling graveyard, being raised and educated by ghosts, with a solitary guardian who belongs to neither the world of the living nor of the dead. There are dangers and adventures in the graveyard for a boy. But if Bod leaves the graveyard, then he will come under attack from the man Jack, who has already killed Bod's family.</p>	<p>Fiction 820L  Grade 7</p>
<p><b><i>Becoming Naomi Leon</i></b></p> 	<p>Munoz Ryan, Pam</p>	<p>Naomi Soledad Leon Outlaw has had a lot to contend with in her young life, her name for one. Then there are her clothes (sewn in polyester by Gram), her difficulty speaking up, and her status at school as "nobody special." But according to Gram, most problems can be overcome with positive thinking. And with Gram and her little brother, Owen, life at Avocado Acres Trailer Rancho in California is happy and peaceful...until their mother reappears after seven years of being gone, stirring up all sorts of questions and challenging Naomi to discover and proclaim who she really is.</p>	<p>Fiction 830L  Grade 8</p>

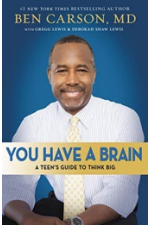
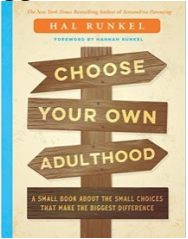
<p><b><i>The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens: The Ultimate Teenage Success Guide</i></b></p> 	Covey, Stephen R.	Being a teenager is both wonderful and challenging. In <i>The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens</i> , author Sean Covey applies the timeless principles of the 7 Habits to teens and the tough issues and life-changing decisions they face. In an entertaining style, Covey provides a step-by-step guide to help teens improve self-image, build friendships, resist peer pressure, achieve their goals, get along with their parents, and much more.	Nonfiction 870L  All levels
<p><b><i>The Roar</i></b></p> 	Clayton, Emma	Mika and Ellie live in a future behind a wall, safe from the plague of animals beyond. Or so they've been told. But when one of them vanishes and the other takes part in a sinister virtual reality game, they discover their concrete world is built on lies. Lies spun by a government that decades ago, conspired to "save" the world – but only for the chosen few.	Fiction 910L  Grade 8
<p><b><i>A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier</i></b></p> 	Beah, Ishmael	The book is a firsthand account of Beah's time as a child soldier during the civil war in Sierra Leone (1990s). Beah ran away from his village at the age of 12 after it was attacked by rebels, and he became forever separated from his immediate family. He wandered the war-filled country and was forced to join an army unit who brainwashed him into using guns and drugs. By 13, he had perpetrated and witnessed a great deal of violence. At the age of 16, however, UNICEF removed him from the unit and put him into a rehabilitation program. He was then given an opportunity to teach others about child soldiers. He traveled the United States recounting his story.	Nonfiction 920L  Grade 8
<p><b><i>Rosa Parks: My Story</i></b></p>	Haskins, James	Rosa Parks is widely known as perhaps the single most important symbol of the civil rights movement. Her refusal to give up her seat to a white man in the colored section of a segregated bus in December 1955 could be said to have incited the movement that eventually led to the end of segregation laws in the South. Rosa narrates in a calm, direct fashion how this singular act grew out of a lifetime of being dissatisfied with any kind of disrespectful treatment.	Nonfiction 970L  Grade 7

			
<b><i>Locked in Time</i></b> 	Duncan, Lois	<p>Nore Roberts didn't ask for a new life, but now that her mom is gone and her dad is newly married, she has to settle in at Shadow Grove, the old Civil War mansion her stepfamily calls home. When she meets her stepmother, Lisette, Nore is shocked by Lisette's youth and beauty, which give her chills and a hint of something sinister. When she begins to feel like the target of a deadly plan, Nore starts digging into her stepfamily's past. The skeletons in their closet are more real than she ever imagined. Can Nore expose her stepmother's dark secret before an old and evil magic swallows her up?</p>	Fiction 990L  Grade 8

<b><i>Lockdown – Escape from Furnace</i></b> 	Smith, Alexander Gordon	<p>Furnace Penitentiary: the world's most secure prison for young offenders, buried a mile beneath the earth's surface. Convicted of a murder he didn't commit, sentenced to life without parole, Alex Sawyer knows he has two choices: find a way out, or resign himself to a death behind bars in the darkness at the bottom of the world. But</p>	Fiction 1010L  Grade 8
<b><i>Love that Dog</i></b>	Creech, Sharon	<p>A boy named Jack finds his voice with the help of a teacher, a pencil, some yellow paper, and of course, a dog. Written as a series of free-verse poems from Jack's point of view, this novel begins with Jack hating poetry. Only girls write it and every time he tries to, his brain</p>	Fiction 1010L  Grade 8

		<p>feels empty. But his teacher, Miss Stretchberry, won't stop giving her class poetry assignments – and Jack can't avoid them. But then something amazing happens. The more he writes, the more he learns that he does have something to say.</p>	
<p><b><i>Promises to Keep: How Jackie Robinson Changed America</i></b></p> 	<p>Robinson, Sharon</p>	<p>Sharon Robinson shares memories of her famous father in this warm, loving biography of the man who broke the color barrier in baseball. Jackie Robinson was an outstanding athlete, a devoted family man and a dedicated civil rights activist.</p>	<p>Nonfiction 1030L  All levels</p>
<p><b><i>Blizzard: The Storm that Changed America</i></b></p> 	<p>Murphy, Jim</p>	<p>On March 12, 1888, the skies from Virginia to Maine turned an angry gray, and snow began to fall. Long-range weather forecasts didn't exist at the time, so no one knew that a howling white monster was about to strike. Snow began falling over New York City. What no one realized was that in a very few hours, the wind and snow would bury the city in nearly 21 inches of snow and bring it to a standstill.</p>	<p>Nonfiction 1080L  Grade 8</p>



<p>You Have a Brain: A Teen's Guide to T.H.I.N.K. B.I.G.</p> 	<p>Carson, Ben</p>	<p>Eight proven principles to help you overcome your self-doubt, conquer your fear of the future, reverse negative thoughts about yourself, and hurdle any other obstacles standing between you and your dreams. But instead of letting his circumstances control him, Dr. Carson took control of his attitude and actions, leading to his discovery of eight straightforward but revolutionary principles that helped shape his future.</p> <p><i>In You Have a Brain</i>, Dr. Carson unpacks the eight important parts of T.H.I.N.K. B.I.G.—Talent, Honesty, Insight, Being Nice, Knowledge, Books, In-Depth Learning, and God—and presents the stories of people who demonstrated those things in his life. Through the advice and real-world examples laid out in these pages, you will learn how to incorporate these T.H.I.N.K. B.I.G. principles into your own life so that you, like Dr. Carson, can embrace an amazing future filled with incredible success.</p>	<p>Nonfiction Lexile unavailable</p>
<p>Choose Your Own Adulthood: A Small Book about the Small Choices that Make the Biggest Difference</p> 	<p>Runkel, Hal</p>	<p>Congratulations, reader! You've successfully navigated through the trials of childhood and adolescence. Now, as you voyage through high school to college and beyond, you're set to begin your next big adventure: adulthood. A few big decisions await you, from majors and minors to jobs and careers (and maybe even marriage!). However, in between the big ones, you'll make a million other smaller, subtler choices that will underpin everything from your friendships to your bank account. These are the daily choices that will truly define you . . . so how will you choose?</p> <p>Choose Your Own Adulthood helps you approach these choices from a more thoughtful, curious, and ultimately self-aware perspective. You'll learn why responding is so much better than reacting, how loyalty is really overrated, which risks are worth taking and which are best avoided, and so much more. Exciting things await you on your journey toward adulthood: which path you take is for you to decide. Choose wisely!</p>	<p>Nonfiction Lexile unavailable Grade 8 suggested</p>