

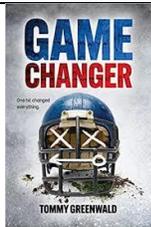
8th grade Summer Reading 2019

You can access some books through Overdrive on the RSU 13 website or download the Sora app. You are welcome to read from all three book lists for grades 6-8. *Reviews courtesy of Goodreads & Kirkus.



***Children of Blood and Bone* by Tomi Adeyemi (Adventure/Fiction)**

Zélie Adebola remembers when the soil of Orïsha hummed with magic. But everything changed the night magic disappeared. Under the orders of a ruthless king, Maji were killed, leaving Zélie without a mother and her people without hope.



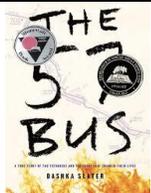
***Game Changer* by Tommy Greenwald (Fiction-Maine Book Award)**

Thirteen-year-old Teddy Youngblood is in a coma fighting for his life after an unspecified football injury at training camp. His family and friends flock to his bedside to support his recovery—and to discuss the events leading up to the tragic accident. Was this an inevitable result of playing a violent sport, or was something more sinister happening on the field that day?



***The Eleventh Trade* by Alyssa Hollingsworth (Realistic Fiction)**

When his grandfather's most-prized possession—a traditional Afghan instrument called a rebab—is stolen, Sami resolves to get it back. He finds it at a music store, but it costs \$700, and Sami doesn't have even one penny. What he does have is a keychain that has caught the eye of his classmate. If he trades the keychain for something more valuable, could he keep trading until he has \$700? Sami is about to find out.



***The 57 Bus* by Dashka Slater (YALSA-ALA Finalist Nonfiction)**

If it weren't for the 57 bus, Sasha and Richard never would have met. Sasha, a white teen, lived in the middle-class foothills and attended a small private school. Richard, a black teen, lived in the crime-plagued flatlands and attended a large public one. But one afternoon on the bus ride home from school, a single reckless act left Sasha severely burned, and Richard charged with two hate crimes and facing life imprisonment. The case garnered international attention, thrusting both teenagers into the spotlight.



***Ryan Quinn and the Rebel's Mistake* by Ron McGee (Adventure/Fiction)**

Ryan Quinn hopes his traveling days are over. The son of a United Nations worker, he's grown up in Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Africa—everywhere but home. He's finally settled at a great school in New York and is making friends when, suddenly, his world is turned upside down. Ryan is blindsided when his father disappears and his mother is abducted. Left with nothing but questions, he soon discovers his parents have been leading a double life.



***Ryan Quinn and the Lion's Claw* by Ron McGee (Adventure/Fiction)**

Ryan Quinn's parents want him to forget all about his death-defying escape in Andakar, his role in the Emergency Rescue Committee, and the fact that they've been keeping secrets from him his whole life. But forgetting just isn't an option for Ryan—not when there's a traitor in the ERC who's looking to ruin Ryan's parents and expose the whole organization. Unsure where to turn or who to trust, Ryan and his friends Danny and Kasey soon find themselves off on another adventure, across the world, to help two musicians whose words have started a revolution.



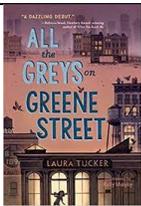
***On the Come Up* by Angie Thomas (Fiction)**

Sixteen-year-old Bri wants to be one of the greatest rappers of all time. Or at least make it out of her neighborhood one day. As the daughter of an underground rap legend who died before he hit big, Bri's got big shoes to fill. But now that her mom has unexpectedly lost her job, food banks and shutoff notices are as much a part of Bri's life as beats and rhymes. With bills piling up and homelessness staring her family down, Bri no longer just wants to make it—she has to make it.



***Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly (Nonfiction)**

The #1 New York Times Bestseller. Set amid the civil rights movement, the never-before-told true story of NASA's African-American female mathematicians who played a crucial role in America's space program. Before Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of professionals worked as 'Human Computers', calculating the flight paths that would enable these historic achievements. Among these were a coterie of bright, talented African-American women. Segregated from their white counterparts, these 'coloured computers' used pencil and paper to write the equations that would launch rockets and astronauts, into space.



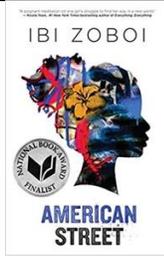
***All the Greys on Greene Street* by Kelly Murphy (Fiction)**

It's spring 1981, and Ollie, 12, is trying her best to keep her sculptor mother's latest depressive episode a secret. Her mom hasn't gotten out of bed since a week after Ollie's art restorer father fled mysteriously to France in the middle of the night, leaving behind a cryptic note for Ollie alone.



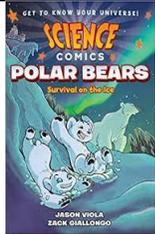
***A Taste for Monsters* by Matthew J. Kirby (Mystery/Historical Fiction/Paranormal)**

It's London 1888, and Jack the Ripper is terrorizing the people of the city. Evelyn, a young woman disfigured by her dangerous work in a matchstick factory, who has nowhere to go, does not know what to make of her new position as a maid to the Elephant Man in the London Hospital. But in Joseph Merrick, the Elephant Man, she finds a gentle kindred who does not recoil from her and who understands her pain.

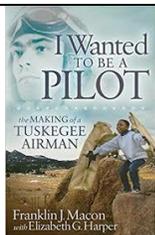


***American Street* by Ibi Zoboi (Fiction)**

On the corner of American Street and Joy Road, Fabiola Toussaint thought she would finally find *une belle vie*—a good life. But after they leave Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Fabiola's mother is detained by U.S. immigration, leaving Fabiola to navigate her loud American cousins, Chantal, Donna, and Princess; the grittiness of Detroit's west side; a new school; and a surprising romance, all on her own.



***Polar Bears: Survival on the Ice* by Jason Viola & Zack Giallongo (Graphic Nonfiction)** Do you have what it takes to live in one of the harshest places in the world? What if you had just a couple years to gain the knowledge you'll need to survive on your own? Join two curious polar bear cubs as they play, hunt, and navigate life in the Arctic. Living with super insulated bodies in a world that's melting? For polar bears, keeping cool is the name of the game!



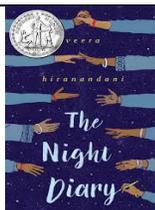
***I Wanted to be a Pilot: The Making of a Tuskegee Airman* by Franklin J. Macon (Nonfiction)**

Sometimes history is made by a dyslexic, mischievous boy who hates school, is a descendant of one of Frederick Douglass' half-sisters, and whose Pops was a Buffalo Soldier. One of the less than 100 living Documented Original Tuskegee Airman, Franklin J. Macon, tells the lively stories of how he overcame life's obstacles to become a Tuskegee Airman. Soar through history with Franklin as he conquers dyslexia, finds mischief, and grows up to change the course of America. (Amazon)



***My Life as an Ice Cream Sandwich* by Ibi Zoboi (Historical Fiction)**

National Book Award finalist Zoboi sets her middle grade debut in 1984 Harlem, where 12-year-old Ebony-Grace Norfleet, who lives in Alabama and likes to escape into the world of science fiction, is visiting her father.



***The Night Diary* by Veera Hiranandani (Historical Fiction) |**

t's 1947, and India, newly independent of British rule, has been separated into two countries: Pakistan and India. The divide has created much tension between Hindus and Muslims, and hundreds of thousands are killed crossing borders. Half-Muslim, half-Hindu twelve-year-old Nisha doesn't know where she belongs, or what her country is anymore. When Papa decides it's too dangerous to stay in what is now Pakistan, Nisha and her family become refugees and embark first by train but later on foot to reach her new home.



***Monstrous Devices* by Damien Love (Horror/Suspense/Mystery)**

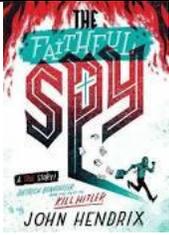
On a winter's day in a British town, twelve-year-old Alex receives a package in the mail: an old tin robot from his grandfather. "This one is special," says the enclosed note, and when strange events start occurring around him, Alex suspects this small toy is more than special; it might be deadly. Right as things get out of hand, Alex's grandfather arrives, pulling him away from an

attack--and his otherwise humdrum world of friends, bullies, and homework--and into the macabre magic of an ancient family feud. Together, the duo flees across snowy Europe, unravelling the riddle of the little robot while trying to outwit relentless assassins of the human and mechanical kind.

***Slider* by Pete Hautman** (Fiction)



David can eat an entire sixteen-inch pepperoni pizza in four minutes and thirty-six seconds. Not bad. But he knows he can do better. In fact, he'll have to do better: he's going to compete in the Super Pignorino Bowl, the world's greatest pizza-eating contest, and he has to win it, because he borrowed his mom's credit card and accidentally spent \$2,000 on it. So he *really* needs that prize money.



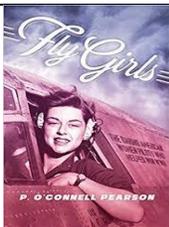
***The Faithful Spy: Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the Plot to Kill Hitler* by John Hendrix** (Graphic nonfiction)

Interweaving handwritten text and art, John Hendrix tells the story of Dietrich Bonhoeffer and his fight against the oppression of the German people during World War II. ... Struggling with how his faith interacted with his ethics, Bonhoeffer eventually became convinced that Hitler and the Nazi Party needed to be stopped--and he was willing to sacrifice anything and everything to do so.



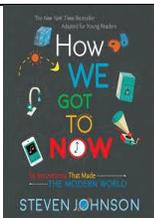
***Prince and the Dressmaker* by Jen Wang** (Graphic Novel/Maine Book Award)

Prince Sebastian is looking for a bride—or rather, his parents are looking for one for him. Sebastian is too busy hiding his secret life from everyone. At night he puts on daring dresses and takes Paris by storm as the fabulous Lady Crystallia—the hottest fashion icon in the world capital of fashion! Sebastian's secret weapon (and best friend) is the brilliant dressmaker Frances—one of only two people who know the truth: sometimes this boy wears dresses. But Frances dreams of greatness, and being someone's secret weapon means being a secret. Forever.



***Fly Girls: The Daring American Women Pilots Who Helped Win WWII* by P. O'Connell Pearson** (Nonfiction)

In the tradition of *Hidden Figures*, debut author Patricia Pearson offers a beautifully written account of the remarkable but often forgotten group of female fighter pilots who answered their country's call in its time of need during World War II.



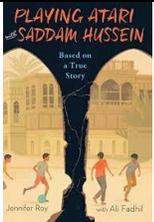
***How We Got to Now* by Stephen Johnson** (Nonfiction)

In this illustrated history, Steven Johnson explores the history of innovation over centuries, tracing facets of modern life (refrigeration, clocks, and eyeglass lenses, to name a few) from their creation by hobbyists, amateurs, and entrepreneurs to their unintended historical consequences. Filled with surprising stories of accidental genius and brilliant mistakes...



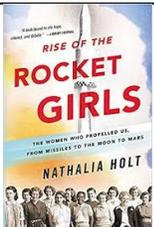
***When Dimple Met Rishi* by Sandhya Menon** (Romance/Fiction)

Dimple Shah has it all figured out. With graduation behind her, she's more than ready for a break from her family, from Mamma's inexplicable obsession with her finding the "Ideal Indian Husband." Ugh. Dimple knows they must respect her principles on some level, though. If they truly believed she needed a husband right now, they wouldn't have paid for her to attend a summer program for aspiring web developers. ...right? Rishi Patel is a hopeless romantic. So when his parents tell him that his future wife will be attending the same summer program as him—wherein he'll have to woo her—he's totally on board.



***Playing Atari with Saddam Hussein* by Jennifer Roy** (Historical Fiction)

At the start of 1991, eleven-year-old Ali Fadhil was consumed by his love for soccer, video games, and American television shows. Then, on January 17, Iraq's dictator Saddam Hussein went to war with thirty-four nations lead by the United States.



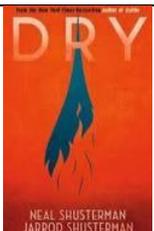
***Rise of the Rocket Girls: The Women Who Propelled Us, From Missiles to the Moon to Mars* by Nathalia Holt** (Nonfiction)

The riveting true story of the women who launched America into space. In the 1940s and 50s, when the newly minted Jet Propulsion Laboratory needed quick-thinking mathematicians to calculate velocities and plot trajectories, they didn't turn to male graduates. Rather, they recruited an elite group of young women who, with only pencil, paper, and mathematical prowess, transformed rocket design, helped bring about the first American satellites, and made the exploration of the solar system possible.



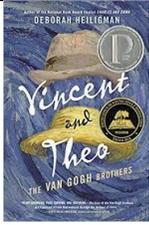
***March Book One* by John Lewis, Andrew Aydin & Nate Powell** (Graphic Nonfiction)

Congressman John Lewis (GA-5) is an American icon, one of the key figures of the civil rights movement. His commitment to justice and nonviolence has taken him from an Alabama sharecropper's farm to the halls of Congress, from a segregated schoolroom to the 1963 March on Washington, and from receiving beatings from state troopers to receiving the Medal of Freedom from the first African-American president.



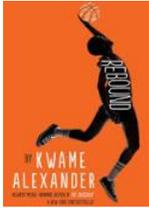
***Dry* by Neal Shusterman** (Fiction/Maine Book Award)

The drought—or the Tap-Out, as everyone calls it—has been going on for a while now. Everyone's lives have become an endless list of don'ts: don't water the lawn, don't fill up your pool, don't take long showers. Until the taps run dry. Suddenly, Alyssa's quiet suburban street spirals into a warzone of desperation; neighbors and families turned against each other on the hunt for water. And when her parents don't return and her life—and the life of her brother—is threatened, Alyssa has to make impossible choices if she's going to survive.



***Vincent and Theo: The Van Gogh Brothers* by Deborah Heiligman**
(Biography)

The deep and enduring friendship between Vincent and Theo Van Gogh shaped both brothers' lives. Confidant, champion, sympathizer, friend, Theo supported Vincent as he struggled to find his path in life. They shared everything, swapping stories of lovers and friends, successes and disappointments, dreams and ambitions. Meticulously researched, drawing on the 658 letters Vincent wrote to Theo during his lifetime, Deborah Heiligman weaves a tale of two lives intertwined and the love of the Van Gogh brothers.



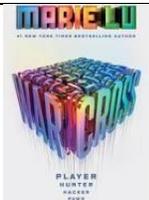
***Rebound* by Kwame Alexander** (Historical Verse Fiction)

Before Josh and Jordan Bell were streaking up and down the court, their father was learning his own moves. In this prequel to Newbery Medal winner *The Crossover*, Chuck Bell takes center stage, as readers get a glimpse of his childhood and how he became the jazz music worshipping, basketball star his sons look up to.



***Check Please! Book 1: #Hockey* by Ngozi Ukazu** (Graphic Novel)

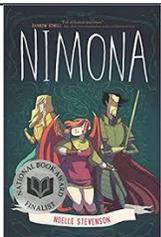
A collection of the first half of the megapopular webcomic series of the same name, *Check, Please!: #Hockey* is the first book of a hilarious and stirring two-volume coming-of-age story about hockey, bros, and trying to find yourself during the best four years of your life



***Warcross* by Marie Lu** (Science Fiction) For the millions who log in every day, Warcross isn't just a game—it's a way of life. Struggling to make ends meet, teenage hacker Emika Chen works as a bounty hunter, tracking down players who bet on the game illegally. But the bounty hunting world is a competitive one, and survival has not been easy. Needing to make some quick cash, Emika takes a risk and hacks into the opening game of the international Warcross Championships—only to accidentally glitch herself into the action and become an overnight sensation.

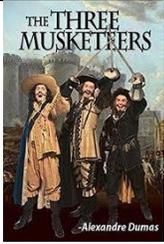


***Squirm* by Carl Hiaasen** (Fiction) Some facts about Billy Dickens:
 * He once saw a biker swerve across the road in order to run over a snake.
 * Later, that motorcycle somehow ended up at the bottom of a canal.
 * Billy isn't the type to let things go.
 Some facts about Billy's family:
 * They've lived in six different Florida towns because Billy's mom always insists on getting a house near a bald eagle nest.
 * Billy's older sister is dating a jerk. It's a mystery.



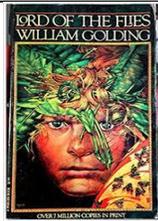
***Nimona* by Noelle Stevenson** (Graphic Novel/Fantasy/ Finalist National Book Award) Nimona is an impulsive young shapeshifter with a knack for villainy. Lord Ballister Blackheart is a villain with a vendetta. As sidekick and supervillain, Nimona and Lord Blackheart are about to wreak some serious havoc. Their mission: prove to the kingdom that Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin and his buddies at the Institution of Law Enforcement and Heroics aren't the

heroes everyone thinks they are. But as small acts of mischief escalate into a vicious battle, Lord Blackheart realizes that Nimona's powers are as murky and mysterious as her past. And her unpredictable wild side might be more dangerous than he is willing to admit.



***The Three Musketeers* by Alexandre Dumas** (Historical Fiction/Classic)

This swashbuckling epic of chivalry, honor, and derring-do, set in France during the 1620s, is richly populated with romantic heroes, unattainable heroines, kings, queens, cavaliers, and criminals in a whirl of adventure, espionage, conspiracy, murder, vengeance, love, scandal, and suspense.



***Lord of the Flies* by William Golding** (Fiction/Classic)

At the dawn of the next world war, a plane crashes on an uncharted island, stranding a group of schoolboys. At first, with no adult supervision, their freedom is something to celebrate; this far from civilization the boys can do anything they want. Anything. They attempt to forge their own society, failing, however, in the face of terror, sin and evil. And as order collapses, as strange howls echo in the night, as terror begins its reign, the hope of adventure seems as far from reality as the hope of being rescued. Labeled a parable, an allegory, a myth, a morality tale, a parody, a political treatise, even a vision of the apocalypse, *Lord of the Flies* is perhaps our most memorable novel about “the end of innocence, the darkness of man’s heart.”
