**Summer Reading (SR) Assignment for Rising 8th Graders**

Hello rising 8th graders and parents/guardians!

For summer reading, rising 8th graders can select **any memoir of their choice** that is on grade-level (or above if the student is interested enough in the book to accept the challenge). A memoir is defined as a non-fiction narrative about a person’s life and experiences told in first person. We have listed suggested titles that we believe will be both engaging and enriching for students. The selections are varied, and some cover delicate yet relevant topics. For example, there are books that tell the stories of people living in war-torn and ravaged countries. As a result, there are some mature scenes in a few of the texts, but you can go to the following websites to read descriptions and reviews of all the books before making a selection. **Bring a hard copy of the book to school with you**, since this will be our first unit, and you will need to cite text evidence in your projects. Enjoy!

• [https://www.goodreads.com/review/recent\_reviews#](https://www.goodreads.com/review/recent_reviews)

• <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/book-reviews>

**Suggested titles:**

*Red Scarf Girl* by Ji Li Jiang

*I Am Malala* by Malala Yousafazai

*Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi

*Knots in My Yo-Yo-String* by Jerry Spinelli

*Boy: Tales of Childhood* by Roald Dahl

*I Have Lived a Thousand Years* by Livia E. Bitton-Jackson

*No Pretty Pictures* by Anita Lobel

*In My Hands: Memoirs of a Holocaust Rescuer* by Irene Gut Opdyke

*A Girl Named Zippy* by Haven Kimmel

*Bossypants* by Tina Fey

*Born Standing Up* by Steve Martin

*King of the Mild Frontier: An Ill-Advised Autobiography* by Chris Crutcher

*Hard to Grip: A Memoir of Youth, Baseball, and Chronic Illness* by Emil DeAndreis

*Marshfield Dreams: When I was a Kid* by Ralph Fletcher

*The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls

*El Deafo* by CeCe Bell

*Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings* by Margarita Engle

*The Distance Between Us: A Memoir* by Reyna Grande