

Ipswich Middle School
Summer Reading 2013
Grade 8 English Language Arts

READ:

The Eighth Grade Team is asking incoming students to **keep reading** this summer. **CHOOSE TWO of the books listed** below from our current 8th graders' "Best Books of the Year" list. Here are their winners, in order:

The Fault in our Stars, John Green
Please Stop Laughing at Me, Jodee Blanco
The Maze Runner, James Dashner
Tears of a Tiger, Sharon Draper
Divergent, Veronica Roth
The Glass Castle, Jeannette Walls
Through My Eyes, Tim Tebow
Stormbreaker, Anthony Horowitz
Among the Hidden, Margaret Peterson Haddix
Breathing Underwater, Alex Flinn
Million Dollar Throw, Mike Lupica
In Your Face: The Culture of Beauty and You, Shari Graydon
A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier, Ishmael Beah
Along for the Ride, Sarah Dessen
Jackie's Nine: Values to Live By, Sharon Robinson
A Mango-Shaped Space, Wendy Mass

NOTE: for summaries, prices and reader reviews of these books, check www.amazon.com or www.bn.com. You may also consult the expert staff at the Ipswich Public Library.

READING CHALLENGE:

For an extra challenge, consider one of these books:

Black Hawk Down: A Story of Modern War, Mark Bowden
Girl in Translation, Jean Kwok
The Other Wes Moore: Same Name, Two Fates, Wes Moore
The Help, Kathryn Stockett
Peace Like a River, Leif Enger
The Night Circus, Erin Morgenstern

WRITE:

WRITING ASSIGNMENT:

Choose one memorable person or character from one of your summer books. In 2 well-supported paragraphs, identify two different character qualities that you see in this individual, and support your choice with specific examples from the book. (Sample character qualities: honest, ambitious, *persistent*, independent)

WRITING CHALLENGE: Choose two characters from two books you read this summer to compare and contrast in two well-supported paragraphs.

Bring your completed writing assignment with you ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.