

Ipswich Middle School
Summer Reading 2010
Grade 8

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:

Please Stop Laughing at Me, Jodee Blanco
The Hunger Games, Suzanne Collins
Tears of a Tiger, Sharon Draper
Stormbreaker, Anthony Horowitz
Among the Hidden, Margaret Peterson Haddix
Breathing Underwater, Alex Flinn
Million Dollar Throw, Mike Lupica
The Glass Castle, Jeannette Walls
Speak, Laurie Halse Anderson
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 or at Banbury Cross Children's Bookstore in Wenham Center.

READING CHALLENGE:

For an extra challenge, consider one of these books:

Black Hawk Down: A Story of Modern War, Mark Bowden
A Tree Grows in Brooklyn, Betty Smith
The Life of Pi, Yann Martel
Peace Like a River, Leif Enger

WRITE:

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Choose one memorable character from your first summer book. In a well-supported paragraph, identify one character quality that you see in this character, and support your choice with specific examples from the book. (Sample character qualities: honest, ambitious, persistent,)
2. Choose a memorable scene from your second summer book. In a well-supported paragraph, explain why this scene is meaningful to you. Use several details from the scene to explain why you chose this scene.

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

Bring both completed summer reading assignments with you ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.