

for Students Entering Eighth Grade

Adolescent literature often contains sensitive or mature themes. The eighth-grade language arts teachers encourage students to make informed and shared decisions about reading with their parents. Students should discuss all title selections with a parent or guardian before making a choice.

- First, read one text from the following list of books.
- Then view the film companion to the text.
- Complete the corresponding assignment—due first week of school.

Book	Author		
FICTION			
The Book Thief	Markus Zusak		
The Secret Life of Bees	Sue Monk-Kidd		
The Horse Whisperer	Nicholas Evans		
Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children	Ransom Riggs		
City of Bones: The Mortal Instruments, Book 1	Cassandra Clare		
The Help	Kathryn Stockett		
Bridge to Terabithia	Katherine Patterson		
A Walk to Remember	Nicholas Sparks		
Tuck Everlasting	Natalie Babbitt		
Maze Runner (or Scorch Trials/Death Cure)	James Dashner		
The Outsiders*	S.E. Hinton		
Pictures of Hollis Woods*	Patricia Reilly-Giff		
Flipped*	Wendelin Van Draanen		
Fifth Wave*	Rick Yancey		
Speak*	Laurie Halse Anderson		
Wonder*	R.J. Palacio		
A Wrinkle in Time*	Madeleine L'Engle		
NONFICTION			
The Freedom Writers Diary: How a Teacher and 150 Teens Used	Erin Gruwell		
Writing to Change Themselves and the World Around Them	Enn Growen		
Temple Grandin: How the Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced Autisn	ⁿ Sy Montgomery		
and Changed the World			
Between a Rock and a Hard Place (127 Hours)	Aron Ralston		
Hidden Figures	Margot Lee Shetterly		
* these books would be the most accessible for reluctant reade			
Advanced Titles			
The books below are appropriate for advanced readers seeking a challenge.			
FICTION			
Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close	Jonathan Safran Foer		
Life of Pi	Yann Martel		
DaVinci Code	Dan Brown		
Water for Elephants	Sara Gruen		
NONFICTION			
The Blind Side	Michael Lewis		
Friday Night Lights	H.G. Bissinger		
The Perfect Storm: A True Story of Men Against the Sea	Sebastian Junger		

During-Reading/During-Viewing Observations for Text to Media Comparison

Learning Goal: I can analyze the extent to which a filmed or live production of a story or drama stays faithful to or departs from the text or script, evaluating the choices made by the director or actors.

- List five differences (either obvious or subtle) between the book and movie.
- For each difference, explain in 2+ sentences why the medium of film made that change necessary or desirable. (Consider the limitations and advantages of film.)

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Difference	Possible Reason(s) for Change

What remained consistent from the book to the movie interpretation? Why do you think these specific elements stayed the same? (4+ sentences)

Do you think the author would be happy with the movie interpretation of the book? Explain. (3+ sentences)

What medium, film or book, do you think you think was the best for conveying the story? Explain your answer. (4+ sentences)