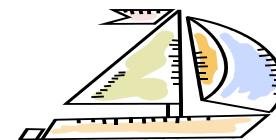


Sail into Books



NECSD Recommended/Suggested Summer Reading List for 8th Grade

AUTHOR	TITLE	8	LEXILE LEVEL
Armstrong, Jennifer	<u>Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World: The Extraordinary True Story of Shackleton and the <i>Endurance</i></u> - As Shackleton and 27 sailors attempted to cross the frozen Antarctic continent from one side to the other, they were trapped in an ice pack, lost their ship to the icy depths, survived an Antarctic winter, escaped attacks from sea lions, and traversed 600 treacherous miles to uninhabited Elephant Island.		1090L
Berman, Ruth	<u>Sharks</u> - Full-color photographs show the variety of sharks, and colorful diagrams amplify the easy-to-understand explanations of their behavior and anatomy.		1070L
Buzzeo, Toni	<u>Sea Chest</u> - Auntie Maita describes her loneliness as the only child of a Maine lighthouse keeper. One morning, after a fierce storm, Maita and her father find a sea chest wrapped in mattresses. Inside, they find a baby and a sorrowful note.		AD1040L
Hunter, Mollie	<u>Stranger Came Ashore</u> - A small family in Scotland encounters a shipwrecked survivor, a handsome young man named Finn Learson. Finn rapidly endears himself to the family, especially to the pretty Elspeth. The only ones who do not like him are young Robbie, Old Da, Tam the dog, and Nicol, Elspeth's increasingly irritated fiancée.		1060L
Jones, Kimberly	<u>Sand Dollar Summer</u> - Lise, 12, is beginning to feel at home in a new town with her single mother and 5-year-old brother, a mute. When her mother is injured in a car accident and faces months of rehabilitation, she decides to recover in Maine, where she grew up.		790L
Linley, Mike	<u>Frog and the Toad : Masters of Land and Water</u> – This book examines the physical characteristics, behavior, and life cycle of frogs and toads.		1140L
Llamas, Andreu	<u>Octopuses : Underwater Jet Propulsion</u> – This book examines the habitat, intelligence, self-defense actions, and jet propulsion of this tentacled marine mollusk.		1040L
Meigs, Cornelia	<u>Swift Rivers</u> - Barred from his family home, eighteen-year-old Chris weathers a Minnesota winter in a small cabin with his grandfather. Poverty and the tempting stories of a wandering Easterner convince Chris to harvest the trees on his grandfather's land and float the logs down the spring floodwaters of the Mississippi to the lumber mills in Saint Louis.		1160L
Murphy, Jim	<u>Gone A-Whaling : The Lure of the Sea and the Hunt for the Great Whale</u> - The awe and majesty of great whales are expressed throughout the book in the many quotes describing face-to-face confrontations between whaler and whale, as well as in Murphy's description of his own close-up meeting with a whale on a New England whale watch.		1150L
Paulsen, Gary	<u>Island</u> - Fifteen-year-old Wil Neuton is forced to leave Madison for the upper reaches of Wisconsin when his ne'er-do-well father takes a position with the state highway department. Wil leaves behind the security of old friends and old crushes. In the course of adjusting to his new environment, he discovers an uninhabited island sitting in the middle of Sucker Lake.		1050L

Paulsen, Gary	<u>Beet Fields : Memories of a Sixteenth Summer</u> - A boy runs away and finds work in the beet fields of North Dakota. Wielding a hoe for long, hot days, he learns about cruelty from the farmer's wife and about kindness from his Mexican coworkers. Later an attraction to a girl glimpsed only once leads him into accepting a job driving a tractor, but a brush with the deputy sheriff sends him running again, only to be taken in by a sleazy carnival as a roustabout.	1070L
Ricciuti, Edward R.	<u>Crustaceans</u> - The award-winning Our Living World series emphasizes the fascinating patterns in the natural world.	1060L

KEY	
AD	Adult Directed
BR	Beginning Reader
NP	Non-prose (poetry)
Lexile Level	Difficulty of Text