

**Lake Zurich Middle School North**  
**Summer Reading List**  
**Grade 8**  
**2011**

May 2, 2011

Dear Students and Parents,

During the summer prior to entering 8th grade, we are requesting that all students read at least one novel from the attached summer reading list and complete the attached book report. The book and book report should be completed before school starts. Students need to bring the book report to their 8<sup>th</sup> grade Literature teacher on the first day of the new school year.

In our effort to promote summer reading, students are encouraged to read as many books as they would like from our list, but they are required to read one. Parents need to simply sign their name at the bottom of the completed book report in order for their child to receive recognition.

All Literature teachers are planning special activities relating to summer reading for the first week of 8<sup>th</sup> grade, so please remember to have your child bring their book report with them to class during the first week of school. The books on this list have been carefully chosen by the 8th grade teachers because of their recognized literary merit and because they directly relate to the eighth grade Social Studies and Literature curriculum.

Students may purchase a book(s) from our list through the MSN library by filling out the attached form. All forms must be turned into Mrs. Chaffee or Mrs. Malone on or before May 13th. Purchased books will be distributed to students before the last day of 7th grade. You may also obtain these books at the library or at a local bookstore, as we will be providing our summer reading list to Barnes and Noble in Deer Park, and the Ela Area Library.

You have received your child's fall and winter MAP score and will be receiving his/her spring MAP score at the end of the year. On these tests you will find a Lexile Score, which may assist you and your child in selecting appropriate level novels for this summer reading assignment. If you would like more information about Lexile Scores and how to use them in selecting appropriate reading material, please refer to [www.lexile.com](http://www.lexile.com).

We hope to make this summer reading initiative an enjoyable experience for all. Thank you for supporting us in our efforts to keep students reading during the summer months and throughout the school year.

Sincerely,  
The 8th Grade Team

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List-2011

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Description</u>
<i>The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate</i> *2011 Caudill Nominee Lexile-830	Kelly, Jacqueline	Growing up with six brothers in rural Texas in 1899, 12-year-old Callie realizes that her aversion to needlework and cooking disappoints her mother. Still, she prefers to spend her time exploring the river, observing animals, and keeping notes on what she sees. Callie's growing interest in nature creates a bond with her previously distant grandfather, an amateur naturalist of some distinction. Interwoven with the scientific theme are threads of daily life in a large family—the bonds with siblings, the conversations overheard, the unspoken understandings and misunderstandings—all told with wry humor and a sharp eye for details that bring the characters and the setting to life.
<i>Flygirl</i> *2011 Caudill Nominee Lexile-630	Smith, Sherri	Meet 18-year-old Ida Mae Jones, a Louisiana girl who longs to be a pilot, in December 1941, on the eve of America's entrance into World War II. She is pretty and smart, but she has two huge strikes against her. She is black in an America where racism holds sway, and a competent pilot in an America in which she is denied her license because she is a woman. Readers learn a great deal about what it must have been like to be African American in the South during this period, as well as about the Women Airforce Service Pilots, WASP, a civilian group that performed jobs that freed male pilots for other things.
<i>Leviathan</i> *2011 Caudill Nominee Lexile-790	Westerfeld, Scott	This is World War I as never seen before. The story begins the same: on June 28, 1914, Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife are assassinated, triggering a sequence of alliances that plunges the world into war. But that is where the similarity ends. This global conflict is between the Clankers, who put their faith in machines, and the Darwinists, whose technology is based on the development of new species. After the assassination of his parents, Prince Aleksandar's people turn on him. Meanwhile, as Deryn Sharp trains to be an airman with the British Air Service. When the two teens cross paths, and suddenly the line between enemy and ally is no longer clearly defined.
Peak *2011 Caudill Nominee Lexile-760	Smith, Roland	Fourteen-year-old New Yorker Peak Marcello hones his climbing skills by scaling skyscrapers. After Peak is caught climbing the Woolworth Building, an angry judge gives him probation, with an understanding that Peak will leave New York and live with his famous mountaineer father in Thailand. Peak soon learns, however, that his father has other plans for him; he hopes that Peak will become the youngest person to climb Mt. Everest.
<i>Woods Runner</i> *2011 Caudill Nominee Lexile-870	Paulsen, Gary	Though his parents are city folk trying to hack out a life on the frontier in Pennsylvania, 13-year-old Samuel is entirely at home in the woodland wilderness that surrounds their little settlement. Soon after word arrives of the uprising in Concord and Lexington, Samuel returns home from a jaunt in the forest to find his home burned down and his parents missing. Samuel tracks his captured parents through the countryside to British-held New York, encountering scalping bands of Iroquois, pillaging squads of mercenary Hessians, and a few hardy, helpful rebels along the way.



**Book Order Form**  
**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading 2011**  
**(for students entering 8<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall)**

**RETURN TO THE LIBRARY BY MAY 13th.**

Please clearly mark your choice or choices:

\_\_\_\_\_ The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate    7.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Flygirl    7.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Leviathan    9.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Peak    6.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Woods Runner    7.00

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

Lit Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Class period \_\_\_\_\_

**AMOUNT ENCLOSED** \_\_\_\_\_ cash/check payable to MSN

