



Summer Reading Challenge

8TH Grade Reading List 2025

1. **The Honest Truth by Dan Gemeinhart**

Mark is a normal kid in many ways, except he is sick, very sick. He makes a life-changing decision to fulfill a final wish of his grandfather's to climb Mt. Rainer. He sets out with his dog, Beau, on an incredible journey. Will this be his last?

2. **The Red Kayak by Priscilla Cummings**

This is a story about three teenagers who make a life-changing decision leading them through a web of lies. This tests their friendship and moral compass.

3. **Escaped by Eliot Schreder**

Raja, an orangutan, was adopted by a young boy, John, as a gift from his father. They become like brothers until John's parents separate and John and his mother move away leaving Raja behind. When John learns that Raja must be moved to a 'zoo', John believes he must help Raja adapt to his new environment. What John discovers takes them both on the journey of a lifetime.

4. **Legend by Marie Lu**

From two very different worlds, June's and Day's path have no reason to cross until the day June's brother is murdered. Day becomes the prime suspect and June sets out to destroy him. Two very powerful secrets come out that change the course of both of their paths forever.

5. **Summerlost by Ally Condie**

An accident kills Cedar's father and younger brother and she is forced to move to Summerlost. Not only does she meet a new friend, she finds herself surrounded by mystery; the mystery of the tragic, too-short life of the Hollywood actress who haunts the halls of Summerlost.

6. **Peak by Roland Smith**

After 14-yr-old Peak Marcello is arrested for scaling a New York City skyscraper, he is reunited with his long-lost father who wants him to be the youngest person to reach the Everest summit.

7. **The Benefits of Being an Octopus by Ann Broden**

Zoey is in 7th grade and carries the weight of the world on her shoulders. She is responsible for the care of her younger siblings in a very dysfunctional family. At school she tries to go unnoticed while at home she tries to keep her siblings out of the adults way. Sometimes it takes the courage of a child to help a struggling adult see clearly.

8. **Restart by Gordon Korman**

Chase doesn't remember falling off the roof. He doesn't remember hitting his head. He doesn't, in fact, remember anything. He wakes up in a hospital room and suddenly has to learn his whole life all over again . . . starting with his own name.

9. ****Any book written by Jennifer A. Nielsen or Alan Gratz**