




Year 8 Academic Reading List

	
Subject	Book
English	Coraline by Neil Garman
In this gothic novel, Coraline it follows the story of young Coraline Jones who moves into a new house. One day, she discovers a strange door in her house which opens to a corridor that leads to a parallel universe. You will study Gothic Literature in Year 8 with a chance to produce your own piece of writing. Also recommend reading - A Company of Ghosts by Berlie Doherty or The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett's	
Spanish	Cemetery Boys by Aiden Thomas
When his traditional Latinx family has problems accepting his gender, Yadriel becomes determined to prove himself a real brujo. With the help of his cousin and best friend Maritza, he performs the ritual himself, and then sets out to find the ghost of his murdered cousin and set it free. This novel is written in English but uses Spanish, too.	
History	The Birchbark House by Louise Erdrich
Chronicles the experiences of an Ojibwa girl, Omakayas, and her family as they live their lives quietly on an island in Lake Superior in 1847, until the white man comes and begins moving her entire tribe off their land.	
Geography	How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World by Marjorie Priceman
An apple pie is easy to make...if the market is open. But if the market is closed, the world becomes your grocery store. This deliciously silly recipe for apple pie takes readers around the globe to gather ingredients. First hop a steamboat to Italy for the finest semolina wheat. Then hitch a ride to England and hijack a cow for the freshest possible milk. And, oh yes! Don't forget to go apple picking in Vermont! You even get the recipe to make a pie!	
PE	Football Genius (series) by Tim Green
Tim Green scores a touchdown with this exhilarating and action-packed story about an ordinary boy who becomes a hero you can really root for. Perfect for fans of Mike Lupica.	
Maths	Math Curse by Jon Scieszka,
Do you ever wake up to one of those days where everything is a problem? You have 10 things to do, but only 30 minutes until your bus leaves. Is there enough time? You have 3 shirts and 2 pairs of pants. Can you make 1 good outfit? Then you start to wonder: Why does everything have to be such a problem?	
Science	Case of the Poisonous Socks by William H. Brock
In 1868, The Times reported that poisons contained in dyes were affecting the public's health. A doctor informed a London magistrate that brilliantly coloured socks had caused severe "constitutional and local complaint" to several of his patients. In one case, a patient's foot had become so swollen that his boots had to be cut off. Respected chemist, William Crookes, offered to identify the poison if doctors would send him samples of the deadly socks.	
IT	I, Ada by Julia Gray
A wonderfully witty and poignant portrayal of the young life of Ada Lovelace, the 19th-century mathematician who is hailed as the world's first computer programmer.	
DT Food	Granny Torrelli Makes Soup by Sharon Creech
Twelve-year-old Rosie and her best friend, Bailey, don't always get along, that's true. But Granny Torrelli seems to know just how to make things right again with her warm words and family recipes.	
Art	A Spider's Tale, by Eileen Spinelli
This masterpiece is about a spider who was an artist but found it difficult to find someone to appreciate her creative abilities, as she moves from room to room in Beekman's Board house. Finally, she finds the perfect home and an important role, as she creates her most important masterpiece.	
Drama	Better Nate Than Ever by Tim Federle
Nate Foster has big dreams. His whole life, he's wanted to star in a Broadway show. (Heck, he'd settle for seeing a Broadway show.) But how is Nate supposed to make his dreams come true when he's stuck in Jankburg, Pennsylvania, where no one (except his best pal Libby) appreciates a good show tune? With Libby's help, Nate plans a daring overnight escape to New York. There's an open casting call for E.T.: The Musical, and Nate knows this could be the difference between small-town blues and big-time stardom.	