



BACK TO SCHOOL

8th Grade READING



You are responsible for reading two books this summer. The Odyssey must be read by all rising 8th graders in preparation for reading The Aeneid in 8th grade. Be prepared to discuss The Odyssey in class. The other book should be selected from the list below. These books vary in length and reading level. Explore in a library or read book descriptions on a bookseller's website to help you determine which books you will enjoy. Students should be prepared to do an in-class activity with the book they read. Happy reading, and have a wonderful summer!

Required Book

The Odyssey by Homer

- Please read the [Richmond Lattimore translation](#).

Other Books

The Lord of the Rings by J.R.R. Tolkien (any of the three)

The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis (any book in the series)

The Prydain Chronicles by Lloyd Alexander (any book in the series)

The Innocence of Father Brown by G.K. Chesterton

Northanger Abbey, *Pride and Prejudice*, or *Emma* by Jane Austen

Slave Dancer by Paula Fox

The Once and Future King by T.H. White

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

Captains Courageous by Rudyard Kipling

The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling

Puck of Pook's Hill by Rudyard Kipling

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain

The Prince and the Pauper by Mark Twain

Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson

Kim by Rudyard Kipling
Rob Roy by Sir Walter Scott
The Cricket on the Hearth by Charles Dickens
The Swiss Family Robinson by Johann Wyss
The Call of the Wild by Jack London
20,000 Leagues Under the Sea by Jules Verne
Penrod by Booth Tarkington
Watership Down by Richard Adams
The Hounds of Baskerville by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
The Outsiders by SE Hinton
Holes by Louis Sachar
A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle
Hatchet by Gary Paulson
The Giver by Lois Lowry
The 39 Steps by John Buchan
Escape from Warsaw by Ian Serrailier
Around the World in 80 Days by Jules Verne