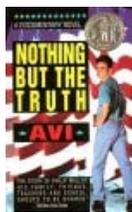


8th Grade Suggested Reading List

All books are located in Young Adult (YA) Fiction or YA Paperbacks by author's last name.



Nothing But the Truth : A Documentary Novel by Avi

When Philip, a high school freshman, is suspended for singing "The Star-Spangled Banner" during homeroom, it soon becomes a national news story.



Hanging on to Max by Margaret Berchard

When his girlfriend decides to give their baby away, seventeen-year-old Sam is determined to keep him and raise him alone.



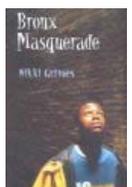
The Chocolate War by Robert Cormier

A high school freshman discovers the devastating consequences of refusing to join in the school's annual fund raising drive and arousing the wrath of the school bullies.



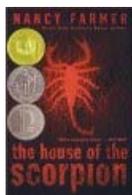
Whale Talk by Chris Crutcher

Intellectually and athletically gifted, TJ, a multiracial, adopted teenager, shuns organized sports and the gung-ho athletes at his high school until he agrees to form a swimming team and recruits some of the school's less popular students.



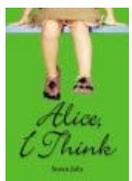
Bronx Masquerade by Nikki Grimes

While studying the Harlem Renaissance, students at a Bronx high school read aloud poems they've written, revealing their innermost thoughts and fears to their formerly clueless classmates.



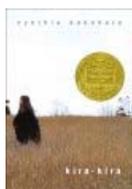
House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer

In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patrón, the 142-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States.



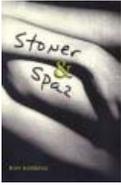
Alice, I Think by Susan Juby

Fifteen-year-old Alice keeps a diary as she struggles to cope with the embarrassments and trials of family, dating, school, work, small town life, and a serious case of "outcastitis."



Kira-Kira by Cynthia Kadhota

Chronicles the close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s and early 1960s, and the despair when one sister becomes terminally ill.



Stoner and Spaz by Ron Koertge

A troubled youth with cerebral palsy struggles toward self-acceptance with the help of a drug-addicted young woman.



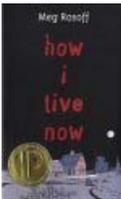
A Step From Heaven by An Na

A young Korean girl and her family find it difficult to learn English and adjust to life in America.



Define "Normal" by Julie Anne Peters

When she agrees to meet with Jasmine as a peer counselor at their middle school, Antonia never dreams that this girl with the black lipstick and pierced eyebrow will end up helping her deal with the serious problems she faces at home and become a good friend.



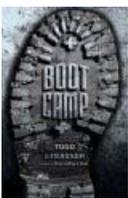
How I Live Now by Meg Rosoff

To get away from her pregnant stepmother in New York City, fifteen-year-old Daisy goes to England to stay with her aunt and cousins, with whom she instantly bonds, but soon war breaks out and rips apart the family while devastating the land.



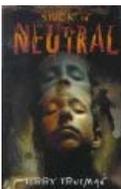
Dairy Queen by Catherine Gilbert Murdock

After spending her summer running the family farm and training the quarterback for her school's rival football team, sixteen-year-old D.J. decides to go out for the sport herself, not anticipating the reactions of those around her.



Boot Camp by Todd Strasser

After ignoring several warnings to stop dating his teacher, Garrett is sent to Harmony Lake, a boot camp that uses unorthodox and brutal methods to train students to obey their parents.



Stuck in Neutral by Terry Trueman

Fourteen-year-old Shawn McDaniel, who suffers from severe cerebral palsy and cannot function, relates his perceptions of his life, his family, and his condition, especially as he believes his father is planning to kill him.



Teen Services, 2011

Santa Clara City Library – Teen Services
2635 Homestead Road, Santa Clara, CA 95051
<http://library.santaclaraca.gov/TeenNet/teenet.html>