

**8th Grade Summer Reading List**  
Notre Dame Academy - 2019

Students entering the 8th grade in the 2019-20 school year must choose one of the following novels to read during their summer break. The novel should be within their 3rd trimester AR reading range. When the students return to school, they will take an AR test on the book on the Friday of the first week of school. In Literature class, they will discuss the themes in their novel and will complete assignments at the beginning of the school year. A short description is provided with the list below.

Find helpful information, including book summaries from Goodreads and Amazon, below.

Novel	Summary	# of pages	Reading Level	AR Points
Wringer Author: Jerry Spinelli	In Palmer LaRue's hometown of Waymer, turning ten is the biggest event of a boy's life. It marks the day when a boy is ready to take his place as a wringer at the annual Family Fest. It's an honor and a tradition. But for Palmer, his tenth birthday is not something to look forward to, but is something to dread. Because - although he can't admit this to anyone - Palmer does not want to be a wringer. But he can't stop himself from getting older, any more than he can stop tradition. Somehow, he must learn how to stop being afraid and stand up for what he believes in.	228	4.5	5  Quiz #: 17800 EN
Holes Author: Louis Sachar	Stanley Yelnats is under a curse. A curse that began with his no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather and has since followed generations of Yelnats. Now Stanley has been unjustly sent to a boys' detention center, Camp Green Lake, where the warden makes the boys "build character" by spending all day, every day, digging holes: five feet wide and five feet deep. It doesn't take long for Stanley to realize there's more than character improvement going on at Camp Green Lake. The boys are	233	4.6	7  Quiz # 28081 EN

	digging holes because the warden is looking for something. Stanley tries to dig up the truth in this inventive and darkly humorous tale of crime and punishment—and redemption.			
Walk Two Moons Author: Sharon Creech	As Sal entertains her grandparents with Phoebe's outrageous story, her own story begins to unfold - the story of a thirteen-year-old girl whose only wish is to be reunited with her missing mother. In her own award-winning style, Sharon Creech intricately weaves together two tales, one funny, one bittersweet, to create a heartwarming, compelling, and utterly moving story of love, loss, and the complexity of human emotion.	280	4.9	9  Quiz #: 10299 EN
Orphan Monster Spy Author: Matt Killeen	Her name is Sarah, she's blonde, blue-eyed, and Jewish in 1939 Germany, and her act of resistance is about to change the world. After her mother is shot at a checkpoint, fifteen-year-old Sarah meets a mysterious man with an ambiguous accent, in a suspiciously bare apartment with a lockbox full of weapons. He's part of the secret resistance against the Third Reich, and he needs Sarah to hide in plain sight at a school for the daughters of top Nazi brass, posing as one of them.	432	5.0	14  Quiz # 197299 EN
Dry Authors: Neal Shusterman and Jarrod Shusterman	The drought—or the Tap-Out, as everyone calls it—has been going on for a while now. Everyone's lives have become an endless list of don'ts: don't water the lawn, don't fill up your pool, don't take long showers. Until the taps run dry. Suddenly, Alyssa's quiet suburban street spirals into a warzone of desperation; neighbors and families turn against each other	416	5.5	16  Quiz #: 198982 EN

	<p>on the hunt for water. When her parents don't return and her life—and her brother's—are threatened, Alyssa has to make impossible choices if she's going to survive.</p>			
<p>Houdini: Master of Illusion Author: Clinton Cox</p>	<p>Houdini was an illusionist and escape artist who drew colossal crowds and awed them. His incredible feats seemed impossible, yet no one was ever able to debunk him. How did he escape from locked jail cells? How did he emerge after diving into stormy rivers with chains locked around his body? Although Clinton Cox exposes the secrets behind many of Houdini's tricks, readers will learn it was Houdini's brilliancy, his physical dexterity, and his wild imagination that made him a true master of illusion.</p>	188	8.0	7  Quiz #: 55198 EN