Books for 8th Grade

Ebooks, audiobooks, and books on CD are often available, check the catalog.

Fiction  All titles are arranged by the author’s last name.

J Fiction

Choldenko, G.  Chasing Secrets  San Francisco, 1900, Lizzie discovers a hidden city—one full of secrets, rats, and rumors of plague

Gidwitz, A.  The Inquisitor’s Tale  France, 1200’s, travelers swap stories about 3 miraculous children and their dog (once dead)

J Young Teen & Teen

Alexie, S.  The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian  Art and humor keep Junior going when he transfers schools

Anderson, L.  Chains  After being sold to a cruel couple in New York City, Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War

Cormier, R.  I am the Cheese  To remember can be deadly

Emezi, A.  Pet  There are no more monsters, or so the children in the city of Lucille are taught. But Jam knows differently

Farmer, N.  The House of the Scorpion  What if you could live forever? What if living forever meant other people had to die?

Gaiman, N.  The Sleeper and the Spindle  A creepier, funnier fairytale than the ones you are used to (author of Coraline)

Gansworth, E.  If I Ever Get Out of Here  Music can save your life, give perspective and provide the words you need: just ask Lewis

Gephart, D.  Lily and Dunkin  Being in 8th grade would be a lot easier if you were just allowed to be who you actually are

Ifueko, J.  Raybearer  Tarisai must protect the Prince but didn’t count on falling in love with him or that she must kill him

Lee, S.  The Downstairs Girl  1890, Atlanta. By day, Jo Kuan works as a lady’s maid to a cruel boss but at night, Jo secretly authors the advice column for the local newspaper

Little Badger, D.  Elatsoe  Ellie must use her gifts to solve a murder. Luckily her gifts include waking and training the dead

Lowry, L.  The Giver  Jonas did not know what he was to become or what would become of him

Manzano, S.  The Revolution of Evelyn Serrano  Things get crazy, complicated, downright dangerous in Spanish Harlem, 1969

Namioka, L.  Ties that Bind, Ties that Break  Ailin defies tradition and refuses to have her feet bound. Life takes a different turn

Nayeri, D.  Everything Sad Is Untrue  Some people tell stories to entertain but Daniel (real name Khosrou) tells stories to stay alive

Park, L.  A Long Walk to Water  An incredible true story of survival. Could you follow in Salva’s footsteps?

Paulsen, G.  Woods Runner  13 year-old Samuel must rescue his family in Pennsylvania, 1776

Peck, R.  Life As We Knew It  You will never look at the moon the same way after reading this book

Reeve, P.  Mortal Engines  Giant moving cities grind over what’s left of the Earth’s surface. Tom must stop more destruction

Reynolds, J.  Long Way Down  His brother gone, Will has one elevator ride to decide what comes next—revenge or peace?

Schiltz, L.  Amber & Clay  In ancient Greece, the line between life and death is so thin that even friendship can cross it

Smith, R.  Peak  Peak started climbing as a little boy but is he ready for Mount Everest?

Smith, S.  Flygirl  Ida must fly from everyone who’s holding her back but passing for white can be as risky as flight school

Spinelli, J.  Stargirl  The perils of popularity, the courage of nonconformity, and the thrill of first love are revealed

Stead, R.  Goodbye Stranger  Middle school, togetherness,aloneness, friendship, betrayal, and cat ears

Stroud, J.  The Amulet of Samarkand  Bartimaeus is a helpful demon. He might do what you command but maybe he won’t

Thomas, A.  The Hate U Give  The uneasy balance Starr had found in her life crumbles when her friend is killed by police

Uehashi, N.  Beast Player  Elin can communicate with magical beasts and must save the warring kingdom that is her home

Graphic Novels (more graphic novels in the nonfiction recommendations on the next page)

J GN Jamieson, V  When Stars Are Scattered

Teen GN Ostertag, M  The Girl from the Sea

Teen GN Stevenson, N  Nimona

Teen GN Squirrel  The Unbeatable Squirrel Girl beats up the Marvel Universe!

Teen GN Trung, L  The Magic Fish

J GN Yang, G  American Born Chinese  and/or!  Teen GN Yang, G  Superman Smashes the Klan
### Non-Fiction

#### Social Studies
- J 155.42 Newman  How to Be a Person
- J GN 292.211 Oc55z O'Connor  Zeus: King of the Gods
- J 304.8 Butler Butler  Drawn Across Borders: True Stories of Human Migration
- J 322.42 B285t Bartoletti  They Called Themselves the K.K.K.: The Birth of an American Terrorist Group
- J 362.1974 F6284p Fleishman  Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story about Brain Science
- J 363.11 Ar67t Aronson  How We Got to the Moon
- J 363.6 Ar67s Aronson  Sugar Changed the World: A Story of Magic, Spice, Slavery, Freedom, and Science
- J 366.7 Frydenborg  A Dog in the Cave: the Wolves Who Made Us Human

#### Science and Technology
- J GN 599.88 Ot8p Ottavianni  Primates: the Fearless Science of Jane Goodall, Dian Fossey, and Biruté Galdikas
- J 629.45 Rocco  How We Got to the Moon
- J 633.6 Ar67s Aronson  Sugar Changed the World: A Story of Magic, Spice, Slavery, Freedom, and Science
- J 636.7 Frydenborg  A Dog in the Cave: the Wolves Who Made Us Human

#### Arts, Design, and Sports
- J 720.9 D587s Dillon  The Story of Buildings: From the Pyramids to the Sydney Opera House and Beyond
- J 741.51 H251m Hart  Manga for the Beginner: Everything you need to know to get started right away!
- J 741.6 K537g Kidd  Go: A Kidd's Guide to Graphic Design
- J GN 741.64 Sa99ad Say  Drawing from Memory
- J 759.1 Ok2r3 Rubin  Wideness and Wonder: The Life and Art of Georgia O'Keeffe
- J 796.357 R566r3 Robinson  Promises to Keep: How Jackie Robinson Changed America
- J 797.52 Sheinkin  Born to Fly: the First Women's Air Race across America

#### Poetry and Writing
- J 808.1 Herrera  Jabberwalking
- J 808.3 Stern  Brave the Page: a Young Writer's Guide to Telling Epic Stories
- J 811 M992h2 Myers  Here in Harlem: Poems in Many Voices
- J 811.54 Nye  Cast Away: Poems for Our Time

#### History and Biography
- J GN 919.89 Sh11b Bertozzi  Shackleton: Antarctic Odyssey
- J BIO Bryan, A Bryan  Infinite Hope: a Black Artist's Journey from World War II to Peace
- J BIO Colvin, C Hoose  Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice
- J BIO Engle, M Engle  Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings: A Memoir
- Teen GN BIO Lewis, J Lewis  March
- J BIO K1285ab2 Kamkwamba  The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind
- Teen GN BIO Takei, G Takei  They Called Us Enemy
- Teen GN BIO Yang, G Yang  Dragon Hoops
- J 940.3 F875w Freedman  The War to End All Wars: World War I
- J 940.545 Sh42p Sheinkin  Port Chicago 50
- J 947.083 F629f Fleming  The Family Romanov: Murder, Rebellion, and the Fall of Imperial Russia
- Teen 973.0496 Gates  Dark Sky Rising: Reconstruction and the Dawn of Jim Crow
- J 973.91 Sandler Sandler  1919: the Year that Changed America
- J 974.71 M349f Marrin  Flesh & Blood So Cheap: the Triangle Fire and its Legacy
- J GN 976.335 B812d Brown  Drowned City: Hurricane Katrina and New Orleans

www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org

08/2021