

## 8th GRADE READING LIST

Students may choose any book from the 2 lists (non-fiction/fiction or Westminster 100)

Parents, while we have created a reading list full of interesting and well-written stories at appropriate reading levels, **we recommend researching the individual books your son or daughter chooses.** Sites such as CommonSenseMedia.org or Amazon.com will help you to learn more about a book's content so that you may decide what is appropriate for your family.

### LIST #1 Fiction & Non-Fiction

#### Non-Fiction Books

Author	Title
Bernall, Misty	She Said Yes: The Unlikely Martyrdom of Cassie Bernall
Braithwaite	To Sir; With Love
Carson, Ben	Gifted Hands
Davis, Katie	Kisses from Katie
Hamilton, Bethany	Soul Surfer
Hughes, P.H.	I Am Potential
Keller, Helen	The Story of My Life
Lester, Julius	To Be A Slave
Lewis, C. S.	Mere Christianity
Lord, Walter	A Night to Remember
Mirikitani, Jason	Mile Marker 825
Moody, Ralph	Little Britches: Father and I Were Ranchers
Murphy, Jim	The Great Fire
Nohl, Frederick	Luther: Biography of a Reformer
Pfotzer & Galvin	Within Reach: My Everest Story
Sterling, Dorothy	Freedom Train: The Story of Harriet Tubman
Sutcliffe, Rosemary	The Wanderings of Odysseus, Black Ships Before Troy
Tebow, Tim	Through My Eyes
Various Authors	Heroes of the Faith Series
Warner, Kurt	All Things Possible

#### Fiction Books

Author	Title
Adams, Richard	Watership Down
Alcott, Louisa May	Little Women or Little Men
Avi	Murder at Midnight, True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle
Barry & Pearson	Peter and the Star Catchers (series)

Bloor, Edward	Tangerine
Bradbury, Ray	The Martian Chronicles
Burnett, Frances	The Secret Garden
Carroll, Lewis	Alice's Adventures in Wonderland
Christie, Agatha	A.B.C. Murders, And Then There Were None, Death on the Nile, Murder on the Orient Express
Creech, Sharon	Walk Two Moons
Crew, Linda	Children of the River
Defoe, Daniel	Robinson Crusoe
Dodge, Mary	Hans Brinker and the Silver Skates
Doyle, Arthur C.	The Hound of the Baskervilles, Adventures of Sherlock Holmes
Dumas, Alexandre	The Three Musketeers
DuPrau, Jeanne	The City of Ember, The People of Sparks
Forbes, Esther	Johnny Tremain
Freedman, Benedict	Mrs. Mike
Funke, Cornelia	The Thief Lord, Dragon Rider
George, Jean	My Side of the Mountain
Gibson, Williams	The Miracle Worker
Gilbreth & Carey	Cheaper by the Dozen
Goldman, William	The Princess Bride
Graham, L.B.	The Binding of the Blade (series)
Hamilton, Virginia	House of Dies Drear
Herriot, James	All Creatures Great and Small
Hiassen, Carl	Hoot
Jaques, Brian	Redwall (series)
Keith, Harold	Rifles for Waitie
Kipling, Rudyard	Captains Courageous
L'Engle, Madeleine	A Wrinkle in Time
Levine, Gail Carson	Ella Enchanted
Lewis, C. S.	Chronicles of Narnia series, Out of the Silent Planet, The Screwtape Letters
London, Jack	White Fang
Lowry, Lois	The Giver, Messenger, Gathering Blue
Magoon, Kekta	The Rock and the River
Maier, Paul L.	A Skeleton in God's Closet
Marshall, Catherine	Christy
McDaniel, Lurlene	Six Months to Live
McKissack, Pat	A Picture of Freedom: The Diary of Clotee, A Slave Girl

Morey, Walt	Gentle Ben; Kavik, the Wolf Dog
Morpurgo, Michael	The War Horse
Mull, Brandon	Fablehaven
Myers, Walter Dean	The Journal of Scott Pendelton Collins: A W.W. II Soldier
Nixon, J.L.	The Orphan Train (series)
O'Brien, Robert	Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIHM
O'Dell, Scott	Island of the Blue Dolphins, Sing Down the Moon, The Black Pearl
Paolini, Christopher	Eragon (series)
Paterson, Katherine	The Bridge to Terabithia, Bread and Roses, Too
Patterson, James	iFunny (series), Middle School (series)
Perretti, Frank	This Present Darkness
Peterson, Andrew	The Dark Sea of Darkness
Ransome, Arthur	Swallows and Amazons
Raskin, Ellen	The Westing Game
Rawlings, Marjorie	The Yearling
Rawls, Wilson	Summer of Monkeys
Richter, Conrad	The Light in the Forest
Riordan, Rick	Percy Jackson & the Olympians (series)
Ritter, John	The Boy Who Saved Baseball
Rowling, J.K.	Harry Potter (series)
Saint-Exupery, A.	The Little Prince
Schaefer, Jack	Shane
Schmidt, Gary	Lizzie Bright & the Buckminster Boy, Trouble (please do not read if enrolled in Honors English)
Speare, Elizabeth	The Bronze Bow, The Sign of the Beaver, The Witch of Blackbird Pond
Spinelli, Jerry	Maniac Magee
Steinbeck, John	The Pearl
Stevenson, R. L.	Treasure Island
Stewart, Trenton Lee	The Mysterious Benedict Society (series)
Taylor, Mildred	Let the Circle Be Unbroken, The Land
Tolkien, J.R.	The Hobbit, The Lord of the Rings (series)
Twain, Mark	The Prince and the Pauper, A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court
Verne, Jules	20,000 Leagues Under the Sea, Around the World in Eighty Days
Voigt, Cynthia	Homecoming, Dicey's Song
Wells, H.G.	The Time Machine
Wells, Seymore Simon	The Invisible Man
Zindel, Paul	The Pigman

## LIST #2

### Westminster 100 Book List

#### WHY

This program will promote the value of reading in a culture that is quickly forgetting that value. 100 books in six years will challenge participants and expand both their intellectual and cultural understanding. Furthermore, this program will enhance what is already one of the great strengths of WCA: student/faculty relationships. Faculty members who choose to be involved will act as mentors for participating students by offering support and guidance along the way.

#### WHAT

- The Westminster 100 is a six-year program that will require participating students to read 100 great books – some of which are already part of the Westminster curriculum – over the course of their time at WCA.
- Of the 100, there are 25 books on the “Core” that every student who participates will be required to read.
- To reach 100, students will select 75 other books from the offered list.
- On the list the students will receive, the titles are divided into books recommended by grade level (7–8, 9–10, 11–12) to allow students to select age appropriate books according to both content and reading level.

#### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

##### 1. How do students begin?

After selecting a book, students will check in with the book’s sponsor to start the conversation. During the summer, a student may read the book and connect with the sponsor in August to set up a meeting.

##### 2. How will students select which books to read?

Each book is categorized by grade-level. Level 1 is recommended for grades 7 and 8. Level 2 is recommended for 9 and 10, and Level 3 is recommended for 11 and 12. All families are encouraged to research titles for content and subject matter before selecting books.

##### 3. How will student reading be tracked?

Each book on the Westminster 100 will have a faculty sponsor’s name beside it. To begin, students will notify the sponsor of their selected book, at which time the sponsor will provide 2–3 guided questions for students to focus on as they read. Students are encouraged to check in with faculty sponsors at various points throughout the reading of each book. Finally, students will meet with the book sponsor after reading each selected book, at which time the sponsor will sign off on that specific title. If a book appears on both the Westminster 100 list and the school’s curriculum, the instructor of the course can act as the sponsor and will sign off on that title for each participating student in his or her class. A running log of completed titles will be kept for each student.

##### 4. Is any written work required to complete the Westminster 100?

No written work is required.

##### 5. Given that the Westminster 100 is designed as a six-year program, is there a way for students who enter Westminster at the 8th grade level to take part?

Yes. To complete the program, students will be required to read 17 books (four from the core list) each year they are at Westminster. So, students who enter Westminster in 8th grade must read 65 choice and 20 core

##### 6. What do students receive upon completion of the program?

This is a program that students can take part in at no extra cost, so there is no “carrot” dangling in front of them to motivate them to participate or finish. In addition to providing students and faculty members the opportunity to build stronger and deeper relationships, we believe the main value and reward for this program is that it encourages students to become more well-read, and in doing so, to be more well-rounded thinkers and engagers of culture.

## WESTMINSTER 100 AS SUMMER READING

In order to receive credit for the Westminster 100 program, in addition to completing the summer reading assignment, a student will meet to discuss the book with its sponsor during the 1st quarter.

### CORE (REQUIRED) 7-8 BOOKS

Boon, Corrie Ten	The Hiding Place
Dickens, Charles	A Christmas Carol
Lewis, C.S.	The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe
Tolkien, J.R.R.	The Hobbit

### CHOICE BOOKS 7-8

Adams, Richard	Watership Down
Alcott, Louisa May	Little Women
Carroll, Lewis	Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass
Chesterton, G.K.	Father Brown: The Essential Tales
Christie, Agatha	And Then There Were None
Cooper, James Fenimore	The Last of the Mohicans
Crane, Stephen	The Red Badge of Courage
Dahl, Ronald	James and the Giant Peach
Defoe, Daniel	Robinson Crusoe
Doyal, Arthur Conan	A Study in Scarlet
Frank, Anne	Diary of a Young Girl
Hamilton, Edith	Mythology
Hemingway, Ernest	The Old Man and the Sea
Hunt, Irene	Across Five Aprils
King, Jr., Martin Luther	Strength to Love
Kipling, Rudyard	The Jungle Book
Knowles	A Separate Peace
L'Engel, Madeleine	A Wrinkle in Time
London, Jack	The Call of the Wild
Lowry, Lois	The Giver
Montgomery, L. M.	Anne of Green Gables
Myers, Walter Dean	Monster
Paulsen, Gary	Hatchet
Rowling, J.K.	Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone
Shaw, George Bernard	Pygmalion
Sinclair, Upton	The Jungle
Stevenson, Robert Louis	Treasure Island
Stott, John	Your Mind Matters
Wells, H.G.	The War of the Worlds
White, E.B.	Charlotte's Web
Wyss, Johann David	The Swiss Family Robinson

\*Please do not read *The Outsiders* or *Romeo and Juliet* as they will be covered in 8th grade curriculum