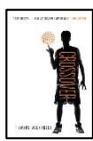
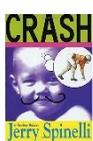
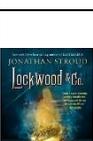
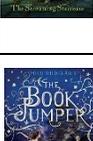


8th Grade Summer Reading Choices: Parent Guide 2018-2019

	Ghost by Jason Reynolds	Castle (or Ghost as he prefers to be known), has a high opinion of himself and his speed but no proven track record. By accident he finds himself on a team and the coach is looking out for him, but success is not guaranteed.	Lexile: 730
	Crossover by Kwame Alexander	Josh Bell is a star player for his school basketball team with his brother Jordan. Their dad, who used to play in the European league, and their mom, the assistant principal, both push them to be their best both on the court and in the classroom. They both love the game, but when Jordan starts dating a girl he likes, Josh feels like he is losing his brother, friend, and teammate, and he's not sure what to do or how they will win the championship.	750
	Crash by Jerry Spinelli	Crash Coogan, the best football player his school has seen in years, finds that his ability to smash through any problem on the football field doesn't translate the same way with problems he has in school with neighbors, family, and friends. In this story Crash struggles with what is important and learns that maintaining his reputation as the coolest kid in town isn't nearly as important as family, friends, or doing the right thing.	560
	The Screaming Staircase by Jonathan Stroud	England has been struggling to deal with "The Problem" of lingering ghosts with unfinished business. As one of the gifted children who can sense their presence, Lucy Carlyle has recently taken a job at Lockwood & Company, a small company owned and operated by Anthony Lockwood, a teenager. Along with a third employee George, the three of them work to unravel the source of a particularly dangerous ghost and to understand what caused "The Problem" in the first place.	720
	The Book Jumper By Mechthild Gleser	When Amy Lennox and her mom return to her mother's ancestral home in Scotland, fictional novel and fairy tale characters come to life because for generations the children have been able to transport themselves into books. But trouble is brewing because characters are dying and items are being stolen from their favorite stories. Amy and Will, the descendants from another book-traveling family, must save these stories before they are forever changed.	770
	The Alchemyst by Michael Scott	Teenagers Sophie and Josh Newman are out to save the lives of the keepers of an ancient book (think hundreds of years old), threatened by the wicked magician John Dee, who counts among his talents the ability to raise the dead. The battle of good versus evil is waged, bringing in a long list of allies ready to help either side.	890
	Cinder by Marissa Meyer	In a modern, sci-fi twist on Cinderella, Cinder is one of the best mechanics in New Beijing, but she is mistreated by her family and the rest of the world for being a cyborg. Cinder must also face the challenges everyone else faces-fear of contracting the deadly letumosis virus and the threat of the lunars (people from a colony on the moon rumored to have abilities such as mind control).	790
	Dread Nation by Justina Ireland	Two days after the Battle of Gettysburg during the Civil War, the country faces a problem- the dead are rising. To deal with this problem, African Americans and Native Americans are trained to fight the "shamblers" in order to protect the white citizens. Jane, an African-American girl, is sent to the finest school to train. There she begins to make a name for herself as a fierce warrior and uncovers a plot that will spell danger for all that she knows and loves.	650
	Project 1065 by Alan Gratz	A 13 year old Irish boy finds himself in Berlin, Germany with his parents who are Irish Ambassadors, but they are really spies. He must help his parents find a way to get the jet engine plans back to Ireland and save the man who is close to inventing the A bomb.	780
	Restart by Gordon Korman	After falling off of his roof, Chase Ambrose wakes up from a coma to a family and life he doesn't remember. He was the MVP of 7th grade, and everyone knows his name, but people, including his own little sister, seem to be afraid of him. What could he have done? The more he finds out about who he was, the more unsure he is about who he wants to be.	730
	Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli	From her first days at a new high school, Stargirl causes other students to stop and take notice, but not in a positive way. While she slowly wins people over and causes students to think beyond the surface of appearance, it is unclear whether her experience will continue to be a positive influence on others.	590

Book Selection Guide

Choosing the Right Book for You

- Most importantly- Choose a book that interests you!
- Choose a book that is a good fit. **Read a few paragraphs.** Use the chart below to see where it fits for you.

Too Difficult 	Reading is "choppy" or start/stop. It is difficult to pronounce many/most of the words.
	Many/most of the words are new.
	I am very confused reading it.
	I am FRUSTRATED when I read it.
JUST RIGHT 	Reading "flows." Some words might be challenging from time to time, but I can pronounce most of the words easily.
	Most of the words are familiar. From time to time, some words are new to me.
	I am challenged by the ideas at times, but I understand what I am reading.
	I feel COMFORTABLE reading it.
Too Easy 	Reading "flows." I am never challenged by words, and I can pronounce all of them easily.
	All of the words are familiar.
	I understand all of the ideas. Nothing challenges me. I am BORED reading it.

Other Suggestions:

- Included with each book is a Lexile number. For more information about Lexile numbers, please visit lexile.com.
- Look at reviews to see which ones are a good fit based on your family's values.
 - commonsensemedia.org
 - scholastic.com/teachers/bookwizard
 - goodreads.com