

Middle School Summer Reading List
N.I.S.D. Honors English
Incoming Eighth Graders

Collier, Christopher and James Lincoln Collier. *My Brother Sam Is Dead*.
Tragedy strikes the Meeker family during the American Revolution when one son joins the rebel forces while the rest of the family tries to stay neutral.

Hobbs, Will. *River Thunder*.
Despite some reservations, sixteen-year-old Jessie joins her companions from the previous year's adventure on the Colorado River for a legal rafting trip through the Grand Canyon.

Greene, Bette. *Summer of My German Soldier*.
The summer that Patty Bergen turns twelve is a summer that will haunt her forever. When her small hometown in Arkansas becomes the site of a camp housing German prisoners during World War II, Patty learns what it means to open her heart. Even though she's Jewish, she begins to see a prison escapee, Anton, not as a Nazi, but as a lonely, frightened young man with feelings not unlike her own.

London, Jack. *White Fang*.
Part wolf and part dog, orphaned White Fang relies on his instincts as well as his inborn strength and courage to survive in the Yukon wilderness despite both animal and human predators.

Lowery, Lois. *Gathering Blue*.
“Kira saw that she was surrounded by hostile women who had come from their cottages and were watching Vandara for instructions and leadership. Several, she noticed, had rocks in their hands. If one rock were thrown, others would follow, she knew. They were all waiting for the first...” When Kira is summoned to judgment by the council of the Guardians to resolve a village conflict, Kira knows she is fighting for her life. Perhaps only her special, almost magical talent will save her now.

Twain, Mark. *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*.
Where there's trouble, that's where you'll find Tom Sawyer. Who else would get out of the boring job of whitewashing a fence by tricking every boy in town to do it for him? And when Tom teams up with rascally Huck Finn, the trouble doubles.

Christi, Agatha. *Murder on the Orient Express*.
Detective extraordinaire Hercule Poirot never refused an interesting case—but his services were certainly not for sale. When Mr. Ratchett approached him in the dining-car, he spurned the American's generous offer. But when Ratchett was found dead the next morning, Poirot responded with eagerness. One thing was for sure—with the train trapped in a heavy Balkan snowdrift, the killer could not escape.

Wakatsuki Houston, Jeanne and James Houston. *Farewell to Manzanar*.

This true story tells of one spirited Japanese-American family's attempt to survive the indignities of forced detention and of a native-born American child's discovery of what it is like to grow up behind barbed wire in the United States.