



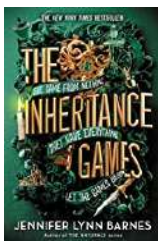
2024 8th Grade Required Summer Reading

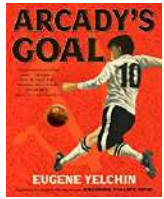
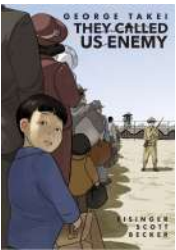
The theme of the 8th grade ELA texts all surround choices, and how the choices you make affect your future. Select 2 of the books below to read and enjoy. Once you are finished reading, fill out the attached worksheet for ONE book.

Click [HERE](#) to make a copy of your assignment!

Please bring the completed worksheet to class on the first day of school.

Happy Reading!

Title Author	Book Cover	Blurb
<i>The Inheritance Games</i> Jennifer Lynn Barnes		“Avery Grambs has a plan for a better future: survive high school, win a scholarship, and get out. But her fortunes change in an instant when billionaire Tobias Hawthorne dies and leaves Avery virtually his entire fortune. The catch? Avery has no idea why -- or even who Tobias Hawthorne is. To receive her inheritance, Avery must move into sprawling, secret passage-filled Hawthorne House, where every room bears the old man's touch -- and his love of puzzles, riddles, and codes. Unfortunately for Avery, Hawthorne House is also occupied by the family that Tobias Hawthorne just dispossessed. This includes the four Hawthorne grandsons: dangerous, magnetic, brilliant boys who grew up with every expectation that one day, they would inherit billions...Caught in a world of wealth and privilege, with danger around every turn, Avery will have to play the game herself just to survive.”
<i>Divergent</i> Veronica Roth		“In Beatrice Prior’s dystopian Chicago world, society is divided into five factions, each dedicated to the cultivation of a particular virtue—Candor (the honest), Abnegation (the selfless), Dauntless (the brave), Amity (the peaceful), and Erudite (the intelligent). On an appointed day of every year, all sixteen-year-olds must select the faction to which they will devote the rest of their lives. For Beatrice, the decision is between staying with her family and being who she really is—she can’t have both. So she makes a choice that surprises everyone, including herself.”
<i>Fish in a Tree</i> Lynda Mullaly Hunt		“‘Everybody is smart in different ways. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its life believing it is stupid.’ Ally has been smart enough to fool a lot of smart people. Every time she lands in a new school, she is able to hide her inability to read by creating clever yet disruptive distractions. She is afraid to ask for help; after all, how can you cure dumb? However, her newest teacher Mr. Daniels sees the bright, creative kid underneath the trouble maker. With his help, Ally learns not to be so hard on herself and that dyslexia is nothing to be ashamed of. As her confidence grows, Ally feels free to be herself and the world starts opening up with possibilities. She discovers that there’s a lot more to her—and to everyone—than a label, and that great minds don’t always think alike.”
<i>A Good Kind of Trouble</i> Lisa Moore Ramee		“When 12-year-old Shayla enters junior high, she soon finds out that being a rule follower isn’t all it’s cracked up to be. Her older sister gets involved in the Black Lives Matter movement and Shayla can’t help but be drawn to the need to have a voice. Still, she’s scared to do the wrong thing, but knows she must face her fears if she’s going to stand up to bullies and wrong-minded teachers.”

<i>Starfish</i> Lisa Fipps		“Ever since Ellie wore a whale swimsuit and made a big splash at her fifth birthday party, she's been bullied about her weight. To cope, she tries to live by the Fat Girl Rules--like "no making waves," "avoid eating in public," and "don't move so fast that your body jiggles." And she's found her safe space--her swimming pool--where she feels weightless in a fat-obsessed world. In the water, she can stretch herself out like a starfish and take up all the room she wants. It's also where she can get away from her pushy mom, who thinks criticizing Ellie's weight will motivate her to diet. Fortunately, Ellie has allies in her dad, her therapist, and her new neighbor, Catalina, who loves Ellie for who she is. With this support buoying her, Ellie might finally be able to cast aside the Fat Girl Rules and starfish in real life--by unapologetically being her own fabulous self.”
<i>Arcady's Goal</i> Eugene Yelchin		“For twelve-year-old Arcady, soccer is more than just a game. Sent to live in a children's home after his parents are declared enemies of the state, it is a means of survival, securing extra rations, respect, and protection. Ultimately, it proves to be his chance to leave. But in Soviet Russia, second chances are few and far between. Will Arcady seize his opportunity and achieve his goal? Or will he miss his shot?”
<i>White Bird</i> R.J. Palacio		“In R. J. Palacio's bestselling collection of stories <i>Auggie & Me</i>, which expands on characters in <i>Wonder</i>, readers were introduced to Julian's grandmother, Grandmère. Here, Palacio makes her graphic novel debut with Grandmère's heartrending story: how she, a young Jewish girl, was hidden by a family in a Nazi-occupied French village during World War II; how the boy she and her classmates once shunned became her savior and best friend. Sara's harrowing experience movingly demonstrates the power of kindness to change hearts, build bridges, and even save lives. As Grandmère tells Julian, ‘It always takes courage to be kind, but in those days, such kindness could cost you everything.’”
<i>They Called Us Enemy</i> George Takei, Justin Eisinger, Steven Scott, and Harmony Becker		“A stunning graphic memoir recounting actor/author/activist George Takei's childhood imprisoned within American concentration camps during World War II. Experience the forces that shaped an American icon -- and America itself -- in this gripping tale of courage, country, loyalty, and love...What does it mean to be American? Who gets to decide? When the world is against you, what can one person do? To answer these questions, George Takei joins co-writers Justin Eisinger & Steven Scott and artist Harmony Becker for the journey of a lifetime.”