

## Chicago Public Schools 2005 Eighth Grade Recommended Reading

### Folk Tales, Fairy Tales

- *Beast* by Donna Jo Napoli. 2000, Atheneum Books for Young Readers.
- *Between* by Jean Thesman. 2002, Viking.
- *Cinderella & Other Stories* edited by Rochelle Larkin. 2005, ABDO Publishing.
- *Folk Tales and Legends* by Ellyn Sanna. 2003, Mason Crest Publishers.
- *Her Stories: African American Folktales, Fairy Tales, and True Tales* by Virginia Hamilton. 1995, Blue Sky Press.
- *The Jack Tales* edited by Richard Chase. 2003, Houghton Mifflin.
- *Ogres and Giants* by John Hamilton. 2005, ABDO Publishing.
- *Tales of Yore: Retold Timeless Classics* by Janice Kuharski. 1999, Perfection Learning Corp.

### Nonfiction

- *100 African Americans Who Changed American History* by Chrisanne Beckner. 2005, World Almanac Library.
- *100 Americans Who Changed History* by Samuel Willard Crompton. 2005, World Almanac Library.
- *100 Hispanic Americans Who Changed History* by Rick Laezman. 2005, World Almanac Library.
- *Antarctica: Journeys to the South Pole* by Walter Dean Myers. 2004, Scholastic.
- *Bionics* by Maxine Rosaler. 2003, Blackbirch Press.
- *Blind Boone: Piano Prodigy* by Madge Harrah. 2004, Carolrhoda Books.
- *Bound for the North Star: True Stories of Fugitive Slaves* by Dennis B. Fradin. 2000, Clarion Books.
- *Chris Crutcher* by Michael A. Sommers. 2005, Rosen Publishing Group.
- *Computer Technology* by Patrice Cassedy. 2004, Lucent Books.
- *Condoleeza Rice: National Security Advisor and Musician* by Bernard Ryan, Jr. 2004, Ferguson.
- *Decoding Life: Unraveling the Mysteries of the Genome* by Ron Fridell. 2005, Lerner.
- *Denzel Washington: Actor* by James Robert Parish. 2005, Ferguson.
- *El Niño & La Niña: Deadly Weather* by Carmen Bredeson. 2002, Enslow Publishers.

- *Ellen Ochoa: The First Hispanic Woman in Space* by Joy Paige. 2004, Rosen Central.
- *Extraordinary Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders* by Susan Sinnott. 2003, Children's Press.
- *Forensics* by Joanne Mattern. 2004, Blackbirch Press.
- *Gary Soto* by Tamra Orr. 2005, Rosen Publishing Group.
- *Great Black Writers: Biographies* by Marilyn K. Fullen. 2002, Open Hand Pub.
- *Hillary Rodham Clinton: First Lady and Senator* by Bernard Ryan, Jr. 2004, Ferguson.
- *J.K. Rowling: Author* by Joanne Mattern. 2005, Ferguson.
- *Jerry Spinelli* by David Seidman. 2004, Rosen Central.
- *Laura Bush* by Jill C. Wheeler. 2003, ABDO Publishing.
- *Linus Pauling: Advancing Science, Advocating Peace* by Naomi E. Pasachoff. 2004, Enslow Publishers.
- *Madam President* by Catherine Thimmesh. 2004, Houghton Mifflin.
- *Mia Hamm: Soccer Player* by Joan Axelrod-Contrada. 2005, Ferguson.
- *Mosque* by David Macaulay. 2003, Houghton Mifflin.
- *Movers & Shapers: Bones, Muscles, and Joints* by Dr. Patricia Ann Macnair. 2004, Kingfisher.
- *Stealing Freedom* by Elisa Carbone. 2001, Dell Yearling.
- *A Student's Guide to Mental Health & Wellness* by Creative Media Applications. 2004, Greenwood Press.
- *Ten Hispanic American Authors* by Christine M. Hill. 2002, Enslow Publishers.
- *Wake Up Our Souls: A Celebration of Black American Artists* by Tonya Bolden. 2004, Abrams.

### Fiction

- *Abarat* by Clive Barker. 2002, Joanna Cotler Books.
- *The Alchemist's Cat* by Robin Jarvis. 2004, SeaStar Books.
- *The Angel's Command: A Tale from the Castaways of the Flying Dutchman* by Brian Jacques. 2003, Philomel Books.
- *The Art of Keeping Cool* by Janet Taylor Lisle. 2000, Atheneum Books for Young Readers.
- *The Assassins of Rome* by Caroline Lawrence. 2003, Roaring Brook Press.

- *Bad Girls in Love* by Cynthia Voigt. 2002, Atheneum Books for Young Readers.
- *A Bag of Lucky Rice: A Novel* by George Reichart. 2004, David R. Godine.
- *Baseball in April and Other Stories* by Gary Soto. 2000, Harcourt.
- *Before We Were Free* by Julia Alvarez. 2002, Random House.
- *Being Dead* by Vivian Vande Velde. 2001, Harcourt.
- *Black Storm Comin'* by Diane Lee Wilson. 2005, Margaret K. McElderry Books.
- *Born Too Short: The Confessions of an Eighth-Grade Basket Case* by Dan Elish. 2002, Atheneum Books for Young Readers.
- *Buddha Boy* by Kathe Koja. 2003, Farrar, Straus and Giroux.
- *The Cheat* by Amy Goldman Koss. 2003, Dial Books.
- *Cirque Du Freak: Allies of the Night* by Darren Shan. 2004, Little Brown.
- *Falcon and the Charles Street Witch* by Luli Gray. 2002, Houghton Mifflin.
- *Frontier Living* by Edwin Tunis. 2000, Lyons Press.
- *The Golem's Eye* by Jonathan Stroud. 2004, Jump at the Sun/Hyperion Books for Children.
- *The Good, the Bat, and the Ugly* by Paul Magrs. 2004, Atheneum Books for Young Readers.
- *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* by J. K. Rowling. 2005, Arthur A. Levine Books.
- *Just Imagine* by Pat Lowery Collins. 2001, Houghton Mifflin.
- *Lady of Ch'iao Kuo: Warrior of the South* by Laurence Yep. 2001, Scholastic.
- *Leyla: The Black Tulip* by Alev Lytle Croutier. 2003, Pleasant Co.
- *Miracle's Boys* by Jacqueline Woodson. 2000, Putnam.
- *Money Hungry* by Sharon G. Flake. 2001, Jump at the Sun/Hyperion Books for Children.
- *Olive's Ocean* by Kevin Henkes. 2003, Greenwillow Books.

- *Patrol: An American Soldier in Vietnam* by Walter Dean Myers. 2002, HarperCollins.
- *Rat* by Jan Cheripko. 2002, Boyds Mills Press.
- *Tangled Threads: A Hmong Girl's Story* by Pegi Deitz Shea. 2003, Clarion Books.
- *When My Name Was Keoko* by Linda Sue Park. 2002, Clarion Books.

### Poetry

- *19 Varieties of Gazelle: Poems of the Middle East* by Naomi Shihab Nye. 2002, Greenwillow Books.
- *American Poetry* edited by John Hollander. 2004, Sterling Pub.
- *Big Talk: Poems for Four Voices* by Paul Fleischman. 2000, Candlewick Press.
- *By Definition: Poems of Feelings* by Sara Holbrook. 2003, Wordsong/Boyds Mills Press.
- *F E G: Ridiculous Stupid Poems for Intelligent Children* by Robin Hirsch. 2002, Little Brown.
- *Freedom Like Sunlight: Praisesongs for Black Americans* by J. Patrick Lewis. 2000, Creative Editions.
- *Heart to Hear: New Poems Inspired by Twentieth-Century American Art* edited by Jan Greenberg. 2001, Abrams.
- *Heroes and She-Roes: Poems of Amazing and Everyday Heroes* by J. Patrick Lewis. 2005, Dial Books.
- *Remember the Bridge: Poems of a People* by Carole Boston Weatherford. 2002, Philomel Books.
- *Roots & Flowers: Poets and Poems on Family* edited by Liz Rosenberg. 2001, Henry Holt and Co.
- *Swimming Upstream: Middle School Poems* by Kristine O'Connell George. 2002, Clarion Books.
- *Talking Drums: A Selection of Poems from Africa South of the Sahara* edited by Veronique Tadjo. 2004, Holtzbrinck Publishers.
- *Things I Have to Tell You: Poems and Writing by Teenage Girls* edited by Betsy Franco. 2001, Candlewick Press.

~ Eighth Grade ~

***The goal is for each CPS student to read at least 25 books each year.***

The books in this list can be found in many school libraries and at many neighborhood branches of the Chicago Public Library. Any book by the same author may be substituted for a book on this list. For additional information, please call your neighborhood Chicago Public Library branch, or check the online catalog at their website ([www.chipublib.org](http://www.chipublib.org)).

*List developed by the Chicago Public Schools Department of Libraries and Information Services, in consultation with the Chicago Public Library, Children's Services Department. ©2005, Chicago Public Schools*