8th Grade Summer Reading 2018
Choose two of these awesome books to read over the summer!

**Awkward by Svetlana Chmakova** (Graphic Novel)

After accidentally shunning Jaime, the school nerd, on her first day at a new middle school, Penelope “Peppi” Torres tries to blend in with her new friends in the art club, but she still can't help feeling ashamed about the way she treated Jaime. Things are already awkward enough between the two, but to make matters worse, he's a member of her own club's archrivals—the science club!

**The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon** (Fiction)

For 15-year-old Christopher everyday interactions have little meaning; he lives on patterns and rules. When the neighbor's dog is killed, Christopher sets out to solve the murder in the style of his favorite detective, Sherlock Holmes. What follows makes for a novel that is funny, poignant and fascinating in its portrayal of a person whose curse and blessing are a mind that perceives the world entirely literally.

**Fish In A Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt** (Fiction)

Ally has been smart enough to fool a lot of smart people. She is able to hide her inability to read by creating clever yet disruptive distractions. She is afraid to ask for help, but her new teacher Mr. Daniels sees the bright 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. 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.

**March Book One by John Lewis, Andrew Aydin & Nate Powell** (Graphic Nonfiction)

Congressman John Lewis, one of the key figures of the Civil Rights Movement, tells his story in comic format. His commitment to justice and nonviolence has taken him from an Alabama sharecropper's farm to the halls of Congress, from a segregated schoolroom to the 1963 March on Washington, and from receiving beatings from state troopers to receiving the Medal of Freedom from the first African-American president.

**Legend by Marie Lu** (Fiction)

What was once the western United States is now home to the Republic, a nation perpetually at war with its neighbors. Born into an elite family in one of the Republic's wealthiest districts, fifteen-year-old June is a prodigy being groomed for success in the Republic's highest military circles. Born into the slums, fifteen-year-old Day is the country's most wanted criminal. But his motives may not be as malicious as they seem.
Sunrise Over Fallujah by Walter Dean Myers (Fiction)

Operation Iraqi Freedom, that's the code name. But the young men and women in the military's Civil Affairs Battalion have a simpler name for it: WAR. Robin Perry, a young recruit from Harlem, is sent to Iraq in 2003 as a member of the Civilian Affairs Battalion, and his time there makes him question why he ever enlisted.

Between Shades of Gray by Ruta Septys (Fiction)

In 1941, fifteen-year-old Lina, her mother, and brother are pulled from their Lithuanian home by Soviet guards and sent to Siberia, where her father is sentenced to death in a prison camp while she fights for her life, vowing to honor her family and the thousands like hers by burying her story in a jar on Lithuanian soil. A long and harrowing journey, spanning years and covering 6,500 miles, but through strength, love, and hope that Lina survives.

Flygirl by Sherri L. Smith (Fiction)

Ida Mae dreams of flight. Her dad was a pilot and being black didn't stop him. But being a woman, and being black, are two strikes against her. When America enters WWII, the Army creates the WASP, the Women Airforce Service Pilots. But the WASP won't accept her as a black woman, forcing Ida Mae to make a difficult choice of "passing," or pretending to be white. Hiding her racial heritage is a heavy burden. And while Ida Mae chases her dream, she must also decide who it is she really wants to be.

A Time to Dance by Padma Venkatraman (Novel in Verse)

Veda, a classical dance prodigy in India, lives and breathes dance—so when an accident leaves her a below-knee amputee, her dreams are shattered. For a girl who's grown used to receiving applause for her dance prowess, adjusting to a prosthetic leg is painful and humbling. But Veda refuses to let her disability rob her of her dreams, and she starts all over again, taking beginner classes with the youngest dancers. Veda reconnects with the world around her, and begins to discover who she is and what dance truly means to her.

I Am Malala (Young Readers Edition) by Malala Yousafzai (Autobiography)

The youngest person to ever be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, Malala Yousafzai was raised in a once-peaceful area of Pakistan transformed by terrorism, and was taught to stand up for what she believes. In her own words, she describes her fight for education for girls under Taliban rule, the support she received from her parents to pursue an education, how the Taliban retaliated against her by trying to kill her, and her continued efforts to stand for peace and access to education.