

Bourne Middle School  
Summer Reading Program **Eighth** Grade Reading List 2011

You are required to read one (1) book from this list and one (1) book of your choosing:

1. **Rocket Boys** by Homer H. Hickam *National Book Critics Circle nominee*  
The #1 New York Times bestselling memoir that inspired the film, "October Sky".
2. **The Boy in the Striped Pajamas** by John Boyne  
When Bruno returns home from school one day, he discovers his family is moving to a place where there is nothing to do and no one to play with. A tall fence cuts him off from strange people he can see in the distance. While exploring his environment, he meets another boy whose life and circumstances are very different from his own, and their meeting results in a friendship that has devastating consequences.
3. **Witness** by Karen Hesse *Christopher Medal, 2001 School Library Journal Best Book of the Year, ALA Notable Children's Book, 2001 Publisher's Weekly Best Book of the Year*  
The inhabitants of a small Vermont town are witness to the devastation prejudice brings when the Ku Klux Klan arrives in 1924. An unforgettable story that offers glimpses into the hearts of the victims, their friends, and their enemies.
4. **Banner in the Sky** by James Ramsey Ullman *Newbery Honor*  
Rudi chooses to save an enemy's life rather than fulfill his dream of being the first to climb the Citadel.
5. **Within Reach, My Everest Story** by Mark Pfetzer and Jack Galvin  
In this suspenseful first-person narrative, sixteen-year-old Mark Pfetzer relates his experiences as the youngest climber to attempt Everest, an unwilling witness to the tragedy documented in Krakauer's *Into Thin Air*.
6. **Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage** by Alfred Lansing  
In December 1914, Sir Ernest Shackleton and a crew of twenty-seven men set sail for the South Pole on board the ship *Endurance*. This is the story of their adventure and survival.
7. **The Man Who was Poe** by Avi  
In this suspenseful historical mystery, Edmund is looking for his missing family. Strangely reluctant to help in this search is the dark and grim Edgar Allan Poe.