Dear Rising 8th Grader,

You worked extremely hard all school year long, so let’s keep that momentum going! This summer we want you to relax, have fun, and keep learning. In this letter, you will find six engaging books and corresponding STEAM activities/projects that match your upcoming standards. Read a minimum of 3 books and complete 3 activities (or more). These books and activities are only suggestions. If you find a different book and want to complete a different activity that is fine, too!

We are partnering with Live Oak libraries, so get started there! At the library, you’ll be able to find all the books or similar type books you need to complete your summer reading and STEAM activities. Since you’re already at the library, “blast off” with A UNIVERSE OF STORIES themed summer reading program! Join the program, it will be super easy. Then, when you return in the fall with your summer reading and STEAM activities, not only will you receive PBIS, classwork grade worth 100 each, but you’ll also be invited to our STEAM back to school blast off party!

We’ll be excited to see all the great things you create this summer!
Remember to have fun, relax, and read on!

See You at the Library,

The Eighth Grade Team

8th Grade Reading Books  (see corresponding activities on the back)

1. *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor
2. *The Cay* by Theodore Taylor
3. *Amos Fortune, Free Man* by Elizabeth Yates
4. *Journey to the Center of the Earth* by Jules Verne
5. *Night* By Elie Wiesel
6. *Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery
7. *Letters from a Slave Girl: The story of Harriet Jacobs* by Mary E. Lyons
8. *The Serpent’s Shadow* by Rick Riordan
10. *Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins
11. *March* Book One by John Lewis, Andrew Aydin and Nate Powell
STEAM Activities
Each activity/project is different, so you decide on the time-frame. Remember, these books and activities are only suggestions! Our goal is to make reading fun! So find a book you love and create a project to go along with it. The possibilities are endless!

For each of the books, you may choose to do one of the following reading activities:
1. People Poems – students write poems about people or places that they have read about
2. Create a travel brochure – Students should include at least three reasons why this place might attract visitors and use a simple tri-fold format. Students should illustrate their brochures with drawings or pictures from magazine or internet
3. Instagram - For this assignment, students create a fictitious Instagram account for a book character of their choice. Students should consider the following questions:
   • What kind of content would this character post?
   • How would this character explain each post?
   • What kind of language would this character use?
   • Who would this character follow on Instagram?
   • Who would follow this character on Instagram?
   • What kind of comments would people leave on this character’s posts?
   • How would this character comment on other posts?
   • Who is friends with this character?
   • Who is related to this character?
   • What are key events and issues from the story that might appear on this character’s Instagram feed?
4. Newspaper Advertisement -Create an advertisement trying to convince other students to read your book. In your advertisement you need to include the title, author, illustrator, summary “Extra, Extra, Read all about It”.
5. Friendly Letter - Write a letter to one of the characters in the story. Talk to them about events that happened in the story. You can also ask them questions about the events that happened.
6. Comic Strip Create a comic strip showing 5 major events from the book in sequence. Include captions and/or dialogue bubbles to retell the story along with pictures.

7. You can also look at the following websites for STEAM activities:
   https://tinkerlab.com/easy-stop-motion-animation-kids
   https://www.projectpals.com/project-based-learning-blog/17-examples-of-stem-project-based-learning-activities
   https://stemactivitiesforkids.com/category/middle-school