

**Rising 8<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts  
Required Summer Reading 2016-2017**

Riverdale's 8<sup>th</sup> grade Standard Language Arts students will be required to read one book listed below while the APEX/Enriched Language Arts students will be required to read two books. Students will be expected to take an AR test on these books the first week of school. The students will complete additional activities when they return to school in August.

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**Standard Language Arts**

**\*Pick one.**

***That Was Then, This Is Now* by Hinton, S.E.**

Sixteen-year-old Mark and Bryon have been like brothers since childhood, but now, as their involvement with girls, gangs, and drugs increases, their relationship seems to gradually disintegrate.

***Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Taylor, Mildred D.**

Set in Mississippi at the height of the Depression, this is the story of one family's struggle to maintain their integrity, pride, and independence in the face of racism and social injustice. And it is also Cassie's story—Cassie Logan, an independent girl who discovers over the course of an important year why having land of their own is so crucial to the Logan family, even as she learns to draw strength from her own sense of dignity and self-respect.

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**APEX/Enriched Language Arts**

**\*Required novel.**

***Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl* by Frank, Anne**

Discovered in the attic in which she spent the last years of her life, Anne Frank's remarkable diary has since become a world classic—a powerful reminder of the horrors of war and an eloquent testament to the human spirit. In 1942, with Nazis occupying Holland, a thirteen-year-old Jewish girl and her family fled their home in Amsterdam and went into hiding.

**\*Second novel requirement - pick one.**

***That Was Then, This Is Now* by Hinton, S.E.**

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***Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Taylor, Mildred D.**

Set in Mississippi at the height of the Depression, this is the story of one family's struggle to maintain their integrity, pride, and independence in the face of racism and social injustice. And it is also Cassie's story—Cassie Logan, an independent girl who discovers over the course of an important year why having land of their own is so crucial to the Logan family, even as she learns to draw strength from her own sense of dignity and self-respect.