

Reading List for 8 English LWCS 2011.12

The following books are historical fiction related to your history curriculum. Many are available in the school library, but all are available through public libraries.

1. *The Island on Bird Street* by Uri Orlev

A Jewish boy, left on his own for months during WWII, learns to survive in a ruined house in the Warsaw Ghetto of Poland. He learns how to find food, contact others, and live amid constant danger.

2. *After the War* by Carol Matas.

Ruth is fifteen when she is freed from a Nazi concentration camp and fears that she is the only surviving member of her family. She joins an underground organization to make a dangerous and illegal journey to Palestine. Along the way, she rediscovers her inner strength and finds reasons for hope.

3. *Wait for Me, Watch for Me, Eula Bee* Beatty

Two white children find themselves holding different attitudes toward Indians after being captured by Comanches. Civil War.

4. *Streams to the River, River to the Sea* O'Dell

The story of the Lewis and Clark expedition from the perspective of Sacagawea, their Shoshone guide. An insightful tale.

5. *Under the Blood Red Sun* Salisbury

"It all started the day Grampa Joji decided to wash his precious flag of Japan and hang it out on the clothesline for the whole..."

6. *A Gathering of Days* Blos

A 14-year-old girl's life unfolds in journal entries from 1830-1832. Winner of many awards.

7. *The Breadwinner*, 9. *Parvana's Journey*, 10. *Mud City* Ellis

Parvana lives in a bombed-out apartment in Afghanistan. When her father is arrested by the Taliban, Parvana must become the breadwinner for her family. Set against the backdrop of war and religious fanaticism, Parvana's struggle to survive is sobering, yet uplifting.

11. *Escape from Warsaw* Serrailier

The Balicki children struggle for survival after their mother is killed by the Nazis. A wonderful story of survival against the odds.

12. *Weedflower* Kadohata

The lives of a Japanese family in California during WWII.

13. *I am David* Holm

Previously published as *North to Freedom*. A boy escapes from the concentration camp in which he was born. He knows he must travel north, but does not know to what, besides freedom. Set in the Cold War era, post WWII. Moving.

16. *Blue Willow* Gates

A Depression-era story about a girl, the daughter of an itinerant farm-worker, who longs for a home of her own.

17. *Red Scarf Girl* Ji-li Jiang

A true story of hope and courage set in China during the Cultural Revolution

18. *Across Five Aprils* Irene Hunt

Historical fiction set in the time of the American Civil War.