

## 2017 Summer Reading Choices for Rising 8<sup>th</sup> Graders

Summer reading is mandatory for rising middle schoolers. Choose one of the options below to read this summer. Then, follow the instructions on the reverse side of this paper to complete your summer reading assignments. Your work should be completed and turned in to your reading teacher no later than Friday, September 8.

### ***The Pearl* by John Steinbeck** **Accelerated Reader Level 7.1**

Like his father and grandfather before him, Kino is a poor diver, gathering pearls from the gulf beds that once brought great wealth to the Kings of Spain and now provide Kino, Juana, and their infant son with meager subsistence. Then, on a day like any other, Kino emerges from the sea with a pearl as large as a sea gull's egg, as "perfect as the moon." With the pearl comes hope, the promise of comfort and of security.

A story of classic simplicity, based on a Mexican folk tale, *The Pearl* explores the secrets of man's nature, the darkest depths of evil, and the luminous possibilities of love.

### ***Chasing Lincoln's Killer* by James L. Swanson** **Accelerated Reader Level 7.5**

New York Times bestselling author James Swanson delivers a riveting account of the chase for Abraham Lincoln's assassin. Based on rare archival material, obscure trial manuscripts, and interviews with relatives of the conspirators and the manhunters, *Chasing Lincoln's Killer* is a fast-paced thriller about the pursuit and capture of John Wilkes Booth: a wild twelve-day chase through the streets of Washington, D.C., across the swamps of Maryland, and into the forests of Virginia.