

Our Essential Preparatory Reading Suggestions for Eighth Grade Waldorf Class Teachers

We prioritized the list so that the most essential books/articles you need to “read or seriously browse” are listed first.

The Tasks and Content of the Steiner-Waldorf Curriculum, Edited by Rawson and Richter
Practical Advice To Teachers Lectures 8-10, 11 (Geography), 14 (Nutrition) Rudolf Steiner
(www.waldorfresearchinstitute.org/download/e-books/PRACTI1.pdf)

Youth Longs to Know: Explorations in the Spirit in Education, John Gardner

The Age of Revolution, Kovacs (note: written from the perspective of a teacher from Great Britain- lots of focus on their history...browse for relevance)

Muscles and Bones: Grades 7 & 8 Curriculum Resource, Charles Kovacs

Seeds of Change: Six Plants That Transformed Mankind, Henry Hobhouse

The Art of Short Story, O. Henry

Visit the Cyberwise website to learn about their *Digital Citizenship & Literacy Curriculum for Middle School* and consider adding a weekly class to your schedule.

View the 2008 7-part mini-series, John Adams developed by HBO. It is based on the Pulitzer prize winning book by historian, David McCullough. It is not only about Adams but about the entire cast of characters and events that led up to the Revolutionary War and beyond. Very well done!

Familiarize yourself with the Constitution of the United States and its Amendments

Read short story collections- find ones that you love and that you think will serve your class.

Study Platonic Solids and sacred geometry

Highly Recommended Resources (by subject)

Overall

Rudolf Steiner’s Curriculum for Waldorf Schools, Karl Stockmeyer

A Path of Discovery: Volume Eight, Grade Eight, Fairman

Trailing Clouds of Glory: Essays on Human Sexuality and the Education of Youth in Waldorf Schools, edited by Douglas Gerwin

Lessons for Middle School Issues - Third Edition: Classroom Lessons Supporting the Development of Life Skills, Self Knowledge and Social Grace, Linda E Knodle

To Change A Mind, McKinnon

The Road to Character, David Brooks

Youth Longs to Know: Explorations in the Spirit in Education, John Gardner

History

Teaching History: Suggested Themes for the Curriculum in Waldorf Schools, Lindenberg (free ebook: http://www.waldorflibrary.org/books/3/view_bl/62/fifth/82/teaching-history-ebook?tab=getmybooksTab&is_show_data=1)

Biographies for 8th Grade History, Twenty Remarkable Men and Women, Susan Cook (free ebook at http://waldorflibrary.org/books/3/view_bl/52/ebooks/166/biographies-for-8th-grade-history-twenty-remarkable-men-and-women-ebook?tab=getmybooksTab&is_show_data=1)

Mill, David Macauley

Poor Richard’s Almanac, (actually written by Benjamin Franklin)

The Story of Mankind, Van Loon (Great story material for grades 5-8; digital copy - <http://www.gutenberg.org/files/754/754-h/754-h.htm>)

Read juvenile fiction and non-fiction found in your local library

Language Arts

Fire the Imagination, Write On!, Dorit Winter

The Art and Science of Teaching Composition, Dorit Winter

Slithery Snakes and Other Aids to Children's Writing, Walter T. Perry and Mary E. Bowen

Sing Me the Creation, Paul Matthews

The Blue Book of Grammar and Punctuation, Jane Straus

The Art of Teaching Writing, Lucy Calkins

The Elements of Style, Strunk and White

Writing the Natural Way, Rico

An English Manual, Dorothy Harrer (free ebook:

http://www.waldorflibrary.org/books/3/view_bl/109/writing/206/an-english-manual-for-the-elementary-school-ebook?tab=getmybooksTab&is_show_data=1)

Math

A Beginner's Guide to Constructing the Universe: Mathematical Archetypes of Nature, Art, and Science, Schneider

Making Math Meaningful - A Middle School Math Curriculum for Waldorf Teachers - 3rd Edition, Jaime York

Making Math Meaningful – An 8th Grade Student's Workbook, Jamie York

First Steps in Proven Geometry For the Upper Elementary Grades, Ernst Schubert

A Steiner-Waldorf Mathematic Resource: Grades 1-8, Eric Fairman

Science

Food, Nutrition and Health: Grade 8 Block Lesson Resource, Eric Fairman

Physics Is Fun, Roberto Trostli

Wonders of Waldorf Chemistry: Grades 7-9: From a Teacher's Notebook, Mitchell

A Demonstration Manual for Use in the Eighth Grade Chemistry Main Lesson, Bojarsky

Hydraulics and Aeromechanics: A Demonstration Manual for Use in the Waldorf School 8th Grade Physics Lesson, Bojarsky and Staub

Chemistry for Waldorf Middle Schools - Grades Seven and Eight: A Compendium of Phenomenological Experiments - Teachers Reference Book, Robert Sonner

Teaching Physics and Chemistry: Ages 12/13/14, Roy Wilkinson

Jet Plane: How it works, David Macauley