

# TMS Summer Reading 2019

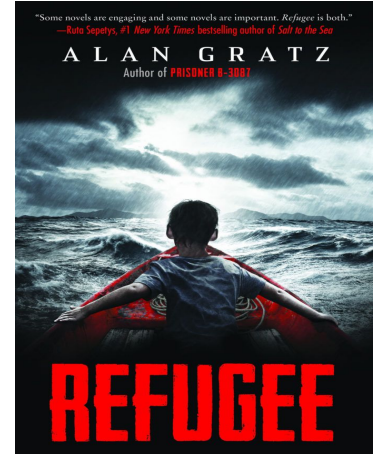
## Sixth Grade:

### *Refugee by Alan Gratz*

**Josef:** A Jewish boy living in the 1930's. With the threat of concentration camps building he and his family have a few days to leave Germany and look to seek refuge by traveling across the ocean to Cuba.

**Isabel:** A Cuban girl living in 1994. She and her family set out on a raft to seek freedom and safety in America from the riots and unrest happening in Cuba.

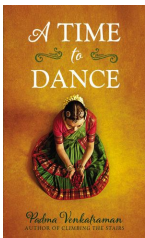
**Mahmoud:** A Syrian boy living in 2015. With violence and destruction happening all around him in his homeland, Mahmoud and his family begin their journey to Europe in search of safety.



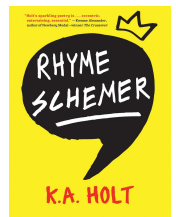
All three characters are forced to leave their homelands and face tremendous danger throughout their journeys in order to find freedom and safety. Regardless of those dangers, all three young people hold onto hope for a better tomorrow. Despite Josef's, Isabel's, and Mahmoud's stories taking place at very different times and places in the world, their stories have a connection, especially at the end!

## Seventh Grade:

### *Books in Verse: Choose from this [list of books](#).*



A book in verse is a story written in poems rather than the typical book formatting. Most books are written in prose (like this paragraph). Verse is a literary term for poetry in general. Therefore, a book in verse tells its story through poems. It will still have characters, a plot, a conflict, and all the other things you expect from a book: it will just be told in poetry.



Sometimes the poems will rhyme. Often they won't. You'll find yourself turning the pages of these books quickly because there's less text on each page. You'll probably even forget that you're reading poetry every once in a while. However, the poetic form does allow authors to craft particularly meaningful moments. Don't be afraid to slow down if you read something really powerful or heartfelt.



## Eighth Grade:

### *I Kill the Mockingbird* by Paul Acampora

When Lucy, Elena, and Michael get their summer reading list, they are excited to see *To Kill A Mockingbird* included, but not everyone in their class shares the same enthusiasm. They come up with a plan to get the entire town talking about the well-known Harper Lee classic. They plan controversial ways to get people to read the book, including re-shelving copies of the book in bookstores so that people think they are missing and starting a website committed to “destroying the mockingbird.” Their efforts are successful when all of the hullabaloo starts to direct more people to the book. What will happen when their exploits start to spin out of control?

