

Suffolk Public Schools

Summer Reading List
Grades 3-5

Summer Reading

The books on this list come highly recommended by kid readers from all over the country and may also be available in eBook, audio book, braille, and large print formats.

Reading can be one of many fun activities children can choose to fill their summer time and to combat summer slide.

Today a reader,
tomorrow a leader.



The Year I Flew Away
by Marie Arnold
VERSIFY, 2021

When 10-year-old Gabrielle moves from Haiti to Brooklyn, she finds that America isn't quite what she expected. With the help of a magical friend, Marie transforms into the perfect American girl but makes sacrifices in the process.

Black Brother, Black Brother
Jewel Parker Rhodes
HACHETTE
2018

A powerful coming-of-age story about two brothers, one who presents as white, the other as black, and the complex ways in which they are forced to navigate the world, all while training for a fencing competition -- now in paperback

Each Kindness
Jacqueline Woodson
Illustrated by EB Lewis
PENGUIN
2012

When Chloe's teacher gives a lesson about how even small acts of kindness can change the world, Chloe is stung by the lost opportunity for friendship, and thinks about how much better it could have been if she'd shown a little kindness toward Maya.

Rain Reign by Ann M. Martin
MACMILLAN
2014

When a storm hits their rural town, rivers overflow, the roads are flooded, and Rain goes missing. Rose's father shouldn't have let Rain out. Now Rose has to find her dog, even if it means leaving her routines and safe places in order to search for him.

Fish in a Tree by Linda Mullaly Hunt
PUFFIN
2015

An uplifting novel that will speak to anyone who's ever thought there was something wrong with them because they didn't fit in.

The Thing About Jellyfish by Ali Benjamin
HACHETTE
2015

Suzy's achingly heartfelt journey explores life, death, the astonishing wonder of the universe...and the potential for love and *hope right next door*.

A Boy Called Bat by Alana K. Arnold
HARPERCOLLINS
2017

For Bixby Alexander Tam (nicknamed Bat), life tends to be full of surprises—some of them good, some not so good. Today, though, is a good-surprise day. Bat's mom, a veterinarian, has brought home a baby skunk, which she needs to take care of until she can hand him over to a wild-animal shelter.

Sofia Valdez, Future Prez by Andrea Beaty
Illustrated by David Roberts
ABRAMS
2019

Sofia tends to be full of surprises—some of them good, some not so good. Today, though, is a good-surprise day. Bat's mom, a veterinarian, has brought home a baby skunk, which she needs to take care of until she can hand him over to a wild-animal shelter.

Merci Suarez Changes Gears by Meg Medina,
CANDLEWICK PRESS
2019

Merci Suárez knew that sixth grade would be different, but she had no idea just how different.

We Are Still Here!
Native American Truths Everyone Should Know
by Traci Sorell,
illustrated by Frané Lessac
CHARLESBRIDGE,
2021

A creatively organized picture book gives both Native and non-Native readers an overview of important topics including forced assimilation, sovereignty, and language.

Blood on the River by Elisa Lynn Carbone
VIKING
2006

Traveling to the New World in 1606 as the page to Captain John Smith, twelve-year-old orphan Samuel Collier settles in the new colony of James Town, where he must quickly learn to distinguish between friend and foe.

Ban This Book by Alan Gratz
STARSCAPE
2017

Amy Anne is shy and soft-spoken, but don't mess with her when it comes to her favorite book in the whole world.

One Crazy Summer
by Rita Williams-Garcia
2011
HARPERCOLLINS
In this Newbery Honor novel, *New York Times* bestselling author Rita Williams-Garcia tells the story of three sisters who travel to Oakland, California, in 1968 to meet the mother who abandoned them. A strong option for summer reading—take this book along on a family road trip or enjoy it at home.

Clementine by Sarah Pennypacker
DISNEY/HYPERIAN
2008

Okay, fine. Clementine is having a DISASTROUS week. But maybe can she find a way to make it better.

The Wild Robot by Peter Brown
HACHETTE
2016

As Roz slowly befriends the animals, the island starts to feel like home--until, one day, the robot's mysterious past comes back to haunt her.

Esperanza Rising
by Pam Munoz Ryan
SCHOLASTIC
2000

Esperanza thought she'd always live with her family on their ranch in Mexico--she'd always have fancy dresses, a beautiful home, and servants. But a sudden tragedy forces Esperanza and Mama to flee to California during the Great Depression, and to settle in a camp for Mexican farm workers.

The New Kid
by Jerry Craft
harpercollins
2019

Seventh grader Jordan Banks loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade.