

Summer Reading List

Grades K–2

13 WAYS TO EAT A FLY

BY SUE HEAVENRICH, ILLUSTRATED BY DAVID CLARK

CHARLESBRIDGE, 2021
ISBN: 9781580898904

Count down from 13 to 1 as flies are zapped, wrapped, poked, soaked, and even baked in a cake in this hilariously informative book. Nutrition facts included.

BEAR BUILDS A HOUSE

BY MAXWELL EATON III

NEAL PORTER BOOKS, 2022
ISBN: 9780823447145

Cartoon illustrations depict all the steps Bear and his friends complete while building a functional house in the wilderness.

BOARDWALK BABIES

BY MARISSA MOSS, ILLUSTRATED BY APRIL CHU

CRESTON BOOKS, 2021
ISBN: 9781939547668

Step right up and learn about the amazing Dr. Couney and his very small patients in this picture-book biography that explains how incubators for premature babies went from sideshow to medical practice.

CAMILA THE RECORD-BREAKING STAR

BY ALICIA SALAZAR, ILLUSTRATED BY THAIS DAMIÃO

PICTURE WINDOW, 2021
ISBN: 9781515882121

In this early chapter book series starter, Camila wants to become a star by breaking a world record. However, it turns out to be harder than it looks.

DAD BAKES

BY KATIE YAMASAKI

NORTON, 2021
ISBN: 9781324015413

Early in the morning, Dad goes to work at the bakery, and then he comes home to his daughter to play, read, and bake together.

DANCING WITH DADDY

BY ANITRA ROWE SCHULTE, ILLUSTRATED BY ZIYUE CHEN

TWO LIONS, 2021
ISBN: 9781542007191

A nonverbal young girl in a wheelchair anticipates an upcoming father-daughter dance, supported by her attentive and loving family.

DEAR TREEFROG

BY JOYCE SIDMAN, ILLUSTRATED BY DIANA SUDYKA

CLARION, 2021
ISBN: 9780358064763

A young girl moves to a new neighborhood and settles into her surroundings by observing a tiny treefrog. Short poems are interspersed with facts about frog life cycles.

DREAM STREET

BY TRICIA ELAM WALKER, ILLUSTRATED BY EKUA HOLMES

ANNE SCHWARTZ BOOKS, 2021
ISBN: 9780525581109

All the neighbors on Dream Street have something that makes them special, whether it's how they dress, what they say, or their passions in life. Evocative portraits, in both words and collage, make this an inspiring read-aloud for all ages.

EVERY DAY, CHEMISTRY

BY JULIA SOOY, ILLUSTRATED BY BONNIE PANG

FEIWEL & FRIENDS, 2021
ISBN: 9781250768698

A day in the life of a young girl shows us that chemistry is all around us, from a toasting piece of bread for breakfast to the battery-powered flashlight used to read a bedtime story.

EVERY LITTLE KINDNESS

BY MARTA BARTOLJ

CHRONICLE BOOKS, 2021
ISBN: 9781797207926

This wordless picture book with muted colors explores all the ways that kindness is cyclical. Kindness begins when a woman loses her dog but helps another find food.

FIRST FRIEND: HOW DOGS EVOLVED FROM WOLVES TO BECOME OUR BEST FRIENDS

BY KERSTEN HAMILTON, ILLUSTRATED BY JAIME KIM

FARRAR, STRAUS AND GIROUX, 2021
ISBN: 9780374313432

A picture book that spans thousands of years to look at how wolves became the dogs that we love.

FROM THE TOPS OF THE TREES

BY KAO KALIA YANG, ILLUSTRATED BY RACHEL WADA

CAROLRHODA BOOKS, 2021
ISBN: 9781541581302

Based on the author's childhood memories of living in a refugee camp in Thailand, this beautiful story portrays a father's love for his family and hope for their future.

HOW TO APOLOGIZE

BY DAVID LAROCHELLE, ILLUSTRATED BY MIKE WOHNOUTKA

CANDLEWICK, 2021
ISBN: 9781536209440

This hilarious picture book guides readers with practical tips about how to say sorry to someone.

HOW TO FIND A FOX

BY KATE GARDNER, PHOTOGRAPHS BY OSSY SAARINEN

RUNNING PRESS, 2021
ISBN: 9780762471355

In this informational picture book, breathtaking wildlife photos are paired with facts about foxes, as well as advice on making observations in nature.

I AM THE SUBWAY

BY KIM HYO-EUN, TRANSLATED BY DEBORAH SMITH

SCRIBBLE, 2021
ISBN: 9781950354658

Zooming through Seoul, this story considers the lives of the many people we find on public transportation.

LIGHT FOR ALL

BY MARGARITA ENGLE, ILLUSTRATED BY RAÚL COLÓN

PAULA WISEMAN BOOKS, 2021
ISBN: 9781534457270

This lyrical picture book pays tribute to the Statue of Liberty, reminding us of the hope, acceptance, and freedom it symbolizes for all.

THE LITTLE WOODEN ROBOT AND THE LOG PRINCESS

BY TOM GAULD

HOLIDAY HOUSE, 2021
ISBN: 9780823446988

An original fairy tale with adventure, a clever witch, helpful beetles, and the love of a brother and sister.

MAGIC CANDIES

BY HEENA BAEK, TRANSLATED BY SOPHIE BOWMAN

AMAZON CROSSING KIDS, 2021
ISBN: 9781542029599

After popping a candy into his mouth, a lonely boy suddenly hears his couch talking. More candies allow him to hear more voices before finally finding his own voice.

MAMA AND MOMMY AND ME IN THE MIDDLE

BY NINA LACOUR, ILLUSTRATED BY KAYLANI JUANITA

CANDLEWICK, 2022
ISBN: 9781536211511

A young girl experiences a week of longing with Mama as they wait for Mommy to return home from a trip.

MEMORY JARS

BY VERA BROSGOL

ROARING BROOK, 2021
ISBN: 9781250314871

Freda is intrigued by how Gran saves the taste of blueberries by making jam. This makes her wonder what else can be saved in jars: cookies, crayons, even her best friend? A sweet story about how some things are meant to be enjoyed.

ORCA RESCUE! THE TRUE STORY OF AN ORPHANED ORCA NAMED SPRINGER

BY DONNA SANDSTROM, ILLUSTRATED BY SARAH BURWASH

KIDS CAN PRESS, 2021
ISBN: 9781525301179

A volunteer tells the story of reuniting a stranded orca calf with her family almost 300 miles away. Includes many resources for further exploration.

POWOW DAY

BY TRACI SORELL, ILLUSTRATED BY MADELYN GOODNIGHT

CHARLESBRIDGE, 2022
ISBN: 9781580899482

River and her family attend a local powwow, but a recent illness means that River cannot dance in her jingle dress. Thankfully, River's friends and family dance for her.

SHAPED BY HER HANDS: POTTER MARIA MARTINEZ

BY ANNA HARBER FREEMAN AND BARBARA GONZALES, ILLUSTRATED BY APHELANDRA

ALBERT WHITMAN, 2021
ISBN: 9780807575994

Learn about the renowned Pueblo potter Maria Martinez and the clay firing technique that made her an inspiration to artists near and far.

THE SHAPE OF HOME

BY RASHIN KHEIRIYEH

LEVINE QUERIDO, 2021
ISBN: 9781646140985

On the way to her first day of school in America, Rashin notices all the fun shapes in her new neighborhood. In class, her teacher makes a game out of shapes as the students introduce themselves and their countries of origin.



ALSC reading lists are created by children's librarians as a resource to share with patrons, and may also be available in ebook, audio book, braille, and large print formats. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to explore this list to find resources that may match or spark their child's interest. Connect with your local library to find out what's happening this summer.

STARLA JEAN

BY ELANA K. ARNOLD, ILLUSTRATED BY A. N. KANG

ROARING BROOK, 2021
ISBN: 9781250305763

In this early chapter book, Starla Jean's dad doesn't think she will catch the skinny chicken in the park, but that is what Starla Jean does. Now she just needs to figure out how to take care of it.

TY'S TRAVELS: BEACH DAY!

BY KELLY STARLING LYONS, ILLUSTRATED BY NINA MATA

HARPER, 2021
ISBN: 9780062951137

This story for beginning readers follows a young boy as he uses his imagination to turn his backyard sandbox into a day at the beach.

WE SHALL OVERCOME

BY BRYAN COLLIER

ORCHARD, 2021
ISBN: 9781338540376

This picture book juxtaposes the lyrics of the 1960s civil rights anthem with multilayered collage illustrations chronicling a day in the life of a contemporary Black child, against the backdrop of past events and struggles.

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The 2022 Summer Reading Book List was created by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). Titles on this list were selected by members of ALSC's Quicklists Consulting Committee.

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