

Reading can be one of the many fun activities children choose to fill their summer time. Research has shown it is also much more! Children who participate in public library summer reading programs make achievement leaps during the summer and score higher on fall reading achievement tests.

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. This summer, take your child to participate in the summer programs happening at your library.



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The 2019 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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SUMMER READING LIST

GRADES
6 - 8



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GRADES 6-8

All Summer Long

by Hope Larson

Farrar, Straus, & Giroux, 2018, ISBN: 9780374304850

Bina's expectations for summer are upended, leading to new experiences and self-discovery.

Amal Unbound

by Aisha Saeed

Nancy Paulsen Books, 2018, ISBN: 9780399544682

A powerful story about a young Pakistani girl forced into indentured servitude.

Ashes to Asheville

by Sarah Dooley

Putnam, 2017, ISBN: 9780399165047

Fella and her sister, Zany, take their deceased mother's ashes and run away to Asheville—the last place they were happy as a family—where they hope to scatter them as per her wishes.

Charlie Hernández and the League of Shadows

by Ryan Calejo

Aladdin, 2018, ISBN: 9781534426580

Charlie is drawn into an ancient battle between good and evil when figures from the Latino myths his abuela told him suddenly appear in the real world—and his body begins to grow horns and feathers!

Countdown: 2979 Days to the Moon

by Suzanne Slade, illustrated by Thomas Gonzalez

Peachtree, 2018, ISBN: 9781682630136

Follow the U.S. space program's triumphs and setbacks, from President Kennedy's challenge to the nation in 1963 to its fulfillment with the first man on the moon.

Dove Arising

by Karen Bao

Viking, 2015, ISBN: 9780451469014

Quiet, introverted Phaet Theta keeps to herself, but when her mother is arrested, she must find her courage and enlist in the Moon's militia to free her mom and save her siblings. First in a series.

Ghost

by Jason Reynolds

Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy Books, 2016, ISBN: 9781481450157

Ghost is trying to outrun his tumultuous past while winning races on his new track team; will he learn what it takes to succeed and overcome his troubles? First in a series.

Ghost Boys

By Jewell Parker Rhodes

Little, Brown, 2018, ISBN: 9780316262286

Jerome, a twelve-year-old boy, is killed by a police officer who mistakes his toy gun for a real weapon. As a ghost, Jerome witnesses the calamity that comes to his community in the aftermath of his death, and he meets the ghost of Emmett Till, who helps him understand better the systematic racism that led to both of their deaths.

Harbor Me

by Jacqueline Woodson

Nancy Paulsen Books, 2018, ISBN: 9780399252525

A group of middle-school students come together under the direction of an inspiring teacher to share stories and appreciate their differences.

Hidden Figures: Young Readers' Edition

by Margot Lee Shetterly

HarperCollins, 2016, ISBN: 9780062662385

This is the young readers' edition of Shetterly's acclaimed nonfiction book about four African American women mathematicians at NASA whose work helped send the first astronauts into space.

It All Comes Down to This

by Karen English

Clarion, 2017, ISBN: 9780544839571

In Los Angeles during the summer of 1965, Sophie, an upper-middle-class African American girl, learns some hard truths about her family, about friendship, and about racism.

Love, Ish

by Karen Rivers

Algonquin Young Readers, 2017, ISBN: 9781616205706

Mischa "Ish" Love's dreams of escaping life in her small town and living on Mars one day are threatened by a sudden illness.

Marcus Vega Doesn't Speak Spanish

by Pablo Cartaya

Viking, 2018, ISBN: 9781101997260

Marcus just wants to help his single mom get by and protect his brother from bullies, but he creates more problems than he solves. His mother decides a trip to visit family in Puerto Rico is just the thing they need.

Merci Suárez Changes Gears

by Meg Medina

Candlewick Press, 2018, ISBN: 9780763690496

Sixth-grader Merci faces challenges as a scholarship

student at her fancy private school, while at home, her beloved grandfather has begun to act strangely. Can Merci navigate all these changes?

The Night Diary

by Vera Hiranandani

Kokila, 2018, ISBN: 9780735228511

A gripping story of one family's flight from Pakistan during the partition of India in 1947, as told by twelve-year-old Nisha to her diary.

Peasprout Chen, Future Legend of Skate and Sword

by Henry Lien

Henry Holt, 2018, ISBN: 9781250165695

Peasprout and her brother, Cricket, are accepted into Pearl Famous Academy of Skate and Sword to study Wu Liu, martial arts figure skating. High-stakes competition, political intrigue, and more await them.

Piecing Me Together

by Renée Watson

Bloomsbury, 2017, ISBN: 9781681191058

Jade is an "at-risk" student from a poor neighborhood in Portland, Oregon, who struggles to find her voice amid conflicting pressures. Allusions to collage art and the themes of making yourself out of the pieces of your life elevate this coming-of-age story.

The Playbook: 52 Rules to Aim, Shoot, and Score in This Game Called Life

by Kwame Alexander, photographs by Thai Neave

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2017, ISBN: 9780544570979

Mixing poetry, photography, and inspiring stories from athletes and other role models, this book

shares life lessons and advice for overcoming obstacles.

Putting Peace First: 7 Commitments to Change the World

by Eric Dawson

Viking, 2018, ISBN: 9781101997338

Learn how to make a difference in the world NOW with this step-by-step guide to putting your visions into practice.

Sci-Fu

by Yehudi Mercado

Oni Press, 2018, ISBN: 9781620104729

It's 1980s Brooklyn, and Wax just scratched the perfect beat, attracting the attention of an evil alien robot who transports his family, best friend, and crush to the planet Discopia, where Wax must master the art of Sci-Fu if he wants to fight the bad guys, save the universe, and get back to Earth.

See You in the Cosmos

by Jack Cheng

Dial Books, 2017, ISBN: 9780399186370

Alex Petroski is on a mission to send a rocket into space with a recording on his iPod of what it's like to be human, just like his hero Carl Sagan. His journey takes him farther than he ever could have imagined.

Space Battle Lunchtime, Vol. 1: Lights, Camera, Snacktion

by Natalie Riess

Oni Press, 2016, ISBN: 9781620103135

The competition is fierce on the universe's most popular reality TV cooking show, Space Battle

Lunchtime! Does Earth baker Peony have what it takes to win?

The Stars Beneath Our Feet

by David Barclay Moore

Knopf Books, 2017, ISBN: 9781524701246

A boy tries to find himself and a community in his Harlem neighborhood in the wake of his brother's death.

Us, in Progress: Short Stories about Young Latinos

by Lulu Delacre

HarperCollins, 2017, ISBN: 9780062392145

A collection of short stories offering a refreshing and nuanced depiction of young Latinxs growing up in the United States.

The Witch Boy

by Molly Knox Ostertag

Graphix, 2017, ISBN: 9781338089523

In Aster's family, boys are shapeshifters and girls are witches—but Aster has always been more interested in witchcraft than shapeshifting. As Aster tries to remain true to himself, secrets about his family's past are unearthed. First in a series.