

We hope you enjoy your free book
compliments of Ansonia Public
Schools!

*Ansonia Public Schools
proudly presents*

Summer Reading 2021 Grade 8 - Middle School

Besides getting lots of fresh air and exercise to keep your body fit, take time this summer to keep your brain fit by reading regularly!

The books on this list come highly recommended by kid readers from all over the country. You are encouraged to read from this list but are not limited to these titles. Your interests and abilities will determine your selection, but don't be afraid to experiment with new authors or topics. The titles included are a sampling of the many available at bookstores and libraries. Take some time to look over the list with an adult and see which titles seem inviting. Beginning in kindergarten, your children will have access to EPIC, (<https://www.getepic.com/students>) a collection of books that they can read from various devices anytime, anywhere! Enjoy this reading time together whether it be at the beach, camping or in the comfort of your home! **You are asked to read at least three books over the summer.**

Keep a record of your summer reading in your journal. In August, if you return your journal to your teacher, **you will be eligible to enter your name to win a tablet!** School activities will focus on sharing summer reading experiences and an accurate list will help with recalling titles, authors, and story lines. You can access the journal and recommended books on the state website: <https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/CTRead/Connecticut-Reads>

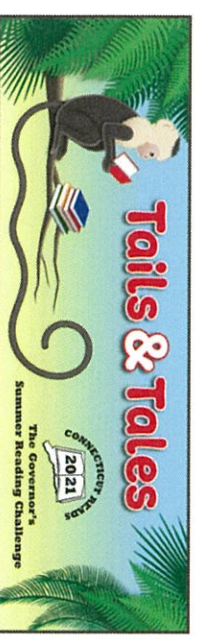
Your public library card is welcome at all public libraries in the state. Books may be borrowed and returned to any public library in Connecticut. If you go away for the weekend or the week -- visit a nearby library! Many of the suggested books on this list may be borrowed from a Local Public Library.

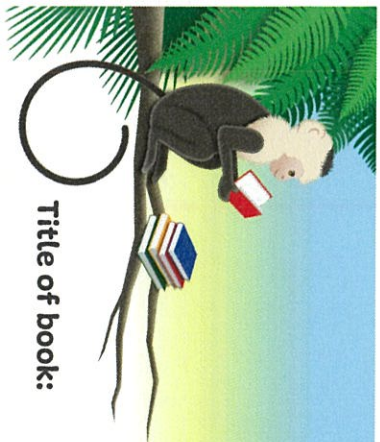
To access your child's summer reading materials, visit the Ansonia Public Schools website, www.ansonia.org. Click on "Teaching & Learning" located on the main banner of the website and then select "Summer Reading & Math." You can also locate these materials on each school's main website page.

In addition to summer reading, to keep those literacy skills sharpened, your child will have access to Lexia until July 31st! **You can access Lexia and via their Clever account. The Clever link can be accessed from each school's webpage.** Go to the Ansonia Public Schools website, www.ansonia.org, then select "Schools" from the main banner.

If you are interested in summer Reading or Writing programs for your child, please visit: <https://www.bridgeport.edu/summer-reading>

Have a fun and safe summer and we look forward to seeing all your smiling faces in August!





Title of book:

Connecticut Reads 2021 The Governor's Summer Reading Challenge

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Total number of books read: _____

SUMMER READING LIST

GRADES 6-8

All Thirteen:

The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys' Soccer Team
by Christina Soontornvat
CANDLEWICK, 2020
ISBN: 9781536209457

This multi-award-winning nonfiction book tracks the survival story of a Thai boys' soccer team, showing both the challenges facing rescuers and the bravery and ingenuity of those trapped in a flooded cave.

Almost American Girl: An Illustrated Memoir

by Robin Ha
BALZER + BRAY/HARPER ALLEY, 2020
ISBN: 9780062685100

A graphic novel memoir recounting the author's experience as a middle-schooler uprooted from her home in South Korea to live in Alabama, and the power of the arts to connect us.

Amari and the Night Brothers

by B. B. Alston
BALZER + BRAY, 2021
ISBN: 9780062975164

After Amari's brother disappears, she is nominated to train at the secret government organization he worked for. At this camp, Amari learns she is a magician and trains to be a junior agent for the Bureau of Supernatural Affairs. First in a series.

Ancestor Approved:

Intertribal Stories for Kids
Edited by Cynthia Leitich Smith
HEARTDRUM, 2021
ISBN: 9780062869944

An anthology of intersecting stories by Native authors about families from Nations across the U.S. and Canada as they gather at an intertribal powwow to honor Native traditions.

Beetle & the Hollowbones

by Aliza Layne
ATHENEUM, 2020
ISBN: 9781534441538

Teen goblin and witch-in-training Beetle uses her wits and magical

powers to save her friend Blob Ghost from being destroyed by her ex-best friend Kat's aunt's dastardly plans in this rollicking graphic novel.

Cece Rios and the Desert of Souls

by Kaelia Rivera
HARPERCOLLINS, 2021
ISBN: 9780062947550

Cece walks the fine line between humans and creaturas (powerful spirits) on her search to rescue her sister from an evil spirit. Traveling a dangerous desert, Cece finds a kind spirit to help her on the way.

Chirp

by Kate Messner
BLUOMSBOURY, 2020
ISBN: 9781547602810

Mia moves to Vermont to help her grandmother with her cricket farm. She joins a STEM and Ninja Warrior camp and starts to become more empowered to deal with sexual harassment from a gymnastics coach.

Ernesto Divided

by Ernesto Cisneros
QUILL TREE BOOKS, 2020
ISBN: 978006281687

When 12-year-old Ernesto's mother is sent back to Mexico by U.S. authorities, his life becomes increasingly difficult. Hope lives in Ernesto's heart as long as there's a chance his family can be reunited.

Everything Sad Is Untrue

by Daniel Nayeri
LEVI NE QUERIDO, 2020
ISBN: 9781646141008

Daniel, an Iranian refugee, struggles to fit in with his Oklahoma community. Through the lens of Scheherazade's One Thousand and One Nights, Daniel weaves stories about his past.

Fighting Words

by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
DIAL, 2020
ISBN: 9781984815682

Through a hard childhood, Della has always relied on her older

sister, Suki. When their mom's boyfriend does something awful, the sisters run away and must start a new life in a foster home, but their past still haunts them both.

From the Desk of Zoe Washington

by Janae Marks
KATHERINE TEGEN BOOKS, 2020
ISBN: 9780062975855

Zoe has a lot of things on her plate: an important internship at a bakery, which would help her get onto a kid's baking television show, and secret communication with her father, who is imprisoned but may be innocent. Zoe must balance her baking with proving her father didn't do the crime he was convicted of.

King and the Dragonflies

by Kacen Callender
SCHOLASTIC, 2020
ISBN: 978151829355

King is convinced his brother who died has returned as a dragonfly. In confronting his grief, King also must navigate a changed relationship with his parents and evolving feelings for his best friend, the son of the town's racist sheriff.

Legacy: Women Poets of the Harlem Renaissance

by Nikki Grimes
BLUOMSBOURY, 2021
ISBN: 9781681199443

This collection of poems styled with the Golden Shovel poetic method uses the original works of female poets of the Harlem Renaissance coupled with new poems written by Grimes.

Root Magic

by Eden Royce
WALDEN POND, 2021
ISBN: 9780062899576

In 1963 South Carolina, Jez and her twin brother, Jay, begin to learn the legacy of their family: rootwork, Gullah Geechee folk magic.

The Shape of Thunder

by Jasmine Warga
BALZER + BRAY, 2021
ISBN: 9780062956675

After an unimaginable tragedy impacts both of their siblings, best friends and neighbors Cora and Quinn haven't spoken in a year. To save their friendship and help their families, the pair decide to travel back in time.

Show Me a Sign

by Ann Clare LeZotte
SCHOLASTIC, 2020
ISBN: 9781332555812

The year is 1805, and eleven-year-old Mary lives in a small, isolated community where almost everyone is fluent in sign language. She's unaware of the prejudices against Deaf people, until a stranger visits her town.

Starfish

by Lisa Fippis
NANCY PAULSEN BOOKS, 2021
ISBN: 9781984814500

A body-positive novel in verse about a middle-schooler, Elle, who, with the help of her therapist, begins standing up for herself against those who bully Elle for her size—including confronting the worst tormentor of all, her mother.

Tracking Pythons:

The Quest to Catch an Invasive Predator and Save an Ecosystem
by Kate Messner
MILLBROOK, 2020
ISBN: 9781541515762

How do you catch an animal that is so good at hiding? You enlist the help of those you've already captured. Accompany researchers as they work to control the numbers of pythons in Florida in this book filled with photos, diagrams, and QR codes for online videos.

DIGITAL EXPERIENCES

Brains On! podcast

brainson.org
A podcast where different kid cohorts take the mic each week to tackle wide-ranging and fascinating science questions from listeners across the country.

Design Squad Global website

pbskids.org/designsquad
Kids can take on challenges, watch videos, play games, and be wowed by the power of engineering.

Funbrain website

funbrain.com
This website for children features cool science experiments, read-aloud videos, and fun games to explore.

iCivics website

icivics.org
Activities and games for both families and educators, all aimed at providing fundamental lessons in civics knowledge.

Monterey Bay Aquarium live cams webpage

montereybayaquarium.org/animals/live-cams
Jellyfish, sea otters, and sharks, oh my! Learn about and watch live videos with these sea animals and more.

NASA STEM @ Home website

nasa.gov/stem
For children ages five and up, this website includes many activities both on- and off-screen based around NASA and space. Activities are broken down into three sections based on grade level: K-4, 5-8, and 9-12.

National Geographic Kids website

kids.nationalgeographic.com
This fun and educational website for children features

games, videos, and brain boosters.

The Past and the Curious podcast

thepastandthecurious.com
Kids and families can learn about shocking, inspirational, and often humorous historical events and people through short stories, humor, music, and fun.

Scratch website

scratch.mit.edu
An innovative block-based programming language that allows for the creation and remixing of limitless programming, from games to music to animation.

"Son Doong 360: Exploring the World's Largest Cave" virtual tour

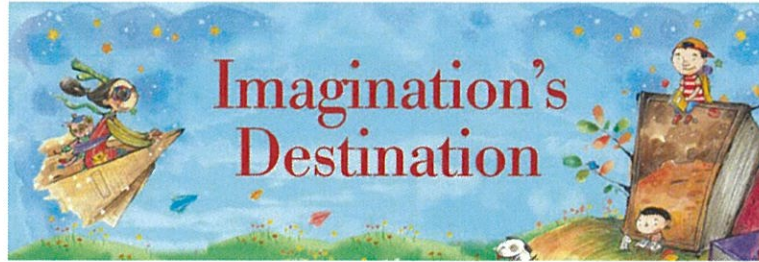
nationalgeographic.com/news/features/son-doong-cave/2/#s=pano37
Explore the world's largest cave in Vietnam with National Geographic's 360-degree tour of Hang Son Doong, with fun facts, nature sounds, and interactive questions.

Today's Front Pages website

freedomforum.org/todayfrontpages
Read and explore the front pages of hundreds of newspapers from across the nation and the world every day.

For more top resources, visit the ALSC Book and Media Awards Shelf at alisc-awards-shelf.org.

Reading Incentives and Programs



Kids read any 8 books and record them on the Barnes and Noble's journal. Kids can choose a FREE BOOK when they turn in their completed journal at a local Barnes and Noble between July 1 – August 31, 2021.

Find your journal here:

English: https://dispatch.barnesandnoble.com/content/dam/ccr/pdf/2021/BN_Summer_Reading_21_Journal_English.pdf

Spanish: https://dispatch.barnesandnoble.com/content/dam/ccr/pdf/2021/BN_Summer_Reading_Journal_Spanish.pdf

Barnes and Noble's Summer Reading lists:

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/summerreading/>



DOGObooks
Book reviews by kids for kids

<https://www.dogobooks.com/programs/summer-reading-2021>

Read & Win Prizes! How it works...

1. Join and add your favorite books to your summer reading log
2. Read books and write as many original reviews as you can
3. The more reviews you write, the higher your chances of winning

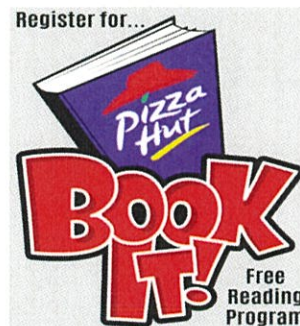
Ten (10) participants who review the most books will be eligible to win a Prize Pack of the seven books shown below. The next twenty-five (25) participants with the most reviews will be eligible to win a \$10 Gift Card.



With the Chuck E. Cheese kids summer reading program, kids earn 10 FREE tokens each time they read for two weeks in a row. Complete the form to claim the free tokens. A food purchase is required.

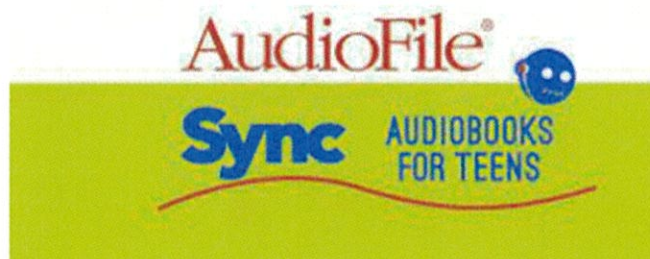
English: https://www.chuckecheese.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/LSM_Reading_Rewards_Calendar_21.pdf

Spanish: https://www.chuckecheese.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/spanish_reading_rewards_calendar_21.pdf



BOOK IT! Motivated children to read by rewarding their reading accomplishments with praise, recognition and pizza! It is available for PreK-6th grade students.

https://www.bookitprogram.com/bookit_enrollment/form/enrollment



Teenagers (13 and older) can get two free audiobook downloads every week during the summer via Sora, the student reading app from OverDrive. Enter your email address to register, and you'll be given instructions to download the app from the Apple App Store or Google Play.

<https://www.audiofilemagazine.com/sync/>