

Summer Reading Suggestions

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How To Use This Guide

Genre: This guide is first organized by genre: science fiction, drama, etc. However, some books fit into, and there is also a lot of variety within each genre. To pick books they would enjoy, students should read the descriptions.

Difficulty Level: For each genre, the guide is divided into difficulty levels:

- *Low difficulty:* young adult books with a Lexile level below 800. These books would be suited to a struggling reader who is reading below grade level.
- *High/Low:* young adult books with an easy Lexile level (below 800) but are written for older teenagers' interests. These books are good for struggling or reluctant readers, but can contain some more mature/adult content.
- *Medium difficulty:* young adult books with a Lexile level between 800 and 1000. These books are suited for readers who are comfortable reading at grade level.
- *High difficulty:* young adult books with a Lexile level above 1000. These books are suited for advanced readers or average readers who wish to challenge themselves.
- *Adult:* books written for adults at any Lexile level. These books are suited for advanced readers. These often contain adult/mature content.

Age Suggestion: Whenever possible, this guide includes a suggested age so students can read appropriate material. The higher the age suggestion, the more mature content the book will contain. These age suggestions are taken from commonsensemedia.org and lexile.com, so there is no guarantee that the age suggestion is accurate. At times, these age suggestions can be conservative, so parents might decide their children can handle reading a book for somewhat older readers.

***Disclaimer: the adult books on this list were chosen because they are likely to interest advanced middle school readers. Most adult-level books will have some adult/mature content and parents should choose accordingly.

Descriptions: The plot descriptions were all taken from amazon.com or goodreads.com

Realistic Fiction

Realistic stories on a wide range of topics.

Low Difficulty

- **Amal Unbound** by Aisha Saeed. 10+. Life is quiet and ordinary in Amal's Pakistani village, but after an accidental run-in with the son of her village's corrupt landlord, Amal must work as his family's servant.
- **The Bridge Home** by Padma Venkatraman. 10+. The story of four determined homeless children in Chennai, India.
- **Darius the Great is Not Okay** by Adib Khorram. 12+. Darius speaks better Klingon than Farsi, and he knows more about Hobbits than Iranians. He's about to take his first trip to Iran.
- **A Mango-Shaped Space** by Wendy Mass. 10+. Mia Winchell appears to be a typical kid, but she's keeping a big secret—sounds, numbers, and words have color for her.
- **Out of My Mind** by Sharon Draper. 10+. Melody is not like most people. She cannot walk or talk, but she has a photographic memory.
- **When I Was the Greatest** by Jason Reynolds. 12+. In Bed Stuy, New York, a small misunderstanding can escalate into having a price on your head—even if you're totally clean.
- **Orbiting Jupiter** by Gary Schmidt. 12+. Jack, 12, tells the gripping story of Joseph, 14, who joins his family as a foster child. Damaged in prison, Joseph wants nothing more than to find his baby daughter, Jupiter, whom he has never seen.
- **The Crossover** by Kwame Alexander. 10+. A novel in poetry form. 12-year-old Josh and his twin Jordan have basketball in their blood. They're kings of the court, star players for their school team.

High/Low

- **Akata Witch** by Nnedi Okorafor. 12+. Twelve-year-old Sunny lives in Nigeria, but she was born American. Her features are African, but she's albino.
- **Devils Within** by S. F. Henson. 13+. After Nate Fuller kills his white supremacist father in self-defense, he must find a way to redefine what's right and wrong and learn to trust again.
- **Ghost Boys** by Jewell Parker Rhodes. 10+. Twelve-year-old Jerome is shot by a police officer who mistakes his toy gun for a real threat. As a ghost, he observes the devastation left behind.

Medium Difficulty

- **Faceless** by Alyssa Sheinmel. 12+. A gripping novel about a girl who gets a face transplant -- and has to rediscover her identity.
- **Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie** by Jordan Sonnenblick. 11+. He plays drums in the All-City Jazz Band, has a crush on the hottest girl in school, and is constantly annoyed by his younger brother, Jeffrey. But when Jeffrey gets sick, Steven's world is turned upside down.
- **The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise** by Dan Geimenhart. 10+. That's how long Coyote and her dad, Rodeo, have lived on the road in an old school bus, criss-crossing the nation.
- **Walk Two Moons** by Sharon Creech. 10+. The author weaves together two tales, one funny, one bittersweet, to create a heartwarming, compelling, and utterly moving story.

Mystery and Horror

Books that will have you wondering until the end.

High/Low

- **Slasher Girls and Monster Boys.** 12+. A host of the sharpest young adult authors come together in this collection of terrifying tales and psychological thrillers.
- **We Were Liars** by E. Lockhart. 13+. A beautiful and distinguished family. A private island. A brilliant, damaged girl; a passionate, political boy. A group of four friends—the Liars—whose friendship turns destructive.
- **The Night Gardener** by Jonathan Auxier. 10+. The story follows two abandoned Irish siblings who travel to work as servants at a creepy, crumbling English manor house.

Medium Difficulty

- **Murder is Bad Manners** by Robin Stevens. 10+. Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong are best friends at Deepdean School for Girls, and they both have a penchant for solving mysteries.
- **The Mysterious Benedict Society** by Trenton Lee Stewart. 10+. "Are you a gifted child looking for special opportunities?" Dozens of children respond to this peculiar ad in the newspaper...
- **The Shadow Cipher** by Laura Ruby. 10+. In the 1800s, mysterious architects left New York the Old York Cipher—a puzzle laid into the shining city they constructed, at the end of which was promised a treasure beyond all imagining.
- **Skink: No Surrender** by Carl Hiaasen. 12+. When your cousin goes missing under suspicious circumstances, who do you call? There's only one man for the job: a half-crazed, half-feral, one-eyed ex-governor named Skink.

High Difficulty

- **Paper Valentine** by Brenna Yovanoff. 13+. Someone in Hannah Wagner's peaceful suburban community is killing girls.

Adventure and Thriller

Edge-of-your-seat tales.

Low Difficulty

- **The Limit** by Kristen Landon. 11+. In a world not too far removed from our own, kids are being taken away to special workhouses if their families exceed the monthly debt limit imposed by the government.
- **Spy School** by Stuart Gibbs. 10+. Can a normal, average kid become a superstar secret agent? Maybe not, but it'll be fun to watch him try!
- **Superman: Dawnbreaker** by Matt de la Peña. 12+. Clark Kent has always been faster, stronger - better - than everyone around him. But he wasn't raised to show off, and drawing attention to himself could be dangerous.
- **Wake Up Missing** by Kate Messner. 11+. Einstein, Edison, DaVinci, Oppenheimer, Curie. The greatest minds in science are about to be illegally recreated—and Cat Grayson must stop it.

High/Low

- **Girl, Stolen** by April Henry. 12+. Griffin hadn't meant to kidnap Cheyenne and once he finds out that not only does she have pneumonia, but that she's blind, he really doesn't know what to do.
- **The Rule of Three** by Eric Walters. 12+. One shocking afternoon, computers around the globe shut down in a viral catastrophe.
- **The Prisoner of Cell 25** by Richard Paul Evans. 12+. To everyone at Meridian High School, Michael Vey is an ordinary fourteen-year-old. But Michael is anything but ordinary. Michael has special powers.

Medium Difficulty

- **Batman: Nightwalker** by Marie Lu. 13+. Before he was Batman, he was Bruce Wayne. A reckless boy willing to break the rules for a girl who may be his worst enemy.
- **Refugee** by Alan Gratz. 11+. Three different kids. One mission in common: ESCAPE.
- **Sidekicked** by John David Anderson. 10+. Andrew Bean might be a part of H.E.R.O., a secret organization for the training of superhero sidekicks, but that doesn't mean that life is all leaping tall buildings in single bounds
- **The Wild Robot** by Peter Brown. 9+. When robot Roz opens her eyes for the first time, she discovers that she is alone on a remote, wild island. Why is she there? Where did she come from?

Romance

Books with love as the main focus.

Low Difficulty

- **Love and Gelato** by Jenna Evans Welch. 12+. Lina is spending the summer in Tuscany, but she isn't in the mood for Italy's famous sunshine and fairy-tale landscape. She's only there because it was her mother's dying wish that she get to know her father.
- **Lovely War** by Julie Berry. 13+. A critically acclaimed, multi-layered romance set in the perilous days of World Wars I and II, where gods hold the fates--and the hearts--of four mortals in their hands.
- **Well, That Was Awkward** by Rachel Vail. 11+. A.J. likes not Gracie but Gracie's beautiful best friend, Sienna. Obviously, Gracie is happy for Sienna. Super happy! She helps Sienna compose the best texts, responding to A.J.'s surprisingly funny and appealing texts, just as if *she* were Sienna.

High/Low

- **Tell Me Three Things** by Julie Buxbaum. 13+. What if the person you need the most is someone you've never met?

Medium Difficulty

- **Since You've Been Gone** by Morgan Matson. 12+. Before Sloane, Emily didn't go to parties, she barely talked to guys, and she didn't do anything crazy. Enter Sloane, social tornado...

High Difficulty

- **The Fortune of Carmen Navarro** by Jennifer Bryant. 13+. Carmen Navarro rings up customers at the Quikmart, bored to tears. It's a job, and she needs it. But Carmen's true love is music.
- **I'd Tell You I Love You, But Then I'd Have to Kill You** by Ally Carter. 12+. Cammie Morgan is a student at the Gallagher Academy for Exceptional Young Women.

Historical

Stories set in interesting historical periods.

Low Difficulty

- **Al Capone Does My Shirts** by Gennifer Choldenko. 11+. You get to Alcatraz by being the worst of the worst. Unless you're me. I came here because my mother said I had to.
- **Fallout** by Todd Strasser. 11+. In the summer of 1962, the possibility of nuclear war is all anyone talks about. In this *alternate* history, Scott's dad is the only one in the neighborhood who actually prepares for the worst.
- **Fever 1793** by Laurie Halse Anderson. 11+. It's late summer 1793, and the streets of Philadelphia are abuzz with mosquitoes and rumors of fever.
- **The Fountains of Silence** by Ruta Sepetys. 13+. Madrid, 1957. Under the fascist dictatorship of General Francisco Franco, Spain is hiding a dark secret.
- **Prisoner B-3087** by Alan Gratz. 11+. Survive. At any cost. 10 concentration camps. It's something no one could imagine surviving. But it is what Yanek Gruener has to face.
- **Playing Atari with Saddam Hussein** by Jennifer Roy. 11+. At the start of 1991, eleven-year-old Ali Fadhil was consumed by his love for soccer and video games. Then, on January 17, Iraq's dictator Saddam Hussein went to war with thirty-four nations lead by the United States.

Medium Difficulty

- **A Moment Comes** by Jennifer Bradbury. 12+. Before India was divided, three teens, each from wildly different backgrounds, cross paths.
- **The Cure for Dreaming** by Cat Winters. 13+. Olivia Mead is a headstrong, independent girl—a suffragist—in an age that prefers its girls to be docile.
- **Dread Nation** by Sandie Angulo Chen. 13+. An alt-history story about the civil war and zombies.
- **Navigating Early** by Clare Vanderpool. 10+. At the end of World War II, Jack Baker, a landlocked Kansas boy, is suddenly uprooted after his mother's death and placed in a boy's boarding school in Maine.
- **A Night Divided** by Jennifer Nielsen. 9+. With the rise of the Berlin Wall, twelve-year-old Gerta finds her family suddenly divided.
- **Projekt 1065** by Alan Gratz. 10+. Like the other boys in his school, Michael is a member of the Hitler Youth. But Michael has a secret. He and his parents are spies.
- **The Unsung Hero of Birdsong, USA** by Brenda Woods. 10+. The story of the friendship between a young white boy and a Black WWII veteran who has recently returned to the unwelcoming Jim Crow South.
- **Wolf Hollow** by Lauren Wolk. 10+. In the shadow of two world wars, new student Betty quickly reveals herself to be cruel and manipulative, and while her bullying seems isolated at first, things quickly escalate, and reclusive World War I veteran Toby becomes a target of her attacks.

High Difficulty

- **The Rifle** by Gary Paulsen. 11+. This tough, thought-provoking novel for young adults takes deadly aim at the oft-quoted notion: "Guns don't kill people, people kill people."
- **Brown Girl Dreaming** by Jacqueline Woodson. 10+. In vivid poems, the author shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s.

Fantasy

Magical stories that can take place in imaginary worlds or our own.

Low Difficulty

- **Above World** by Jenn Reese. 11+. Thirteen-year-old Aluna has lived her entire life under the ocean with the Coral Kampii in the City of Shifting Tides. But after centuries spent hidden from the Above World, her colony's survival is in doubt.
- **The Girl Who Drank the Moon** by Kelly Barnhill. 10+. Every year, the people of the Protectorate leave a baby as an offering to the witch who lives in the forest.
- **The Girl of Fire and Thorns** by Rae Carson. 12+. Once a century, one person is chosen for greatness. Elisa is the chosen one. But she is also the younger of two princesses.
- **The Hidden Oracle** (Trials of Apollo #1) by Rick Riordan. 10+. How do you punish an immortal? By making him human. After angering his father Zeus, the god Apollo is cast down from Olympus.
- **Leviathan** by Scott Westerfeld. 12+. It is the cusp of World War I. The Austro-Hungarians and Germans have their Clankers, steam-driven iron machines loaded with guns and ammunition. The British Darwinists employ genetically fabricated animals as their weaponry.
- **Seraphina** by Rachel Hartman. 12+. Four decades of peace have done little to ease the mistrust between humans and dragons in the kingdom of Goredd.

High/Low

- **The Hazel Wood** by Melissa Albert. 13+. When Alice's grandmother, the reclusive author of a cult-classic book of pitch-dark fairy tales, dies alone on her estate, the Hazel Wood, Alice learns how bad her luck can really get.
- **Red Queen** by Victoria Aveyard. 13+. Mare Barrow's world is divided by blood—those with common, Red blood serve the Silver - blooded elite, who are gifted with superhuman abilities.
- **Shadowshaper** by Daniel Older. 14+. Sierra discovers a supernatural order called the Shadowshapers, who connect with spirits via paintings, music, and stories.

Medium Difficulty

- **The Alchemist** by Michael Scott. 11+. He holds the secret that can end the world. The truth: Nicholas Flamel was born in Paris in 1330. The records show that he died in 1418. But his tomb is empty.
- **Black Wings Beating** by Alex London. 13+. The people of Uztar have long looked to the sky with hope and wonder. Nothing in their world is more revered than the birds of prey and no one more honored than the falconers who call them to their fists.
- **Caraval** by Stephanie Garber. 13+. Scarlett Dragna has never left the tiny island where she and her sister, Tella, live with their powerful, and cruel, father. Now Scarlett's father has arranged a marriage for her.
- **Kingdom of Back** by Marie Lu. 12+. Two siblings. Two brilliant talents. But only one Mozart. Born with a gift for music, Nannerl Mozart has just one wish--to be remembered forever.
- **Shadow and Bone** by Leigh Bardugo. 13+. Surrounded by enemies, the once-great nation of Ravka has been torn in two by the Shadow Fold, a swath of near impenetrable darkness crawling with monsters who feast on human flesh.

High Difficulty

- **A Wizard of Earthsea** by Ursula K. Leguin. 10+. Ged was the greatest sorcerer in Earthsea, but in his youth he was the reckless Sparrowhawk.
- **Downsiders** by Neal Shusterman. 12+. Talon lives Downside, that is, underneath New York City. There is a strict code of secrecy among the Downsiders.

Adult

- **The Belgariad** by David Eddings. It all begins with the theft of the Orb that for so long protected the West from an evil god.
- **The Color of Magic** by Terry Pratchett. On a world supported on the back of a giant turtle (sex unknown), a gleeful, explosive, wickedly eccentric expedition sets out.
- **The Sword of Shannara** by Terry Brooks. Shea knew little of the troubles that plagued the rest of the world. Then the giant, forbidding Allanon revealed that the supposedly dead Warlock Lord was plotting to destroy the world.

Science Fiction

Futuristic stories about society and technology.

Low Difficulty

- **Bloom** by Kenneth Oppel. 10+. The invasion begins--but not as you'd expect. It begins with rain. Rain that carries seeds. Seeds that sprout--overnight, everywhere.
- **The Eleventh Plague** by Jeff Hirsch. 12+. In the aftermath of a war, America's landscape has been ravaged and two-thirds of the population left dead from a vicious strain of influenza.
- **Invitation to the Game** by Monica Hughes. It's the year 2154. Lisse and her friends have been deemed unemployable in the eyes of society.
- **Life as We Know It** by Susan Pfeffer. 12+. High school sophomore Miranda's disbelief turns to fear in a split second when an asteroid knocks the moon closer to Earth.
- **Uglies** by Scott Westerfeld. 13+. Tally is about to turn sixteen, and she can't wait. In just a few weeks she'll have the operation that will turn her from a repellent ugly into a stunning pretty.

High/Low

- **The House of the Scorpion** by Nancy Farmer. 11+. This modern classic takes on an iron-fisted drug lord, clones bred for their organs, and what it means to be human.
- **Legend** by Marie Lu. 12+. Born into an elite family in one of the Republic's wealthiest districts, fifteen-year-old June is a prodigy being groomed for success in the Republic's highest military circles.
- **Ship Breaker** by Paolo Bacigalupi. 13+. A gritty, high-stakes adventure set in a futuristic world where oil is scarce, but loyalty is scarcer.
- **Steelheart** by Brandon Sanderson. 12+. How far would you go for revenge if someone killed your father? If someone destroyed your city?
- **Unwind** by Neal Shusterman. 13+. Between the ages of thirteen and eighteen, a parent may choose to retroactively get rid of a child through a process called "unwinding."

Medium Difficulty

- **Interworld** by Neil Gaiman. 10+. The story of Joey Harker, a very average kid who discovers that his world is only one of a trillion alternate earths.
- **The Prom Goer's Interstellar Excursion** by Chris McCoy. 12+. Bennett pulls off something he never imagined possible: his dream girl, Sophie, agrees to be his date... then Sophie get abducted by aliens
- **Scythe** by Neal Shusterman. 12+. A world with no hunger, no disease, no war, no misery. Humanity has conquered all those things, and has even conquered death. Now scythes are the only ones who can end life—and they are commanded to do so, in order to keep the size of the population under control.
- **Warcross** by Marie Lu. 13+. Struggling to make ends meet, teenage hacker Emika Chen works as a bounty hunter, tracking down players who bet on the game Warcross illegally.

Adult

- **The Long Earth** by Terry Pratchett and Stephen Baxter. 16+. A box containing some wiring, a three-way switch and a...potato. It is the prototype of an invention that will change the way Mankind views his world forever.

Graphic Novels

Thought-provoking stories, these are more than simple comics.

Low Difficulty

- **Anya's Ghost** by Vera Brosgol. 12+. Of all the things Anya expected to find at the bottom of an old well, a new friend was not one of them. Especially not a new friend who's been dead for a century.
- **Bad Island** by Dough TenNapel. 8+. When Reese is forced to go on a boating trip with his family, the last thing he expects is to be shipwrecked on an island-especially one teeming with weird plants and animals.
- **El Deafo** by Cece Bell. 9+. Starting at a new school is scary, even more so with a giant hearing aid strapped to your chest!
- **Ghostopolis** by Doug TenNapel. 9+. Imagine Garth Hale's surprise when he's accidentally zapped to the spirit world by Frank Gallows, a washed-out ghost wrangler.
- **The Rise of Renegade X.** 11+. Sixteen-year-old Damien Locke has a plan: major in messing with people at the local supervillain university and become a professional evil genius, just like his supervillain mom.
- **Smile** by Raina Telgemeier. 10+. Eleven-year-old Raina just wants to be a normal sixth grader. But one night after a trip-and-fall mishap, she injures her two front teeth.
- **The Stonekeeper** by Kazu Kibuishi. 9+. After the tragic death of their father, Emily and Navin move with their mother to the home of her deceased great-grandfather, but the strange house proves to be dangerous.
- **White Bird** by R.J. Palacio 10+. How a young Jewish girl was hidden by a family in a Nazi-occupied French village during World War II; how the boy she and her classmates once shunned became her savior and best friend.

Medium Difficulty

- **American Born Chinese** by Gene Luen Yang. 13+. Jin Wang starts at a new school where he's the only Chinese-American student.

High Difficulty

- **March: Book One** by John Lewis. 12+. March is a vivid first-hand account of John Lewis' lifelong struggle for civil and human rights.

Non-Fiction

Interesting informational texts on a wide range of topics.

Medium Difficulty

- **Bomb** by Steve Sheinkin. 12+. In December of 1938, a chemist in a German laboratory made a shocking discovery.
- **The Boys Who Challenged Hitler** by Phillip Hoose. 12+. Fifteen-year-old Knud Pedersen resolved with his brother and a handful of schoolmates to take action against the Nazis if the adults would not.
- **The Great and Only Barnum** by Candace Fleming. 8+. P.T. Barnum, known far and wide for his jumbo elephants, midgets, and three-ring circuses. The man behind the Greatest Show on Earth
- **How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awfully Famous** by Georgia Bragg. 11+. *How They Croaked* relays all the gory details of how nineteen world figures gave up the ghost.
- **I am Malala (young readers edition)** by Malala Yousafzai. 10+. Malala Yousafzai was only ten years old when the Taliban took control of her region. They said music was a crime. They said women weren't allowed to go to the market. They said girls couldn't go to school.
- **Most Dangerous** by Steve Sheinkin. 14+. Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War.
- **The Port Chicago 50** by Steven Sheinkin. 11+. On July 17, 1944, a massive explosion rocked the segregated Navy base at Port Chicago, California, killing more than 300 sailors
- **The Pregnancy Project** by Gaby Rodriguez. 15+. When Gaby faked a pregnancy to challenge stereotypes, she also changed her life.
- **Unbroken (young adult version)** by Laura Hillenbrand. 12+. The story of a former Olympian's courage, cunning, and fortitude following his plane crash in enemy territory.

High Difficulty

- **Bootleg: Murder, Moonshine, and the Lawless Years of Prohibition** by Karen Blumenthal. 12+. It began with the best of intentions...
- **Chew On This** by Eric Schlosser. 12+. Kids love fast food. And the fast food industry definitely loves kids. It couldn't survive without them.
- **Courage Has No Color** by Tanya Lee Stone. 11+. They became America's first black paratroopers. Why was their story never told?
- **The Dark Game: True Spy Stories** by Paul Janeczko. 11+. From clothesline codes to surveillance satellites and cyber espionage, Paul B. Janeczko uncovers two centuries' worth of true spy stories in U.S. history.
- **The Faithful Spy** by Jon Hendrix. 10+. Adolf Hitler's Nazi party is gaining strength and becoming more menacing every day. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a pastor upset by the inaction of the German church, forms a breakaway church to speak out against the established political and religious authorities.
- **The Family Romanov: Murder, Rebellion and the Fall of Imperial Russia** by Candace Fleming. 12+. Here is the tumultuous, heartrending, true story of the Romanovs.
- **Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow** by Susan Campbell Bartoletti. 12+. By the time Hitler became Chancellor of Germany in 1933, 3.5 million children belonged to the Hitler Youth.
- **Laughing at My Nightmare** by Shane Burcaw. 12+. Shane Burcaw's *Laughing at My Nightmare* describes the challenges he faces as a twenty-one-year-old with spinal muscular atrophy.
- **The Nazi Hunters** by Neal Bascomb. 12+. A spy mission, a Holocaust tale, and a first-class work of nonfiction.
- **Quiet Power** by Susan Cain. 10+. The secret strengths of introverts.
- **Sabotage** by Neal Bascomb. 13+. Armed with little more than skis, explosives, and great courage, they will survive months in the snowy wilderness, elude a huge manhunt, and execute two dangerous missions. The result? The greatest act of sabotage in all of World War II.
- **Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different** by Karen Blumenthal. 12+. Steve Jobs was given up for adoption at birth, dropped out of college after one semester, and at the age of twenty, created Apple in his parents' garage with his friend Steve Wozniack.

- **Sugar Changed the World** by Marc Aronson. 11+. The globe-spanning story of the sweet substance and to seek out the voices of those who led bitter sugar lives.
- **Team Moon** by Catherine Thimmesh. 11+. Here is a rare perspective on a story we only thought we knew. For Apollo 11, the first moon landing, is a story that belongs to many, not just the few and famous.
- **They Called Themselves the KKK** by Susan Campbell Bartoletti. 11+. This is the story of how a secret terrorist group took root in America's democracy.
- **Tracking Trash** by Loree Burns. Aided by an army of beachcombers, oceanographer Dr. Curtis Ebbesmeyer tracks trash in the name of science.
- **Wheels of Change: How Women Rode the Bicycle to Freedom** by Sue Macy. 14+. Take a lively look at women's history from aboard a bicycle, which granted females the freedom of mobility and helped empower women's liberation.
- **Who Was First? Discovering the Americas** by Russell Freedman. Many generations of American schoolchildren were taught that Columbus discovered America, and a holiday reminds us every October. But historical investigation in recent years has shown us otherwise.
- **Witches! The Absolutely True Tale of Disaster in Salem** by Rosalyn Schanzer. 10+. In the little colonial town of Salem Village, Massachusetts, two girls began to twitch, mumble, and contort their bodies into strange shapes.