

GPS Summer Reading 2021

Grades PreK-5

Dear Parents,

Our team of GPS Elementary Library Media Specialists are THRILLED to share with you some of our favorite children's literature for your summer reading pleasure.

Each teacher librarian has selected a very special picture book and a chapter book for you to enjoy with your child. We also generated a list of "must read" non-fiction books that you can incorporate into a healthy-diet of reading for pleasure during the summer months.

A recent piece in the [New York Times](#) suggested that picture books are "one of the literary world's greatest pleasures," an opinion that resonated in all of us. In that spirit, we recommend that readers of all ages indulge and get lost in the storylines of our picture book recommendations. You may want to ask your child to read the picture books independently or plan to read together.

For our chapter book and nonfiction book recommendations, we have enclosed titles under the suggested grade-level bands. In addition, for independent readers we included suggested titles that you might want to pick up at Greenwich Public Library or your favorite bookstore.

Finally, we generated a list of resources that will bring you to curated book lists by reputable organizations from which you can choose.

As a reminder:

- Greenwich Library cards are free and can be obtained by submitting the [online form](#). In addition to library cards, the Greenwich Library is celebrating Summer Reading. Explore their [website](#) to see what they have planned.
- The iPad app SORA will allow students to browse and borrow from both libraries.
- In addition, there is a Kindle app in Self Service and you are invited to download it and sign in with your personal Amazon account in order to download books.

Please contact your school's Library Media Specialist for any specific questions or for further guidance.

Happy Reading,

GPS Elementary Teacher Librarians

*"When I look back, I am so impressed again with the life-giving power of literature.
If I were a young person today, trying to gain a sense of myself in the world,
I would do that again by reading, just as I did when I was young."
- Maya Angelou*

Teacher-Librarians' Choice

Your Favorite Teacher-Librarians	Favorite Picture Books Grades PreK to 5	Favorite Middle Grade Novels Grades 3-5	Favorite NonFiction Book Grades K-5
Ms. Amster New Lebanon	<i>One</i> Written & Illustrated by Kathryn Otoshi	The Harry Potter Series by JK Rowling	<i>Brothers At Bat</i> by Audrey Vernick Illustrated by Steven Salerno
Ms. Attanasio Parkway	<i>If You Plant a Seed</i> Written & Illustrated by Kadir Nelson	<i>Rain Reign</i> By Ann M. Martin	<i>Who Are You Calling Weird?</i> by Marilyn Singer Illustrated by Paul Daviz
Mrs. Bernann North Street	<i>The Oldest Student</i> <i>How Mary Walker Learned to</i> <i>Read</i> by Rita Lorraine Hubbard Illustrated by Oge Mora	<i>The One and Only Ivan</i> by Katherine Applegate	<i>What Do You Do With a Tail Like</i> <i>This?</i> by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page
Mrs. Browning Riverside	<i>You are My Friend</i> by Aimee Reid illustrated by Matt Phelan	<i>The Tale of Despereaux</i> by Kate DiCamillo	<i>High Tide for Horseshoe Crabs</i> by Lisa Kahn Schnell, illustrated by Alan Marks
Mrs. Carlin Glenville	<i>The Day You Begin</i> by Jacqueline Woodson Illustrated by Rafael López	<i>Wishtree</i> by Katherine Applegate	<i>Dinosaur lady : The Daring</i> <i>Discoveries of Mary Anning, the</i> <i>First Paleontologist</i> by Linda Skeers Pictures by Marta Álvarez Miguéns
Ms. Coupe North Mianus	<i>my heart</i> by Corinna Luyken	<i>Harbor Me</i> by Jacqueline Woodson Grade 5+	<i>Mighty Jackie: The Strikeout</i> <i>Queen</i> by Marissa Moss
Mr. Lane Hamilton Avenue	<i>Hair Love</i> by Matthey A. Cherry illustrated by Vashti Harrison	<i>Roller Girl</i> by Victoria Jamieson (Graphic Novel) Grade 4+	<i>Separate Is Never Equal: Sylvia</i> <i>Mendez and Her Family's Fight for</i> <i>Desegregation</i> by Duncan Tonatiuh
Mrs. Martellino ISD	<i>Peace</i> by Baptiste Paul and Miranda Paul	<i>The One Thing You'd Save</i> by Linda Sue Park	<i>The Elephants Come Home: A</i> <i>True Story of Seven Elephants, Two</i> <i>People, and One Extraordinary</i> <i>Friendship</i> by Kim Tomsic illustrated by Hadley Hooper
Mrs. Murray Julian Curtiss	<i>The Three Little Yogis and the</i> <i>Wolf Who Lost His Breath</i> by Susan Verde illustrated by Jay Fleck	<i>Alone</i> by Megan Freeman Grade 5+	<i>Everything & Everywhere:A</i> <i>Fact-Filled Adventure for Curious</i> <i>Globe-Trotters</i> by Marc Martin
Mrs. Shwartz Cos Cob	<i>Mother Bruce</i> by Ryan T. Higgins	<i>The Remarkable Journey of</i> <i>Coyote Sunrise</i> by Dan Gemeinhart	<i>Actual Size</i> by Steve Jenkins
Mrs. Tocabens Old Greenwich	<i>The Legend of Rock, Paper,</i> <i>Scissors</i> by Drew Daywalt Illustrated by Adam Rex	<i>Root Magic</i> by Eden Royce	<i>Honeybee: The Busy Life of Apis</i> <i>Mellifera</i> by Candace Fleming Illustrated by Eric Rohmann

Favorite Picks for Independent Readers

Grades K/1	Grades 2/3	Grades 4/5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Yasmin</i> series by Saadia Faruqi ● <i>Our Friend Hedgehog: The Story of Us</i> by Lauren Castillo ● <i>Mercy Watson (series)</i> by Kate DiCamillo ● <i>The Chicken Squad (series)</i> Doreen Cronin ● <i>Arnold and Louise Series</i> Erica S. Perl ● <i>Happy Go Ducky</i> by Jacque Urbanovic ● <i>Click Clack (Ready- to-Read series)</i> by Doreen Cronin ● <i>Fox and Chick (series)</i> by Sergio Ruzzier ● <i>Rabbit & Robot and Ribbit (Candlewick Sparks series)</i> by Cece Bell ● <i>A Jack Book (series)</i> by Mac Barnett and Illus. By Greg Pizzolli ● <i>King and Kayla (series)</i> by Dori Hillestad Butler ● <i>See the Cat: Three Stories About a Dog</i>, written by David LaRoche, illust. by Mike Wohnoutka ● <i>The Bear in My Family</i> by Maya Tatsukawa ● <i>Starla Jean: Which Came First: The Chicken or the Friendship</i> by Elana K. Arnold ● <i>I Wish I was a Lion (Ranger Rick I can Read series)</i> by Sandra Markle ● <i>This is My Fort (A Monkey and Cake book)</i> by Drew Daywalt ● <i>Marley Not a Peep! (series based John Grogan book)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>A Boy Called Bat (series)</i> by Elana K. Arnold ● <i>Mac B. Spy Kid (series)</i> by Mac Barnett ● <i>Jasmine Toguchi (series)</i> by Debbie Micihiko Florence ● <i>Questioners series</i> by Andrea Beatty ● <i>Stella Endicott and the Anything-is-Possible Poem (Tales of Deckawoo Drive series)</i> by Kate DiCamillo ● <i>You Should Meet (series)</i> by Laurie Calkhoven ● <i>Zoey Sassafras (series)</i> by Asia Citro pictures by Marion Lindsay ● <i>Ranger in Time (series)</i> by Kate Messner ● <i>Stella Diaz Has Something to Say (series)</i> by Angela Dominguez ● <i>Dory Fantasmagory (series)</i> by Abby Hanlon ● <i>Fenway and Hattie (series)</i> by Victoria Coe ● <i>Knights vs. Dinosaurs (series)</i> by Matt Phelan ● <i>Alvin Ho (series)</i> by Lenore Look and illus. By LeUyen Pham ● <i>Ellray Jake (series)</i> by Sally Warner and illus. by Jamie Harper ● <i>Caveboy Dave (series)</i> by Aaron Reynolds and Phil McAndrew ● <i>The Princess in Black (series)</i> by Shannn HaleSadiq (series) by Siman Nuurali ● <i>Dragon Masters (series)</i> by Tracey West 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Front Desk</i> by Kelly Yang ● <i>Saving Winslow</i> by Sharon Creech ● <i>The Wild Robot (and the sequel)</i> by Peter Brown ● <i>The Vanderbeekers of 141st Street (series)</i> by Karina Yan Glaser ● <i>Red White and Whole</i> by Rajani LaRocca ● <i>New Kid (series)</i> by Jerry Craft ● <i>I Survived series</i> by Lauren Tarshis ● <i>Show Me a Sign</i> by Ann Clare LeZotte ● <i>The Great Treehouse War</i> by Lisa Graff ● <i>Dog Squad</i> by Chris Grabenstein ● <i>The Miraculous</i> by Jess Redman ● <i>El Deafo</i> by Cece Bell ● <i>When You Trap a Tiger</i> by Tae Keller ● <i>Houdini and Me</i> by Dan Gutman ● <i>Tapper Twins (series)</i> by Geoff Rodkey ● <i>Me, Frida, and the Secret Peacock Ring</i> by Angela Cervantes ● <i>Treehouse (series)</i> by Andy Griffiths

Curated Book Lists by Reputable Organizations

- [Perrot Library PK-grade 5 Book Recommendations](#) and [Young Critic's Club \(grades 6-8\)](#).
- Caldecott Award ([description](#), [medal winners and honor books](#))
- Newbery Award([description](#), [medal winners and honor books](#))
- The Pura Belpré Award ([description](#), [medal winners and honor books](#))
- Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Medal ([description](#), [medal winners and honor books](#))
- Coretta Scott King Award ([description](#), [medal winners and honor books](#))
- Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature Winners Selected ([description and winners](#))
- [Children's Book Council](#)
- [ALA Notable Books](#)
- [Bank Street College Best Books of 2020 for 5-9 year olds.](#)
- [Charter Oak Children's Book Award 2020-2021](#)
- [Past Nominees of the COCBA](#)
- [Nutmeg Award Nominees 2022](#)
- [Reading Rockets](#)
- [Horn Book Fanfare Best Books of 2020](#)
- [Find Your Reader Personality](#)