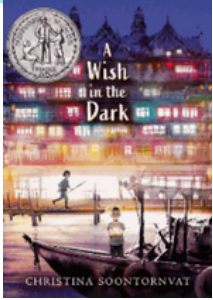


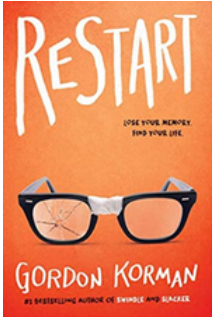
2023 Rising 6th Grade Summer Reading Choices:

Read **one** of the following and at least **two** additional titles.



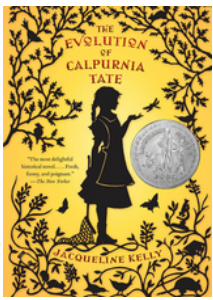
A Wish in the Dark by Christina Soontornvat ([Sora ebook](#); [Audible](#))

"This Thai-inspired . . . twist on Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables*' explores social justice through two young characters from contrary social classes, with chapters alternating between their respective points of view. It's a novel—a stand-alone, no less—that seems to have it all: a sympathetic hero, a colorful setting, humor, heart, philosophy, and an epic conflict that relates the complexity and humanity of social justice without heavy-handed storytelling. Soontornvat deftly blends it all together, salting the tale with a dash of magic that enhances the underlying emotions in this masterfully paced adventure. An important book that not only shines a light but also shows young readers how to shine their own. Luminous." (*Booklist*, starred)



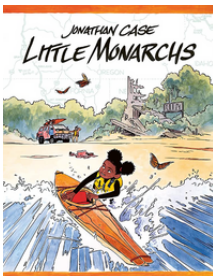
Restart by Gordon Korman ([Sora ebook and audiobook](#))

"When a middle school bully suffers amnesia after a bad fall, it gives him the chance to start fresh, but rebuilding his life is an uphill battle when everyone else still remembers the sins of his past. Eighth-grader Chase Ambrose attempts to reconstruct himself based on what his friends and family tell him, but the more he learns about how he mistreated others, the less he likes the old Chase. Unable to play football while he's healing, Chase joins the video club, whose members have good reason to distrust him. And while his former self did community service at a local retirement home, the new Chase comes to enjoy spending time with the residents—especially a grumpy veteran whose stories he values. In this compelling and sometimes humorous tale of nature and identity, Korman... offers an intriguing exploration of the potential for redemption. By telling the story from multiple perspectives (Chase's, as well as those of several classmates), he conveys a complex, thorough picture of Chase's influence and impact on those around him." (*Publisher's Weekly*)



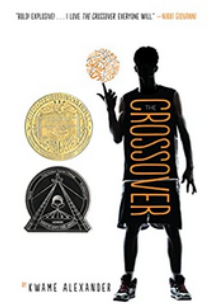
The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate by Jacqueline Kelly ([Sora ebook](#); [Audible](#))

"In the summer of 1899, Calpurnia Tate is almost 12 years old. "Callie" lives with six brothers, her parents, her grandfather (a founding member of the National Geographic Society), and numerous household staff on a Texas cotton plantation. During this long hot summer, Callie begins a new friendship with her grandfather when he discovers her interest in the natural world. Over the next few months, Callie has to deal with three of her brothers falling in "love" with her best friend, cooking and sewing lessons, installation of the first telephone in town history, and Darwin's theory of evolution. Callie may have the benefits of an upper-crust family and being the only girl among so many brothers, but she also faces the universal truth of growing up: Everything is changing." (*Common Sense Media*)



Little Monarchs Graphic Novel by Jonathan Case ([Sora ebook](#))

"It's 2101, and most mammals have died from sun exposure—a fate the few remaining humans suffer if they don't live underground as Deepers.... Since Elvie's parents departed for Michoacán, Mexico, 8 years earlier in search of more monarch butterflies, ran into danger, and have not returned, 10-year-old Black science whiz Elvie has been cared for by her guardian, Flora, a White scientist. Flora and Elvie hope to make a vaccine that enables humans to tolerate sunlight. Elvie's journals, which contain her homework, science notes, and sketches, trace their journey—including tracking their latitude and longitude daily—as they follow the amazing migration path of the monarchs, whose young have the ingredient necessary for making both the sun sickness antidote and the vaccine. The eclecticism of Case's lively visuals in this riveting graphic novel will keep readers both enthralled and learning... (*Kirkus Reviews*)



The Crossover by Kwame Alexander ([Sora ebook & audiobook](#))

"Josh and his twin brother, JB, are inseparable, on and off the court. With the support of their father, a famous basketball player, they're poised to have a great season, maybe even win the championship for their junior high. Then things start to change. JB starts to spend more time with girls than with Josh, their dad is hiding a health issue that could change all of their lives, and Josh begins to lose his way. One big mistake, and he's suspended from the team, estranged from his brother, and wondering how much time he has left with the brightest star in his world: his father." (*Common Sense Media*)

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