

GPS Summer Reading 2024

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.

The [New York Times](#) has suggested that picture books are "one of the literary world's greatest pleasures," an opinion that resonated with 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. For our incoming Grade-5 students, we have added the 2023-2024 Battle of the Books selection.

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: Both Greenwich Library (including Cos Cob Library and Byram Shubert Library) and Perrot Library are celebrating Summer Reading. Explore [Greenwich Library Summer Reading](#) and [Perrot Library Summer Reading](#) to see what they have planned. Greenwich Library cards are free and can be obtained by submitting the [online form](#).

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 Books Grades K-5
Ms. Amster New Lebanon	<u>Mel Fell</u> by Corey Tabor	<u>The Eyes and the Impossible</u> by Dave Eggers	<u>Odd Couples A Guide to Unlikely Animal Pairs</u> by Maria Birmingham
Ms. Attanasio Parkway	<u>Frank and Bert</u> by Chris Naylor-Ballesteros	<u>Because of the Rabbit</u> by Cynthia Lord	<u>The Truth About Hippos</u> by Maxwell Eaton III
Mrs. Bernann North Street	<u>Here We Are</u> by Oliver Jeffers	<u>Saving Winslow</u> by Sharon Creech	<u>Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear</u> by Lindsay Mattick
Mrs. Browning Riverside	<u>Interrupting Chicken</u> by David Ezra Stein	<u>The War that Saved my Life</u> by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley	<u>George Washington's Teeth</u> by Deborah Chandra
Mrs. Carlin Glenville	<u>It Fell From the Sky</u> by The Fan Brothers	<u>Finally Seen</u> by Kelly Yang	<u>Elizabeth, Queen of the Seas</u> by Dr. Lynne Cox
Ms. Coupe North Mianus	<u>Change Sings</u> by Amanda Gorman	<u>Looking Up</u> by Stephen Pastis	<u>Actual Size</u> by Steve Jenkins
Mr. Lane Hamilton Avenue	<u>Mr. S</u> by Monica Arnaldo	<u>The Skull</u> by Jon Klassen	<u>Mistakes That Worked: The World's Familiar Inventions And How They Came To Be</u> by Charlotte Foltz Jones
Mrs. Brezovsky ISD	<u>The Elephants Come Home: a true story of seven elephants, two people, and one extraordinary friendship</u> by Kim Tomsic	<u>The Truth as Told by Mason Buttle</u> by Leslie Connor	<u>Just Jerry: How Drawing Shaped My Life</u> by Jerry Pinkney
Mrs. Murray Julian Curtiss	<u>The Heart Of A Whale</u> by Anna Pignataro	<u>The One and Only Family</u> by Katherine Applegate	<u>Around the World in 50 Ways: Canoe, Camel, or Cable Car... You Choose: A Choose-Your-Own Travel Adventure</u> by Dan Smith
Mrs. Shwartz Cos Cob	<u>Lady Pancake & Sir French Toast: Short and Sweet</u> by Josh Funk	<u>Big Tree</u> by Brian Selznick	<u>Who Would Win?</u> series by Jerry Pallotta
Mrs. Tocabens Old Greenwich	<u>Straw</u> by Amy Kraus Rosenthal Illustrated by Scott Magoon <u>Bear Came Along</u> by Richard T. Morris Illustrated by LeUyen Pham	<u>Granted</u> by John David Anderson <u>The Parker Inheritance</u> by Varian Johnson	<u>Who Is Taylor Swift?</u> by Kristen Anderson <u>Butt or Face?</u> by Kari Lavelle

Favorite Picks for Independent Readers

Grades K/1	Grades 2/3	Grades 4/5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Yasmin series by Saadia Faruqi ● <i>Our Friend Hedgehog: The Story of Us</i> by Lauren Castillo ● <i>Mercy Watson</i> (series) by Kate DiCamillo ● <i>The Chicken Squad</i> (series) Doreen Cronin ● <i>Together We Ride</i> by Valerie Bolling ● <i>Arnold and Louise Series</i> Erica S. Perl ● <i>Happy Go Ducky</i> by Jacque Urbanovic ● <i>Click Clack</i> (Ready- to-Read series) by Doreen Cronin ● <i>Fox and Chick</i> (series) by Sergio Ruzzier ● <i>Rabbit & Robot and Ribbit</i> (Candlewick Sparks series) by Cece Bell ● <i>A Jack Book</i> (series) by Mac Barnett and Illus. By Greg Pizzolli ● <i>King and Kayla</i> (series) 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</i> (Ranger Rick I can Read series) by Sandra Markle ● <i>This is My Fort</i> (A Monkey and Cake book) by Drew Daywalt ● <i>Marley Not a Peep!</i> (series based John Grogan book) ● <i>Tiny T. Rex and the Impossible Hug</i> by Jonathan Stutzman 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>A Boy Called Bat</i> (series) by Elana K. Arnold ● <i>Mac B. Spy Kid</i> (series) by Mac Barnett ● <i>Jasmine Toguchi</i> (series) by Debbie Micihiko Florence ● <i>Owl Diaries</i> (series) by Rebecca Elliott ● <i>Questioners</i> (series) by Andrea Beatty ● <i>Stella Endicott and the Anything-is-Possible Poem</i> (<i>Tales of Deckawoo Drive</i> series) by Kate DiCamillo ● <i>You Should Meet</i> (series) by Laurie Calkhoven ● <i>Zoey Sassafras</i> (series) by Asia Citro pictures by Marion Lindsay ● <i>Ranger in Time</i> (series) by Kate Messner ● <i>Stella Diaz Has Something to Say</i> (series) by Angela Dominguez ● <i>Dory Fantasmagory</i> (series) by Abby Hanlon ● <i>Fenway and Hattie</i> (series) by Victoria J. Coe ● <i>Knights vs. Dinosaurs</i> (series) by Matt Phelan ● <i>Alvin Ho</i> (series) by Lenore Look and illus. By LeUyen Pham ● <i>Ellray Jake</i> (series) by Sally Warner and illus. by Jamie Harper ● <i>Caveboy Dave</i> (series) by Aaron Reynolds and Phil McAndrew ● <i>The Princess in Black</i> (series) by Shannon Hale ● <i>Sadiq</i> (series) by Siman Nuurali ● <i>Dragon Masters</i> (series) 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</i> (series) by Peter Brown ● <i>The Vanderbeekers of 141st Street</i> (series) by Karina Yan Glaser ● <i>New Kid</i> (series) by Jerry Craft ● <i>I Survived</i> series 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</i> (series) by Geoff Rodkey ● <i>Me, Frida, and the Secret Peacock Ring</i> by Angela Cervantes ● <i>Treehouse</i> (series) by Andy Griffiths ● <i>Crenshaw</i> by Katherine Applegate ● <i>The Canyon's Edge</i> by Dusti Bowling ● <i>Raymie Nightingale</i> by Kate DiCamillo ● <i>The One Thing You'd Save</i> by Linda Sue Park ● <i>Junonia</i> by Kevin Henkes ● <i>Mr. Lemoncello</i> (series) by Chris Grabenstein ● <i>Under the Egg</i> by Laura Marx Fitzgerald

2024-2025 Battle of the Books Selections

- * *A Rover's Story* by Jasmine Warga
- * *Fuzzy Mud* by Louis Sachar
- * *Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* by Dusti Bowling
- * *Loki: A Bad God's Guide to Being Good* by Louie Stowell
- * *Out of My Mind* by Sharon Draper
- * *Pax* by Sara Pennypacker
- * *The Great Treehouse War* by Lisa Graff
- * *The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl* by Stacy McAnulty
- * *The Superteacher Project* by Gordon Korman
- * *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown

Read!

Curated Book Lists by Reputable Organizations

- [Perrot Library PK-grade 5 Book Recommendations](#)
- [Greenwich Public Library Children's Resources](#)
- Caldecott Award ([description](#), [medal winners and honor books](#))
- Newbery Award ([description](#), [medal winners and honor books](#))
- The Pura Belpré Award ([description](#), [award 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 2023 for 5-9 year olds.](#)
- [Charter Oak Children's Book Award past nominees](#)
- [Nutmeg Award Nominees 2024](#)
- [Reading Rockets](#)
- [Horn Book Fanfare Best Books of 2023](#)
- [Find Your Reader Personality](#)