

Summer Reading 2025 - *N.M.S.*

This summer, students can choose their summer reading book, giving them the chance to explore leadership through a story that fits their interests. Whether they enjoy fiction or nonfiction, each book showcases leadership—through real-life role models or characters who take charge and make a difference. Their reading will also connect to our **Leader in Me** program, which kicks off in the '25-'26 school year. With a wide range of genres and reading levels to pick from, there's something for everyone. Find a book that excites you and discover the many ways leadership can shape a story—and your own life!

Book Title:	Grade Level:	Synopsis:
<i>7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens</i> by Sean Covey Informational	3-7	Adapted from the bestselling book for adults, is a practical, teen-friendly guide to building confidence, setting goals, and making smart choices. Updated for the digital age, it offers real advice on dealing with peer pressure, social media, and everyday challenges—all through simple habits that lead to success. Full of relatable stories, quotes, and humor, it's a go-to book for teens who want to grow and thrive.
<i>Blended</i> by Sharon Draper Realistic Fiction	3-7	Eleven-year-old Isabella's blended family is more divided than ever in this "timely but genuine" story about divorce and racial identity. Isabella has to switch lives every week: One week she's Isabella with her dad, his girlfriend Anastasia, and her son Darren living in a fancy house where they are one of the only black families in the neighborhood. The next week, she's Izzy with her mom and her boyfriend John-Mark in a small, not-so-fancy house that she loves.
<i>Crash</i> by Jerry Spinelli Realistic Fiction	5-7	Crash Coogan, a seventh grade football star, has been an aggressive person from the time he was very young; sometimes, he is too aggressive. He enjoys his rough, macho behavior until he meets an unusual neighbor who forces him to think about his life and his way of treating others.
<i>El Deafo</i> by Cece Bell Graphic Novel	3-7	Starting a new school is tough—especially with a giant hearing aid strapped to your chest. Cece feels different and just wants to fit in. But when she discovers her hearing aid lets her hear her teacher anywhere in the school, she realizes she has a superpower! As "El Deafo," Cece hopes her new power will help her make friends. The story gives hearing-impaired kids a hero of their own and helps all readers build empathy and understanding.

<i>I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban</i> by Malala Yousafzai Informational Memoir	7-12	"I come from a country that was created at midnight. When I almost died it was just after midday." When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. Malala's miraculous recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey from a remote valley in northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations in New York. At sixteen, she became a global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest nominee ever for the Nobel Peace Prize.
<i>Nothing But the Truth</i> by Avi Realistic Fiction	4-8	Philip Malloy, a freshman, causes a disturbance at school by humming the National Anthem to annoy his teacher -- and the minor incident turns into a national scandal when the teacher is accused of being unpatriotic. The tale is told through a series of journal entries, letters, and memos.
<i>The Girl Who Owned a City</i> by O.T. Nelson Fiction Novel or Graphic Novel	5-12	Lisa and her younger brother Todd are struggling to stay alive in a world where no one is safe. Other children along Grand Avenue need help as well. They band together to find food, shelter, and protection from dangerous gangs invading their neighborhood. When Tom Logan and his army start making threats, Lisa comes up with a plan and leads her group to a safer place. But how far is she willing to go to protect what's hers?