

Visiting Author Kate Messner Summer Reading Choices

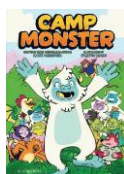


5th Grade Only



Genre: Historical Fiction

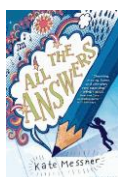
Ranger in Time (any book in the series): Ranger, a time-traveling golden retriever with a nose for trouble, is transported to 1850 where he joins a family journeying on the Oregon Trail. As dangers arise along the trail, Ranger uses his search-and-rescue skills to protect the Abbott family and prove he's a true hero.



Genre: Fantasy (graphic novel)

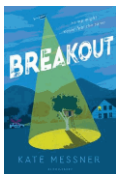
Camp Monster: A young yeti named Tasha helps run a newly opened summer camp for all kinds of monsters, but when mysterious mishaps begin sabotaging the camp, the campers must work together to discover who is behind it.

All Middle School



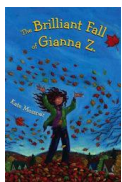
Genre: Fantasy

All the Answers: When Ava discovers a magical pencil that answers factual questions, she and her friend Sophie use it to boost her confidence and solve problems. But as the pencil wears down and reveals a difficult truth about her family, Ava learns that not everything in life should—or can—be answered.



Genre: Realistic Fiction

Breakout: Nora Tucker plans for a carefree summer in Wolf Creek, but everything changes when two inmates escape from a nearby prison, turning her town into a place of fear and tension. As panic spreads and people begin to act differently, Nora realizes that even when the danger passes, life may never feel the same again.



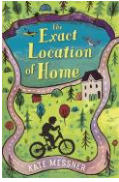
Genre: Realistic Fiction

The Brilliant Fall of Gianna Z: Gianna Zales, a star runner, must complete a demanding leaf collection project to qualify for sectionals while managing a fierce rival, a quirky grandmother, and a shifting friendship. As the pressure builds, she needs determination and creativity to hold everything together.



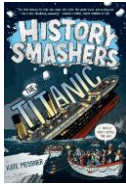
Genre: Science Fiction

Eye of the Storm: In a future where deadly storms are a constant threat, Jaden Meggs spends the summer in a high-tech storm-safe community and joins a science camp led by her father. When she and a new friend uncover a dangerous secret about his research, Jaden must choose between loyalty to her dad and saving lives as a massive tornado approaches.



Genre: Action and Adventure

The Exact Location of Home: Kirby “Zig” Zigonski relies on logic and electronics, but when his father disappears again, he follows a series of clues using a GPS with the help of his friend Gianna. As Zig searches for answers, he begins to understand that family and home are not always as straightforward as they seem.



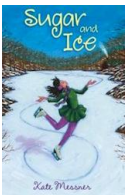
Genre: Nonfiction

History Smashers (any book in the series): The Titanic: The sinking of the Titanic in 1912 is often misunderstood, including the myth that it was widely called “unsinkable” before the disaster. In reality, despite multiple iceberg warnings from nearby ships, the Titanic continued at speed, and critical messages were ignored in the moments leading up to the tragedy.



Genre: Fantasy

The Seventh Wish: Charlie Brennan just wants to earn money for a new Irish dance dress, but when a magical fish grants her wishes, each one goes hilariously wrong and complicates her life. As things spiral, a family crisis teaches her that some problems can’t be solved with a wish.



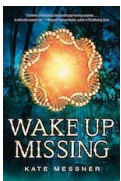
Genre: Sports

(Any book in the series) Sugar and Ice: Claire Boucher loves skating on her family’s frozen pond, but when she earns a scholarship to train with elite skaters, her dream quickly becomes a high-pressure challenge. Surrounded by fierce competition and mean rivals, Claire must find the courage to stand up for herself and decide what truly matters.



Genre: Realistic Fiction

The Trouble with Heroes: Finn Connelly feels pressured to live up to his late father, a firefighter hero, and makes a bad choice that gets him into serious trouble. Instead of a harsh punishment, he must hike all forty-six Adirondack High Peaks with a dog as a way to make things right. Along the way, Finn grows stronger, learns from his mistakes, and begins to understand what true strength really means.



Genre: Science Fiction

Wake Up Missing: Four teens from different backgrounds are brought to an elite brain science center after suffering head injuries, but they begin to suspect they’re part of a dangerous experiment. As strange things start happening, they realize they can’t trust the adults around them. To escape and protect themselves, they must work together despite their differences.



Genre: Mystery

Capture the Flag: Snowed in at a busy Washington, DC airport, three strangers team up to solve the theft of the flag that inspired “The Star-Spangled Banner,” believing the culprits are trapped with them. As suspicion spreads and danger grows, they must uncover the truth before it is too late.