Summit

Rising 5th-Grade Summer Reading Suggestions 2026

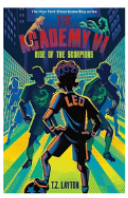
In addition to the required choice, students should read at least two more books this summer.

Realistic and Historical Fiction:

Black Star by Kwame Alexander
Letters from Cuba by Ruth Behar
Stand on the Sky by Erin Bow
Saving Winslow by Sharon Creech
The Mighty Miss Malone by Christopher Paul Curtis
J.D. and the Great Barber Battle by J. Dillard
Stella by Starlight by Sharon Draper
Bea and the New Deal Horse by L.M. Elliott
Heroes by Alan Gratz
The Night Diary by Veera Hiranandani
How I Became a Spy by Deborah Hopkinson
Amina's Voice by Hena Khan
Three Blue Hearts by Lynne Kelly
Old School by Gordon Korman
Show Me a Sign by Ann Clare LeZotte
Point Guard by Mike Lupica
Nowhere Boy by Katherine Marsh
Rain Reign by Ann M. Martin
The Queen Bee and Me by Gillian McDunn
Merci Suarez Doesn't Dance by Meg Medina
Pax by Sara Pennypacker
Track Series by Jason Reynolds
Will's Race for Home by Jewell Parker Rhodes
The Bletchley Riddle by Ruta Sepetys and Steve Sheinkin
A Rover's Story by Jasmine Warga
Finally Heard by Kelly Yang

Nonfiction:

Hidden Powers: Lise Meitner's Call to Science by Jeannine Atkins
A Shot in the Arm! by Don Brown
The Mona Lisa Vanishes by Nicholas Day
Small Steps: The Year I Got Polio by Peg Kehret
The Unlikely Hero: The Story of Wolf 8 by Rick McIntyre and David A. Poulsen
Percy Jackson's Greek Gods by Rick Riordan
Diamond Fever by Steve Sheinkin



Fantasy and Science Fiction:

The Girl and the Ghost by Hanna Alkaf
Amira & Hamza Samira Ahmed
Arlo Finch and the Kingdom of Shadows by John August
The Game of Stars by Sayantani Dasgupta
League of Seven by Alan Gratz
The Silver Arrow and *The Golden Swift* by Lev Grossman
Impossible Creatures by Katherine Rundell
School Ship Tobermory by Alexander McCall Smith
A Wish in the Dark by Christina Soontornvat
Nic Blake and the Remarkables by Angie Thomas
Greenwild by Pari Thomson

Series:

Maya and the Rising Dark by Rena Barron
The Carver Chronicles by Karen English
Fun Jungle by Stuart Gibbs
Zayd Saleem, Chasing the Dream by Hena Khan
The Academy by TZ Layton
Zoe Washington by Janae Marks
Keeper of the Lost Cities by Shannon Messenger
City Spies by James Ponti
I Survived by Lauren Tarshis

Graphic Novels in Any Genre:

Marshmallow and Jordan by Alina Chau
Swim Team by Johnnie Christmas
Before They Were Artists: Famous Illustrators As Kids by Elizabeth Haidle
Hazardous Tales Series by Nathan Hale
Dream On by Shannon Hale
The Nameless City by Faith Erin Hicks
Ghost Book by Remy Lai
Stuntboy: In-Between Time by Jason Reynolds
Secret Coders series by Gene Luen Yang

Adventure and Mystery:

Small Spaces by Katherine Arden
The Eyes and the Impossible by Dave Eggers
Song for a Whale by Lynn Kelly
The Boundless by Kenneth Oppel
A Wolf Called Fire by Rosanne Parry
The Wildes by Roland Smith
When a Ghost Talks, Listen by Tim Tingle
Beyond the Bright Sea by Lauren Wolk

*The Library will be open on June 10 and 24, July 8 and 22, and August 5 from 9:00-3:00.
Remember Sora for ebooks & audiobooks: Go to Summit's Library Page, Online Resources, or log on at soraapp.com.