UNEARTH A STORY™

MARET LOWER SCHOOL SUMMER READING LIST 2026

The Library Department joined the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) once again. Our participation in CSLP demonstrates our dedication to enriching the Maret community's summer reading lists. CSLP is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization that exists to make summer programming meaningful and accessible to all library patrons. They provide the tools and resources to run a summer program successfully for all participating libraries. Many public libraries in the DMV are members and use their content. We utilized CSLP resources to curate and customize summer reading collections for each division.

Over summer break, the Library Department invites the Maret community to Unearth a Story. The curated titles on the Maret Lower School Summer Reading List 2026 were selected to spark curiosity and encourage students to explore new worlds through reading. Whether uncovering hidden histories or exploring the past, these recommended titles aim to inspire lower school students to discover the joy of reading for pleasure and adventure.



FICTION PICTURE BOOKS

1. ****Alma and How She Got Her Name** by Juana Martinez-Neal
2. ****Angel Draws a Dinosaur** by Pavonis Giron
3. *Beansprout* by Sarah Lynne Reul
4. ****Dino Poet: A Graphic Novel** by Tom Angleberger
5. *Eggasaurus* by Jennifer Wagh, illustrated by Hallie Bateman
6. ****Hidden Gem** by Linda Liu
7. ****Hopscotch** by Marie-Louise Gay
8. ****Leo's First Vote!** by Christina Soontornvat, illustrated by Isabel Roxas
9. ****A Maleta Full of Treasures** by Natalia Sylvester, illustrated by Juana Medina
10. *Mi Casa Is My Home* by Laurenne Sala, illustrated by Zara González Hoang
11. *My Baba's Garden* by Jordan Scott, illustrated by Sydney Smith
12. ****My Powerful Hair** by Carole Lindstrom, illustrated by Steph Littlebird
13. ****My Red, White, and Blue** by Alana Tyson, illustrated by London Ladd
14. *Not-a-Box City* by Antoinette Portis
15. *Piece Out* by Alex Willan
16. ****Sharing the Dream** by Sheila P. Moses, illustrated by Keith Mallett
17. ****Sinclair, the Velociraptor Who Thought He Was a Chicken** by Douglas Rees, illustrated by Galia Bernstein
18. ****Something Spectacular: A Rock's Journey** by Carmela LaVigna Coyle, illustrated by Carly Allen-Fletcher
19. ****This Land** by Ashley Fairbanks, illustrated by Bridget George
20. *We Are the Scrappy Ones* by Rebekah Taussig, illustrated by Kirbi Fagan



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****INDICATES AVAILABILITY AS AN EBOOK IN SORA**

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NONFICTION PICTURE BOOKS

1. *American Story* by Kwame Alexander, illustrated by Dave Coulter
2. *Awesome Earth: Concrete Poems Celebrate Caves, Canyons, and Other Fascinating Landforms* by Joan Bransfield Graham, illustrated by Tania Garcia
3. *Blue Sky White Stars* by Sarvinder Naberhaus, illustrated by Kadir Nelson
4. *The Fabulous Fannie Farmer: Kitchen Scientist and America's Cook* by Emma Bland Smith, illustrated by Susan Reagan
5. ***The Fossil Whisperer: How Wendy Sloboda Discovered a Dinosaur* by Helaine Becker, illustrated by Sandra Dumais
6. *How Sweet the Sound* by Kwame Alexander, illustrated by Charly Palmer
7. ***I, Rock: A Geology Tale* by Katie Slivensky, illustrated by Steph Stilwell
8. *Moving Words About a Flower* by K.C. Hayes, illustrated by Barbara Chotiner
9. *Plant Attack! The Fascinating Ways Flora Defends Itself* by Erin Silver, illustrated by Julie McLaughlin
10. ***Poetry Prompts: All Sorts of Ways to Start a Poem From Joseph Coelho* by Joseph Coelho, illustrated by Georgie Birkett, Amanda Quartey, Viola Wang, and Grasya Oliyko
11. *Scratching the Surface* by Kate Allen Fox, illustrated by Erin Brown
12. *A Seed Grows* by Antoinette Portis
13. ***Shaped By Her Hands: Potter Maria Martinez* (She Made History series) by Anna Harber Freeman and Barbara Gonzales, illustrated by Aphelandra
14. ***Worm Makes a Sandwich* by Brianne Farley



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EARLY READER FICTION BOOKS

1. *Ali the Great and the Dinosaur Mistake* (Ali the Great series) by Saadia Faruqi
2. ***The Bad Idea and Other Stories* (Earl and Worm series) by Greg Pizzoli
3. *Baking with Mi Abuelita* by Julissa Mora
4. *Dinosaur Friends!* (Dinosaur Roar! series) by Peter Curtis and Patty Michaels
5. ***Dinosaurs Before Dark* (Magic Tree House Graphic Novel series) by Jenny Laird and Mary Pope Osborne, illustrated by Kelly Matthews and Nichole Matthews
6. *Exploring Ancient Egypt* (The Timekeepers series) by S.J. King, illustrated by Esther Hernando
7. *Fright at the Museum* (Maria and Mateo Go on Field Trips series) by Hannah Carmona, illustrated by Andriana Predoi
8. *I Am a Dinosaur* (Super Magic Boy series) by Jarod Roselló
9. ***I'm an American* by Darshana Khiani, illustrated by Laura Freeman
10. *Jade's Pet Dinosaur* series by Natasha Deen, illustrated by Lays Bittencourt
11. *Pottery Project* (Emma Every Day series) by C.L. Reid, illustrated by Elena Aiello
12. *Sofia Valdez and the Vanishing Vote* (The Questioneers series) by Andrea Beaty, illustrated by David Roberts
13. ***We Dig Fossils* by Alliah L. Agostini, illustrated by Joelle Murray
14. *Worm and Caterpillar Are Friends* series by Kaz Windess



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EARLY READER NONFICTION BOOKS

1. *Ancestry: The Mystery and the Majesty of Ancient Cave Art* by Hannah Sayler
2. *Dig!: Uncover the Secrets of the Past with Archaeology* by Ruth Hatfield, illustrated by Sophia Watts
3. *Dinosaur Detectives* (DK Super Readers) by DK
4. *Dinosaurs* (National Geographic Kids Readers) by Kathleen Weidner Zoehfeld
5. *Easter Island* (Amazing Wonders series) by Heidi Newbauer
6. *If a Mummy Could Talk* by Lucas Donald Lucas Rhonda, illustrated by Cathy Morrison
7. *National Monuments of the USA* (National Parks of the USA series) by Cameron Walker, illustrated by Chris Turnham
8. ***Rise Up!: Powerful Protests in American History* by Rachel C. Katz, illlustrated by Sophie Bass
9. *The Story of Biographies* series by various authors
10. *A Take-Charge Girl Blazes a Trail to Congress: The Story of Jeanette Rankin* by Gretchen Woelfle, illustrated by Rebecca Gibbon
11. *Ultimate Pterosaur Rumble* (Who Would Win? series) by Jerry Pallotta, illustrated by Rob Bolster
12. *Under Your Feet... Soil, Sand and Everything Underground* by Jacqueline L. Stroud, illustrated by Wenjia Tang
13. *What is an Archaeologist* (National Geographic Kids Readers) by Libby Romero
14. *Where's Wally? Double Trouble at the Museum: The Ultimate Spot-the Difference Book!* by Martin Handford



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FICTION CHAPTER BOOKS FOR GRADES 3 & 4

1. *Cincinnati Lee, Curse Breaker* by Heidi Heilig
2. *The Deadlands* trilogy by Skye Melki-Wegner
3. *Dinomighty!* series by Doug Paleo, illustrated by Aaron Blecha
4. ***Fortune Tellers* by Lisa Greenwald
5. *The Girl from Earth's End* by Tara Dairman
6. ***I Survived the Destruction of Pompeii, AD 79* (I Survived Graphic Novel series) by Lauren Tarshis, illustrated by Dave Shepard
7. *Jurassic Jeff: Space Invader* (Jeff in the Jurassic series) by Royden Lepp
8. *The Last Mapmaker* by Christina Soontornvat
9. *Minecraft Stonesword Saga* series by Nick Eliopulos, illustrated by Random House
10. *Peter Lee's Notes from the Field* by Angela Ahn, illustrated by Julie Kwon
11. *Spy Ring* by Sarah Beth Durst
12. ***The Storm Runner* by J.C. Cervantes
13. *The Summer of June* by Jaime Sumner
14. *Thesaurus Rex* (Library of Doom series) by Michael Dahl, illustrated by Bradford Kendall



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NONFICTION CHAPTER BOOKS FOR GRADES 3 & 4

1. ****Above, Below and Long Ago: Animals, Plants and Fossils in Hidden Places** by Michael Bright, illustrated by Jonathan Emmerson
2. *Dinosaurs and Other Prehistoric Creatures Atlas* by Chris Barker and Darren Naish
3. *Extraordinary Dinosaurs and Other Prehistoric Life Visual Encyclopedia* (DK Children's Visual Encyclopedias) by DK
4. *I Know Dino!: Amazing Breakthroughs, Mega Mistakes, and Unsolved Mysteries in Dinosaur Science* by Sabrina Ricci and Garret Kruger
5. *A Kids' Guide to the National Baseball Hall of Fame: The Greatest Players from Hank Aaron to Derek Jeter to Cy Young* by James Buckley Jr.
6. *The LEGO Ideas Book (New Edition): You Can Build Anything!* by Simon Hugo, Tori Kosara, Julia March, and Catherine Saunders
7. ****Lessons From Our Ancestors** by Raksha Dave, illustrated by Kimberlie Clinthorne-Wong
8. *Lost Cities* by Giles Laroche
9. *The Minecraft Ideas Book: Create the Real World in Minecraft with 70+ Awesome Builds* by Thomas McBrien
10. *Only in America: The Weird and Wonderful 50 States* (The 50 States series) by Heather Alexander, illustrated by Alan Berry Rhys
11. *Paleontology Lab: Explore Prehistoric Life with Art and Activities* (Steam Lab series) by Elize Olson
12. ****P.S.- We Made This: Super Fun Crafts That Grow Smarter + Happier Kids!** by Erica Domesek
13. Race to the Truth series by Patricia Williams Dockery, et al
14. ****Rotten!: Vultures, Beetles, Slime, and Nature's Other Decomposers** by Anita Sanchez, illustrated by Gilbert Ford

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