Timble: The Beginning (2024) and *Orris and Timble: Lost and Found* (2025), Orris the rat and Timble the owl are friends. Their friendship began when Timble was a young, lost owl, but can that friendship continue as Timble grows up? Can they stay friends even though they are so very different?

OVER AND UNDER THE CORAL REEF

BY KATE MESSNER, ILLUS. BY CHRISTOPHER SILAS NEAL

CHRONICLE, 2025
ISBN: 9781797225357

In the latest installment in Messner's Over and Under series, readers dive in to explore the vibrant coral reef. Includes an author's note, informative back matter about the animals featured, and resources and websites for further reading. Great for STEM connections.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN

BY MAC BARNETT, ILLUS. BY CARSON ELLIS

ORCHARD, 2026
ISBN: 9781338673852

A witty retelling of the fairy tale classic about a girl tasked with spinning straw into gold and the trickster with whom she strikes a deal.

SAFE CROSSING

BY KARI PERCIVAL

CHRONICLE, 2025
ISBN: 9781797214566

Every spring, amphibians take a perilous journey to vernal pools to mate and lay eggs. Children learn that our slow-moving friends can use a little help from the superhero Amphibian Migration Team!

ALSC reading lists are created by children's librarians as a resource to share with patrons. These titles may also be available in ebook, audio book, braille, and large print formats. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to explore this list to find resources that may match or spark their child's interest. Connect with your local library to find out what's happening this summer.

THREAD BY THREAD

BY ALICE BRIÈRE-HAQUET, ILLUS. BY MICHELA ECCLI

EERDMANS, 2025
ISBN: 9780802856395

Oh no! The mouse family's house is unraveling! After being chased over the water and into the unknown, how will they ever knit a new home? This book explores forced migration and displacement in a way children can understand.

TO SEE AN OWL

BY MATTHEW CORDELL

RANDOM HOUSE STUDIO, 2025
ISBN: 9780593649893

Janie really, really, really wants to see an owl. But spotting owls is very hard to do. Most come out at night and are well hidden during the day. However, with patience, persistence, and even more patience, she just might see an owl.

WELCOME TO OUR PLAYGROUND: A CELEBRATION OF GAMES CHILDREN PLAY EVERYWHERE

BY MOIRA BUTTERFIELD, ILLUS. BY HARRIET LYNAS

NOSY CROW, 2025
ISBN: 9798887771571

Discover new activities and games for the summer! This fascinating book presents a wide range of games, toys, and playtimes from around the world, organized by type—such as "Catch and Kick" and "Draw on the Ground."

WORDS WITH WINGS AND MAGIC THINGS

BY MATTHEW BURGESS, ILLUS. BY DOUG SALATI

TUNDRA, 2025
ISBN: 9781774880289

With imaginative poems that play with words and meaning and enchanting illustrations by Caldecott medalist Salati, this spellbinding book will delight readers and listeners of all ages.

DIGITAL

HIGHLIGHTS KIDS

highlightskids.com

All the fun of *Highlights* magazine—on a colorful, interactive website.

PBS KIDS

pbskids.org

This website hosts videos and games related to PBS Kids television programming for children ages two to eight.

READING RAINBOW

readingrainbow.org/watch

Enjoy original and new episodes of *Reading Rainbow*, featuring librarian Mychal Threets, on this website.

www.ala.org/alsc

The 2026 Summer Reading List was created by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). Titles on this list were selected by members of ALSC's Quicklists Consulting Committee.

For more booklists, please visit www.ala.org/alsc/booklists.

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