

K-1 Summer Reading Recommendations 2026

Picture Books

A Sky-Blue Bench by Bahram Rahman
47,000 Beads by Koja Adeyoha and Angel Adeyoha
A Day with No Words by Tiffany Hammond
Amah Faraway by Margaret Chiu Greanias
Amira's Picture Day by Reem Faruqi
Berry Song by Michaela Goade
Don't Trust Fish by Neil Sharpson
El Cucuy is Scared, Too! By Donna Barba Higuera
Everything Changes by Carol Dodd
Every Night is Pizza Night by J. Kenji Lopez-Alt
Fatima's Great Outdoors by Ambreen Tariq
Fluffy McWhiskers Cuteness Explosion by Stephen W. Martin
Gibberish by Young Vo
Grandad's Camper by Harry Woodgate
Gustavo the Shy Ghost by Flavia Z. Drago
Hair Twins by Raakhee Mirchandani
Hamsters Make Terrible Roommates by Cheryl Loewin
Hey Bruce! By Ryan T. Higgins
Home is in Between by Mitali Perkins
Homeland by Hannah Moushabeck
How to Teach Your Cat a Trick by Nicola Winstanley
I'll Go and Come Back by Rajani LaRocca
Llama Destroys the World by Jonathan Stutzman
Luli and the Language of Tea by Andrea Wang
Mela and the Elephant by Dow Phumiruk
Mr. S by Monica Arnoldo
My Zoo: A Book of Feelings by David Griswold
Norman Didn't Do It by Ryan Higgins
Powwow Day by Traci Sorell
Room for Everyone by Naaz Khan
Princesses Versus Dinosaurs by Linda Bailey
Santiago's Dinosaurios by Mariana Rios Ramirez
Seven Golden Rings: A Tale of Music and Math by Rajani LaRocca
Shoshi's Shabbat by Caryn Yacowitz
Someone Builds the Dream by Lisa Wheeler
Sometimes It's Nice to Be Alone by Amy Hest
The Creature of Habit by Jennifer E. Smith
The Very True Legend of the Mongolian Death Worms by Sandra Fay

Tuesday is Daddy's Day by Elliot Krelloff
What Can You Do with a Rock? By Pat Zietlow Miller
When Cloud Became a Cloud by Rob Hodgson
Zonia's Rain Forest by Juana Martinez-Neal

Early Readers/Graphic Novels/Chapter Books

Ana & Andrew: Dancing at Carnival by Christine Platt
Molly of Denali: Little Dog Lost by WGBH Kids
Ty's Travels: Zip, Zoom! By Kelly Starling Lyons
Peter & Ernesto: A Tale of Two Sloths by Graham Annable
Ali the Great and the Dinosaur Mistake by Saadia Faruqi
Max Meow: Cat Crusader by John Gallagher
I'm Ogre It by Jeffrey Ebbeler
Lola and the Bots by Vicky Fang
Henry, Like Always by Jenn Bailey
Aven Green Baking Machine by Dusti Bowling
Investigators by John Green
Blast Off! By Andrea J. Loney
Starla Jean by Elana K. Arnold
Mermaid Days by Kyle Lukoff
Awesome Orange Birthday by Mitali Banarjee Ruths
Bo and the Spooky House by Elliott Smith
The Hunger Heroes: Missed Meal Mayhem by Jarrett Lerner
Astrid and Apollo and the Starry Campout by V.T. Bidania
Crazy for Apples by C.L. Reid
Geraldine Pu and Her Cat Hat, Too! By Maggie P. Chang
Sona Sharma, Very Best Big Sister? by Chitra Soundar
Sofia Valdez: My Family Adventure by Jacqueline Julies
Pug Blasts Off by Kyla May
Jo Jo Makoons: The Used-to-Be Best Friend by Dawn Quigley
Donut Feed the Squirrels by Mika Song
Polly Diamond and the Magic Book by Alice Kuipers
My Furry Foster Family: Truman the Dog by Debbi Michiko
Mac B., Kid Spy: Mac Undercover by Mac Barnett
Fox & Rabbit by Beth Ferry
Genius Jolene by Sara Cassidy
Monster and Boy by Hannah Barnaby
Sadiq and the Pet Problem by Siman Nuurali
Miles Lewis: King of the Ice by Kelly Starling Lyons
Micah Hudson: Football Fumble by Tanisia Moore
Salma Makes a Home by Danny Ramadan

Non-fiction

A Life of Service: The Story of Senator Tammy Duckworth by Christina Soontornvat

Blue: A History of the Color as Deep as the Sea and as Wide as the Sky by Nana Ekua Brew-Hammond

Born Hungry: Julie Child Becomes “The French Chef” by Alex Prud’homme

Crossings by Katy S. Duffield

Fact vs. Opinion vs. Robot by Michael Rex

Finding My Dance by Ria Thundercloud

Listen: How Evelyn Glennie, a Deaf Girl, Changed Percussion by Shannon Stocker

Mama in Congress: Rashida Tlaib’s Journey to Washington by Rashida Tlaib

Our World is a Family by Miry Whitehill and Jennifer Jackson

Pigskins to Paintbrushes: The Story of Football-Playing Artist Ernie Barnes by Don Tate

Strong by Rob Kearney and Eric Rosswood

Send a Girl! The True Story of How Women Joined the FDNY by Jessica M. Rinker

Tenacious: Fifteen Adventures Alongside Disabled Athletes by Patty Cisneros Prevo

The Bug Club by Elise Gravel

The Girl Who Heard the Music: How One Pianist and 85,000 Bottles and Cans Brought New Hope to an Island by Marni Fogelson

The Tower of Life: How Yaffa Eliach Rebuilt Her Town in Stories and Photographs by Chana Stiefel

The Floating Field: How a Group of Thai Boys Built Their Own Soccer Field by Scott Riley

The Juneteenth Story by Alliah L. Agostini

The World is Not a Rectangle: A Portrait of Architect Zaha Hadid by Jeanette Winter

Yoshi and the Ocean by Lindsay Moore

Butterflies are Pretty... Gross! by Rosmary Mosco