

Summer Reading 2026

6th Grade



June 2026

Dear Families,

Reading for enjoyment during the summer is one of life's little pleasures for most of us. Our wish for your children is that they too look forward to reading those books that they didn't have time for during the school year. All students entering sixth, seventh, and eighth grade are expected to read **at least three books** over the summer. We recommend students use sticky notes or take notes to engage more deeply with their reading. Although there is no specific summer assignment to respond to the books, teachers may ask students to respond to their summer reading when they return to school in September.

While curating our lists, we try to choose books in a variety of genres that are of high interest to students. The books also vary widely by reading level. If you feel that a book is not at an appropriate level, please help your child choose something else. You may want to read the books alongside your child so you can discuss them together. Some students may want to pair up with friends to read the same book together, too.

If your student is a rising 7th or 8th grader, they may be able to find the books through [Sora](#), our digital library. You can also check the [Dobbs Ferry Public Library](#) catalog to see if a book is available through the public library system. DFPL will be sponsoring a summer reading game this year for children ages 7-12. Please click [here](#) for more information.

Another option for children to continue learning over the summer is through the [Middle School Choice Board](#). The choice board is essentially a grid with a range of activities that gives students the opportunity to choose what they would like to learn and how they would like to show their learning.

Happy reading!

Best wishes,

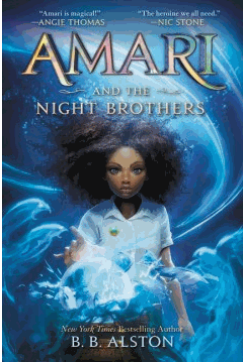
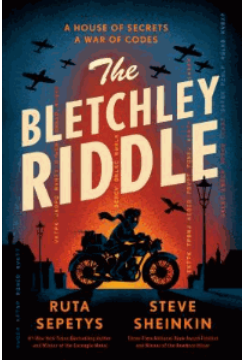
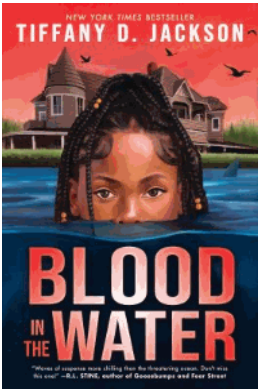
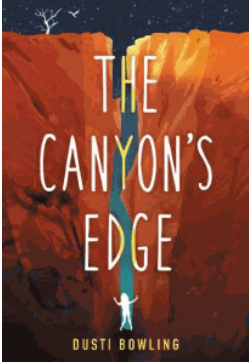
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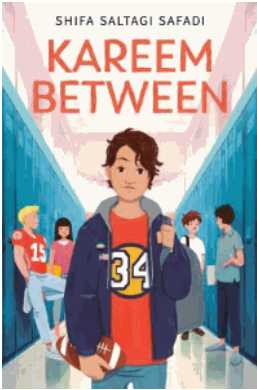
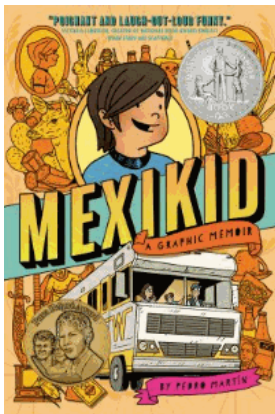
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 Fantasy ★4 starred reviews	Thirteen-year-old Amari gets an invitation from her missing brother to join the Bureau of Supernatural Affairs and join in the fight against an evil magician. Book trailer Also in series: <i>Amari and the Great Game</i>, <i>Amari and the Despicable Wonders</i>	 Historical Fiction ★4 starred reviews	Follow siblings Jakob Novis and his quirky younger sister Lizzie as they find themselves at Bletchley Park, the home of WWII codebreakers working to decrypt the Nazi's Enigma cipher. The two struggle to unravel a mystery surrounding their mother's disappearance against the backdrop of the Battle of Britain and Hitler's feared invasion. Book trailer
 Mystery ★3 starred reviews	Brooklyn girl Kaylani McKinnon is thrust into an intricate web of lies when a shocking murder on Martha's Vineyard threatens to expose dangerous secrets. Author speaking about the book	 Adventure, novel in verse ★4 starred reviews	A year after the death of her mother in a restaurant shooting, Nora is left struggling to stay alive when a climbing trip with her father goes terribly wrong.

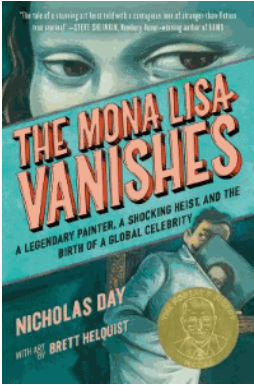
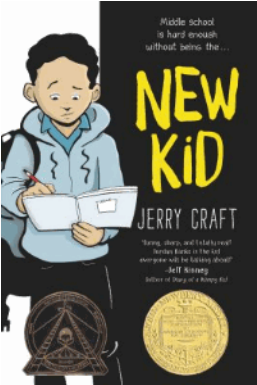
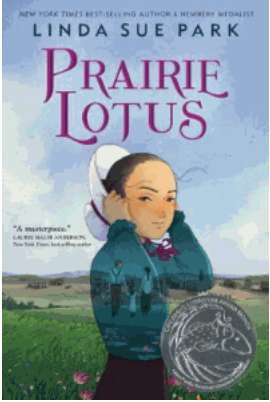
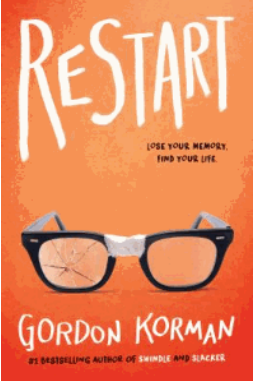
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 Realistic fiction, Sports, novel in verse ★2 starred reviews 🏆 National Book Award, 2025	From failed football tryouts to helping the new Syrian refugee student, seventh-grader Kareem attempts to navigate the social complexities of seventh grade, which are further complicated when his mother is unable to return home from Syria due to an executive order.	 Ghost story ★2 starred reviews	Lila's summer plans did not include traveling to Ohio with her parents to sort out her estranged, recently deceased Grandpa Clem's estate. Nor did they feature a sudden ability to see ghosts, but such is life. Lila's penchant for being overdramatic has put her friendship with her besties on the rocks, but her new commitment to playing things cool is put to the test when she encounters the forlorn ghost of her grandfather at the old inn he owned—and he reveals that he was murdered. Video of author reading the first chapter
 Historical Fiction, magical realism, adventure ★4 starred reviews	To find his way back home to his family in Germany during WWII, Max Bretzfeld, with a kobold named Berg on one shoulder and a dybbuk named Stein on the other, sets out to do the impossible—become a British spy. Sequel: <i>Max in the Land of Lies</i>	 Memoir, graphic nonfiction ★4 starred reviews 🏆 Newbery Honor Book; Pura Belpre Author & Illustrator Awards	Pedro Martin's grown up in the U.S. hearing stories about his legendary abuelito, but during a family road trip to Mexico, he connects with his grandfather and learns more about his own Mexican identity in this graphic memoir. Book trailer

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 Nonfiction ★3 starred reviews 🏆 Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Medal	A narrative nonfiction account of how the Mona Lisa was stolen from the Louvre, how the robbery made the portrait the most famous artwork in the world--and how the painting by Leonardo da Vinci should never have existed at all. Video book review	 Graphic novel, realistic fiction ★4 starred reviews 🏆 Newbery Medal & Coretta Scott King Author Award	Instead of sending Jordan Banks to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade. Can Jordan learn to navigate his new school culture while keeping his friends and staying true to himself? Book Trailer Also in series: <i>Class Act</i>, <i>School Trip</i>
 Historical fiction ★5 starred reviews 🏆 Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature Honor book	In Dakota Territory in the 1880s, half-Chinese Hanna and her white father face racism and resistance to change as they try to make a home for themselves. Includes author's note. Video book review	 Realistic Fiction, Humor ★2 starred reviews	Chase does not remember falling off the roof, in fact he does not remember anything about himself, and when he gets back to middle school he begins to learn who he was through the reactions of the other kids--trouble is, he really is not sure he likes the Chase that is being revealed. Author speaking about the book

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Mystery

★3 starred reviews

Three former friends reunite to find a book of prophecies that could save their lives and friendship.

Starred Reviews are from the following publications:

- *Booklist*
- *Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*
- *Horn Book Guide*
- *Horn Book Magazine*
- *Kirkus*
- *Publisher's Weekly*
- *School Library Connection*
- *School Library Journal*
- *Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA)*