

SPRINGHURST PRESENTS

A watercolor-style illustration of the American flag, featuring a blue field with white stars and red and white horizontal stripes. The edges of the flag are irregular and torn, giving it a textured, artistic appearance.

# SUMMER

READING



ENTERING

2<sup>ND</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup>

GRADES

**A SALUTE TO GREAT BOOKS**

June 2026

Dear Families,

With summer break just around the corner, we are thrilled to share our **2026 Summer Reading List** with you! This season offers the perfect opportunity for children to dive into new worlds, meet unforgettable characters, and embark on adventures through the pages of a book. Beyond the excitement of discovery, regular reading over the break helps keep those reading muscles strong and ready for the school year ahead. As you look for your next great story, remember that trips to the Dobbs Ferry Library also make for wonderful, air-conditioned outings.

Our list features a hand-picked selection of titles across a variety of genres, offering something for every interest. Please remember that this list is entirely optional and serves only to help spark ideas; your child is encouraged to explore any reading list or choose whichever books they find most exciting. You can find these titles listed here or on the Springhurst website—we hope this guide serves as a helpful companion for your next trip to the library or bookstore.

You can access our Bookflix subscription from home or anywhere with an internet connection this summer. Bookflix is a site with over 400 animated stories in multiple genres.

Go to: <http://auth.grolier.com/login/bookflix/login.php>

User Name: springsch

Password: bookflix

We hope you have a wonderful, relaxing summer filled with great stories, and we can't wait to see you back in September!

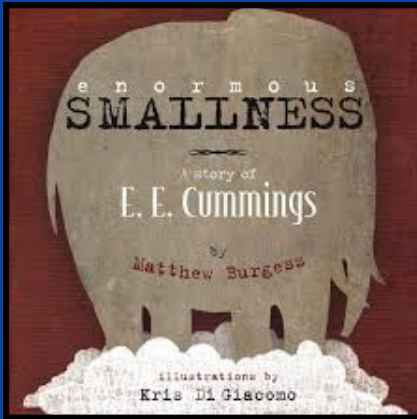
Happy Reading!

Mrs. Beth Cornell  
Springhurst Librarian

Mrs. Michelle Yang-Kaczmarek  
K - 8 Literacy Coordinator

## Enormous Smallness: A Story of E.E. Cummings

by Matthew Burgess

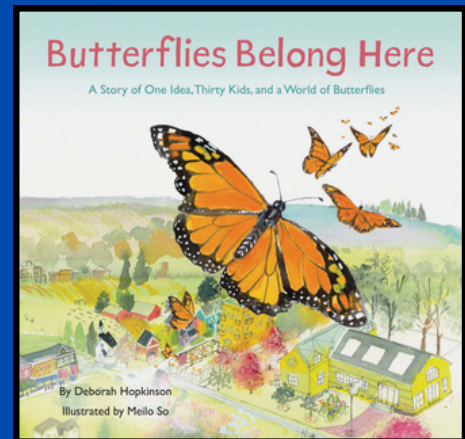


This biography chronicles E.E. Cummings from his childhood to his life as a poet in Greenwich Village, noting he began writing at age three. Featuring sturdy pages and vibrant illustrations in earthy and cool tones, this book is a visual masterpiece. It might even motivate you to visit the city and explore the very places that ignited this renowned poet's creativity!

## Butterflies Belong Here: A Story of One Idea, Thirty Kids, and a World of Butterflies

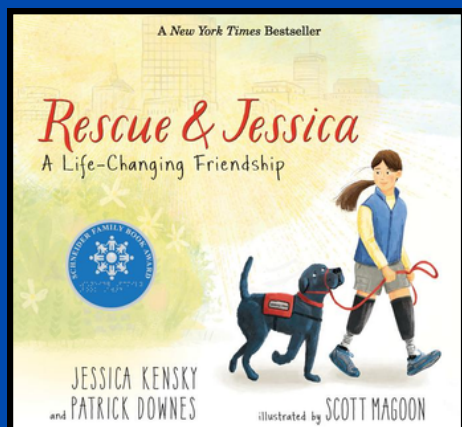
by Deborah Hopkinson

A young immigrant girl, feeling as invisible as a caterpillar, connects with her new classmates through a poster about monarch butterfly migration. By leading a project to create a milkweed garden, she fosters community conservation and discovers a sense of home. This story serves as a powerful reminder that children can inspire meaningful change for themselves and the world.



## Rescue and Jessica: a Life Changing Friendship

by Jessica Kensky & Patrick Downes

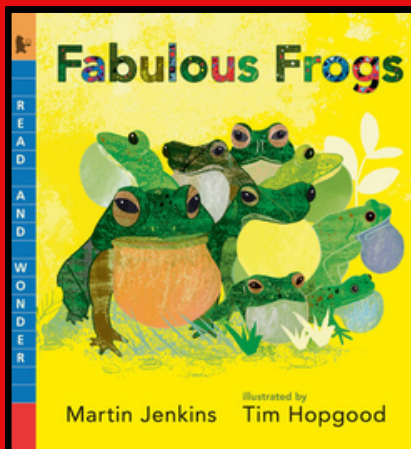
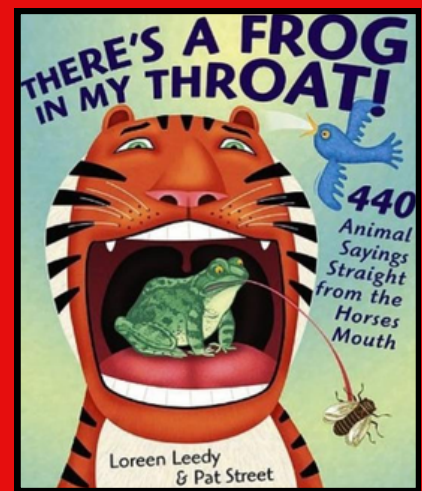


After meeting a service dog in the hospital, Jessica, who uses a prosthetic leg and wheelchair, is paired with her own companion, Rescue. He assists opening doors and retrieving items, while providing comfort during Jessica's second leg amputation. This story celebrates their deep bond and the vital role service animals play in mental health and healing.

## There's a Frog in My Throat: 440 Animal Sayings a Little Bird Told Me

by Loreen Leedy & Pat Street

This bestseller is packed with a wide variety of idioms, ranging from the well-known *eager beaver* to the more unique *mouse potato*. Since animal-themed phrases like "something smells fishy," "his bark is worse than his bite," and "get your ducks in a row" frequently pop up in everyday conversation, this book is a fantastic tool for children to decode and understand these often puzzling expressions.



## Fabulous Frogs

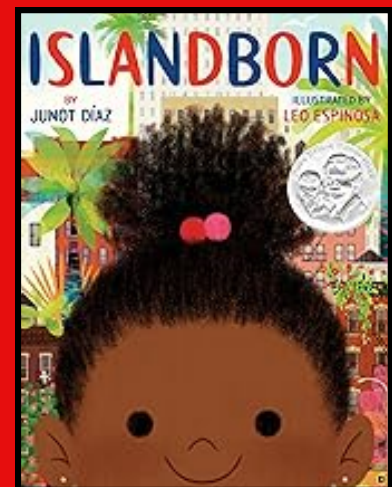
by Martin Jenkins

An engaging, beautifully illustrated nonfiction book for young readers. It celebrates the incredible diversity of frogs worldwide, highlighting their unique physical traits, unusual behaviors, and fascinating life cycles

## Islandborn

by Junot Díaz

Lola begins a journey to discover her own roots. By interviewing family and neighbors about her home, the Dominican Republic, she hears a vibrant collection of memories—from the rhythmic music and juicy mangoes to the intensity of hurricanes and tropical heat. Lola also learns about the difficulties that forced many to leave. Through these shared stories, Lola finds enough inspiration to share the pride in her island with classmates.





## **Ways to Make Sunshine**

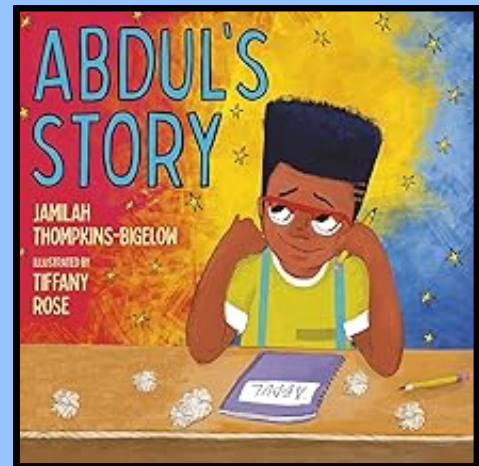
by Renée Watson

Ryan Hart, is a spirited and optimistic young Black girl navigating changes in her family and school life. Ryan's family is going through financial difficulties after her father loses his job, leading them to move to a smaller house. Despite these challenges, Ryan tries to remain positive and find joy in everyday moments.

## **Abdul's Story**

by Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow

Abdul has the best stories in his head, but writing them down is tricky! His letters like to dance around and his eraser gets a real workout. Abdul thinks he should quit... until a cool visitor shows him that even superheroes make mistakes. Don't give up, Abdul!

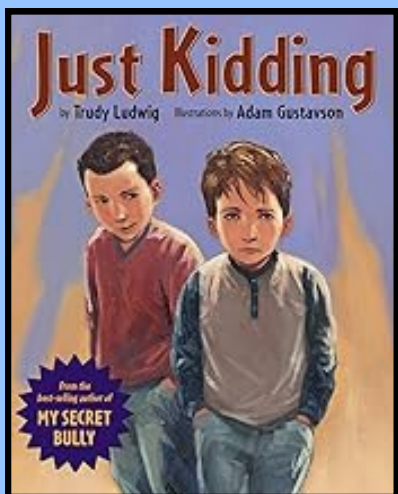


## **Just Kidding**

by Trudy Ludwig

D.J. is tired of his friend Vince teasing him and saying, "Just kidding!" With support from his family and teacher, D.J. learns how to take action against this kind of behavior.

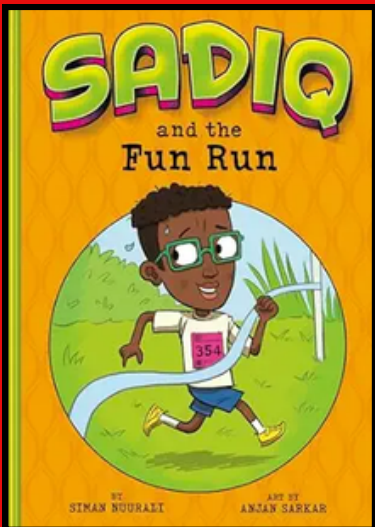
**Recommended Reading:** Trudy Ludwig is a fantastic author for families tackling tough topics like bullying. Her books are essential resources for elementary and middle schoolers learning to handle relational aggression.



## Dyamonde Daniel: Rich

by Nikki Grimes

The local library is hosting a poetry competition, and Dyamonde Daniel and her friend Free are eager to enter. They are dreaming of how to spend the \$100 prize! However, their perspective on wealth and poverty shifts when they discover that their classmate, Damaris, is staying in a homeless shelter. Explore the series this summer.



## Sadiq and the Fun Run

by Siman Nuurali

Ugh, Run Club? Sadiq wanted to play football with his friends, but his parents signed him up for running instead! He thinks running is just boring, but he's about to face a giant challenge. Can Sadiq prove he's just as tough on the track as he would be on the football field? Lace up your sneakers for a high-speed race to the finish!

## Dory Fantasmagory and the Real True Friend

by Abby Hanlon

Dory meets her new best friend at school in this laugh-out-loud chapter book series about an imaginative little rascal with a big personality. Fans of Ivy and Bean and Junie B Jones will love this outrageous character. This is one book in a series to enjoy.

