Reading can be one of the many fun activities children choose to fill their summer time. Research has shown it is also much more! Children who participate in public library summer reading programs make achievement leaps during the summer and score higher on fall reading achievement tests.

The books on this list come highly recommended by kid readers from all over the country and may also be available in ebook, audio book, braille, and large print formats. This summer, take your child to participate in the summer programs happening at your library.

www.ala.org/alsc

The 2018 Summer Reading Book 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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Summer Reading List

K–GRADE 2


Humpty Dumpty conquers his fears in a most extraordinary result.


The story of a baaaadaaaad sunflower seed who decides it’s time for a change.


Text and art are interwoven to bring to life sixteen animal-related poems in this award-winning anthology.


This endearing story of the friendship between an older cat and a younger cat is a celebration of love and loss.


This poetic, patriotic tribute will help readers appreciate America’s splendor.


Incorporating accidental splashes, spots and unusual shapes into her art, a young artist explores the creative process.


Playful rhyming text alternates with factual callouts that describe flowers and the pollination process. The watercolor illustrations are gorgeous and sure to inspire young naturalists everywhere!


Fly Guy and Buzz learn about what it is like to have lived in a castle in this nonfiction reader.


In this work of historical fiction, enslaved people are forced to work hard all week long, so they look forward to Sunday when they can gather in New Orleans’ Congo Square to dance, sing, and enjoy an afternoon of freedom.


Mo is used to striking out but when the bases are loaded, he may just finally hit a homerun.


After a busy day of play, a girl’s favorite toy animal begins his day, befriending a dog, eating a cookie and exploring the unknown.


Pill bug Hank and his human pal Amelia spend a marvelous day exploring the outdoors in a sweet story of friendship and imagination.


Jabari is determined to jump off the diving board, but is he ready?

Little Elliot, Big Fun by Mike Curato, illustrated by the author. Henry Holt and Co. (BYR), 2016, ISBN: 9780805098273

A big amusement park brings more fear than fun until a mouse friend helps Little Elliot find the rides that are just right for him.


An exploring of opposites in English and Spanish with a very clever niña named Marta.


Vibrant illustrations add whimsy to this five-month diary in the life of a praying mantis as it eats (its siblings!), hides from predators and learns to fly.


Behind Sami, the Syrian skyline is full of smoke. The boy follows his family and all his neighbors in a long line, as they trudge through the sands and hills to escape the bombs that have destroyed their homes.


Williams and the elderly gardener help transform their town by creating anonymous toplary artwork.


Following a girl’s joys and experiences shows an appreciation of life’s simple moments.


Moving from Korea to West Virginia is a big and scary adjustment for Hee Jun, but finding a flower in America that also grew in his grandmother’s garden back in Korea makes him feel connected once again.


In this twist on the classic fairytale, a Peruvian Principe goes to great lengths to marry the girl of his dreams.


The child experiences an unexpected problem, worrying and wrestling it through until he realizes it’s not really a problem after all -- it’s an opportunity.