



Reading can be one of the many fun activities children fill their summer time with. Research has shown it is also much more! Children who participate in public library summer reading programs not only avoid the “summer slide” in learning, but also score higher on reading achievement tests than those who do not participate.

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, encourage your child to participate in the summer programs happening at your library.



Association for Library Service to Children

www.ala.org/alsc

The 2016 Summer Reading Book List was created by members of the Association for Library Service to Children's Quicklists Consulting Committee. For more booklists from ALSC visit www.ala.org/alsc/booklists.



SUMMER READING LIST

GRADES 6-8

Beetle Boy
by M. G. Leonard
Illustrated by Julia Sarda
Scholastic/Chicken House,
2016, ISBN: 9780545853460

A giant talking beetle and cast of crazy characters help Darkus search for his missing father, a famous entomologist. First in a series.

The Bitter Side of Sweet
by Tara Sullivan
Putnam, 2016, ISBN:
9780399173073

Amadou and his brother, Seydou, are modern-day child slaves on a cacao plantation, until Khadija arrives. The three band to make their escape from the Ivory Coast to freedom.

Booked
by Kwame Alexander
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt,
2016, ISBN: 9780544570986

The thrill of a soccer tournament, the pressure of family expectations, the social minefield of crushes and bullies, and the beauty of words are all explored in this exciting, extraordinary novel in verse.

The Boys Who Challenged Hitler: Knud Pedersen and the Churchill Club
by Phillip Hoose

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2015,
ISBN: 9780374300227

A group of teenagers in Denmark resist the Nazi invasion of their country and inspire others to follow suit in this award-winning nonfiction book.

Dead to Me
by Mary McCoy
Disney-Hyperion, 2015, ISBN:
9781423187127

Veronica Mars meets L.A. Confidential as sixteen-year-old Alice tries to piece together the events that lead to her older sister winding up in a coma.

Dream On, Amber
by Emma Shevah
Sourcebooks/Jabberwocky,
2015, ISBN: 9781492622505

Amber's father left when she was little, so now she fills in the frustrating gap in her life with imagined conversations to help her deal with art projects, bullies, and little sisters.

Fatal Fever: Tracking Down Typhoid Mary
by Gail Jarrow
Calkins Creek, 2015, ISBN:
9781620915974

Learn about this dreaded disease that ravaged our country early in the twentieth century in this nonfiction title that reads like a medical mystery.

Fearsome Creatures of the Lumberwoods
by Hal Johnson
Illustrated by Tom Mead
Workman Publishing, 2015,
ISBN: 9780761184614

This reworking of American tall tales features stories of fearsome legendary creatures of the wooded wilds of early North America, including the snoligoster, the hodag, and the hoop snake. Glow-in-the-dark illustrations add to the alternately fun and creepy tone of this collection of stories.

Fish in a Tree
by Lynda Mullaly Hunt
Penguin/Nancy Paulsen Books,
2015, ISBN: 9780399162596

Ally struggles to hide her dyslexia by continually getting into trouble, until a substitute teacher discovers what she is really hiding.

The Great Greene Heist
by Varian Johnson
Scholastic/Arthur A. Levine,
2014, ISBN: 9780545525527

Jackson Greene vowed never to get involved in another middle-school con, but he is put to the test when the girl of his dreams runs for class president.

Grounded: The Adventures of Rapunzel
by Megan Morrison
Scholastic/Arthur A. Levine,
2015, ISBN: 9780545638265

After leaving her tower for the first time, Rapunzel joins Jack Beanstalker on a perilous journey through the lands of Tyme. First in a series.

Hour of the Bees
By Lindsay Eagar
Candlewick Press, 2016, ISBN:
9780763679224

Carol is stuck in the New Mexican desert one summer with her family and her grandfather, who suffers from dementia. Her world is rocked by the stories he tells her during that time.

I Kill the Mockingbird
by Paul Acampora
Roaring Brook Press, 2014,
ISBN: 9781596437425

Over summer break, Lucy, Elena, and Michael launch a

campaign to make a beloved teacher's favorite book "go viral."

The Iron Trial
by Holly Black and
Cassandra Clare
Scholastic, 2014, ISBN:
9780545522250

Despite his father's warnings about the dangers of magic, Callum enrolls in the Magisterium and begins to learn about himself and his own bewildering powers.

Lost in the Sun
by Lisa Graff
Philomel Books, 2015, ISBN:
9780399164064

Trent blames an unfortunate event for his misfortunes and tries to turn things around. He is able to make that turn when he meets Fallon, and together they help him find the healing and redemption he seeks.

The Mark of the Dragonfly
by Jaleigh Johnson
Random House/Delacorte,
2014, ISBN: 9780385376150

When plucky machinist Piper saves Anna after a meteor shower, both girls stow away on an armored train to escape the man chasing them.

Mark of the Thief
by Jennifer A. Nielsen
Scholastic, 2015, ISBN:
9780545561549

Nic, a slave in the mines of ancient Rome, escapes after discovering a magical amulet. First in a series.

Masterminds
by Gordon Korman
Balzer + Bray, 2015, ISBN:
9780062299963

After living in a perfect town his whole life, Eli discovers there are secrets that will change everything. First in a series.

Me & Miranda Mullaly
by Jake Gerhardt
Viking, 2016, ISBN:
9780451475404

Three boys all trying to gain the attention of the same girl become rivals in this hilarious tale of misunderstandings.

Most Dangerous: Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War
by Steve Sheinkin

Roaring Brook Press, 2015,
ISBN: 9781596439528

From the Oval Office to the editor's office of the New York Times, Sheinkin tells a gripping tale of government secrecy and manipulation that is still relevant today.

The Night Gardener
by Jonathan Auxier
Abrams/Amulet Books, 2014,
ISBN: 9781419711442

Molly and Kip are orphaned and must find a way to take care of themselves. Molly finds work as a maid but soon discovers the family is being haunted, and she and her brother are soon targeted by the Night Gardener as well.

The Night Parade
by Kathryn Tanquary
Sourcebooks/Jabberwocky,
2016, ISBN: 9781492623243

Saki Yamamoto does not want to spend her summer vacation visiting her grandma's small village. Things get more interesting than she expected when she unintentionally invokes a death curse, and she must enter the dangerous spirit world at the Night Parade to break the curse.

Serafina and the Black Cloak
by Robert Beatty
Disney-Hyperion, 2015, ISBN:
9781484709016

At the turn of the century, a twelve-year-old secretly living in the basement of the Biltmore Estate solves an ancient evil and unravels her family history.

Some Kind of Courage
by Dan Gemeinhart
Scholastic, 2016, ISBN:
9780545665773

Bears, bandits, and raging rapids can't stop Joseph from searching for what's left of his family—his beloved horse, Sarah—across the American Northwest frontier.

Tesla's Attic
by Neal Shusterman and Eric Elfman
Disney-Hyperion, 2014, ISBN:
9781423148036

When Nick holds a yard sale to get rid of the junk in the attic of his new home, he realizes too late that all the objects have mysterious powers and he needs to get them back. First in a series.

