



MIDDLE SCHOOL, Grades 5-6 Summer Reading Suggestions

All in a Drop: How Antony van Leeuwenhoek Discovered an Invisible World. By Lori Alexander. Illus. by Vivien Mildenerger. HMH. With accessible language and illustrations, this biography introduces readers to the

everyday man who invented a powerful microscope that could magnify the living world to an astonishing scale. (Sibert Honor Book) Interest Level, 3-6 Lexile 890L

Because of the Rabbit. By Cynthia Lord. Scholastic. Emma helps her father rescue a pet rabbit that supports her socialization as she transitions into public school. Interest Level 3-6, Lexile 660L

The Bridge Home. By Padma Venkatraman. Penguin/Nancy Paulsen. Determined to escape their abusive father, Viji and her sister run away and make a new home on a bridge in Chennai, India. Interest Level 5-8, Lexile 680L

The Distance Between Me and the Cherry Tree. By Paola Peretti. Illus. by Carolina Rabei. Tr. by Denise Muir. Atheneum. Fifth-grader Mafalda discovers what is important in life as she loses her sight to a degenerative disease in this thoughtful, coming-of-age novel. (Batchelder Honor Book) Interest Level 5-8, Lexile 680L

Each Tiny Spark. By Pablo Cartaya. Penguin/Kokila. Emilia faces family challenges when her dad returns from overseas military service. Interest Level 5-8, Lexile 680L

For Black Girls Like Me. By Mariama J. Lockington. Farrar. Makeda, adopted into a white family, struggles to fit in and find herself at home and in school. Interest Level 3-6, Lexile HL500L

The Forgotten Girl. By India Hill Brown. Scholastic. Two classmates discover an abandoned grave, launching a ghost story that brings the history of segregation to life. Interest Level 3-6 , Lexile 670L

Hector: A Boy, a Protest, and the Photograph That Changed Apartheid. By Adrienne Wright. Illus. by the author. Page Street. The true story of the dramatic photograph of a young boy's tragic death that became a symbol of the injustice of Apartheid. Interest Level 3-6, Lexile 690L

Indian No More!. By Charlene Willing McManis and Traci Sorell. Lee & Low/Tu. In 1954, Regina and her family move from their reservation to Los Angeles after their tribe is terminated by the U.S. government. Interest Level 3-6, Lexile 720L

It Rained Warm Bread: Moishe Moskowitz's Story of Hope. By Gloria Moskowitz-Sweet and Hope Anita Smith. Illus. by Lea Lyon. Holt/Christy Ottaviano. Spare poetry documents Moishe's struggle for survival during the Holocaust. Interest Level 3-6, Lexile 550L

Lalani of the Distant Sea. By Erin Entrada Kelly. Illus. by Lian Cho. Greenwillow. A young girl sets out to save her island of Sanlagita, which is struggling with drought and sickness. Interest Level 3-6, Lexile 600L

Let 'er Buck!: George Fletcher, the People's Champion. By Vaunda Micheaux Nelson. Illus. by Gordon C. James. Carolrhoda/Lerner. George Fletcher's rise to fame as a rodeo champion is recounted with colorful language, à la old Westerns, and expressive oil paintings. Interest Level 3-6, Lexile 880L

Lety Out Loud. By Angela Cervantes. Scholastic. While spending the summer volunteering in an animal shelter, English language learner Lety Muñoz learns to use her voice to stand up for others. (Belpré Author Honor Book) Interest Level 3-6, Lexile 720L

Pie in the Sky. By Remy Lai. Illus. by the author. Holt. Told with heart and humor, Jingwen adjusts to a new culture and language after his family immigrates to Australia. Interest Level 3-6, Lexile 720L

Scary Stories for Young Foxes. Christian McKay Heidicker. Illus. by Junyi Wu. Holt. Two fox kits encounter a variety of terrifying episodes in this chilling and skillfully crafted horror book for children. (Newbery Honor Book) Interest Level 5-8, Lexile 640L

Some Places More than Others. By Renée Watson. Bloomsbury. Amara copes with family tensions during a trip from her home in Oregon to visit her father's family in Harlem. Interest Level 5-8, Lexile 750L

Stargazing. By Jen Wang. Illus. by the author. First Second. Despite opposite personalities, Moon and Christine develop an unlikely friendship in this lively graphic novel. Interest Level 3-6, Lexile GN510L¹

¹ "Notable Children's Books - 2020." *Association for Library Service to Children*,

