

2021 Summer Reading

Summer Reading Suggestions for Grade 6
Prepared by Mrs. Goodwin, MS/HS Librarian



Award Winning Books

Title	Summary	Author	Reading Level	Lexile	Suggested Grade
<u>A Place Inside of Me: A Poem to Heal the Heart</u>	This powerful poem captures a Black child's wide range of emotions over the passage of a year—from joy to sorrow and anger when he learns of a shooting, and, subsequently, to hope and love. (Caldecott Honor Book)	Zetta Elliott	K-3		All Grade Levels
<u>Box: Henry Brown Mails Himself to Freedom</u>	The true story of Henry “Box” Brown, who shipped himself to freedom in a box, is told in 51 emotionally intense poems that have implications for the present day. (Newbery Honor Book)	Carole Boston Weatherford	5-8		All Grade Levels
<u>Exquisite: The Poetry and Life of Gwendolyn Brooks</u>	The biography of Pulitzer-winning poet Gwendolyn Brooks reveals her childhood dreams and inspirations, her challenges with race, gender, and poverty, and her desires to share stories through poetry. (Sibert Honor Book)	Suzanne Slade	K-3		All Grade Levels
<u>All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys' Soccer Team</u>	With superb narrative nonfiction writing, Soontornvat skillfully describes the dramatic real-life rescue of the Thai Boys' soccer team in 2018. (Newbery Honor Book & Sibert Honor Book)	Christina Soontornvat	5.9		Grades 6-8

<u>Almost American Girl: An Illustrated Memoir</u>	Ha shares her experience of a surprise move from South Korea to Alabama with her single mom. Feeling out of place in her new stepfamily and high school, she acclimates with the help of a comic-making class.	Robin Ha			Grades 6-8
<u>Before the Ever After</u>	In this novel in verse, 12-year-old ZJ leans on his community for support as his football-star father experiences alarming medical symptoms and dramatic changes as a result of the sport (later revealed to be CTE).	Jacqueline Woodson	4.8		Grades 6-8
<u>Brother's Keeper</u>	Sora and her family flee Communist North Korea during the Korean War in 1950. When the family becomes separated, Sora fights for her brother's survival as they travel south.	Julie Lee			Grades 6-8
<u>Dragon Hoops</u>	This graphic novel intertwines the history of basketball with the triumphs and tribulations of the athletes on the champion team at the high school where Yang teaches.	Gene Luen Yang			Grades 6-8
<u>Elatsoe</u>	When her cousin is killed, Ellie must delve into the town's evil past and use her Lipan Apache family's ability to call spirits back to life in order to identify and bring the murderer to justice.	Darcie Little Badger			Grades 6-8
<u>Fighting Words</u>	Sisters Della and Suki rely on each other to move forward after years of abuse from their mother's boyfriend. They find their own voices beyond the trauma through resilience and bond of sisterhood. (Newbery Honor Book)	Kimberly Brubaker Bradley	4.2		Grades 6-8
<u>Go with the Flow</u>	A group of high school friends band together for a revolution to de-stigmatize menstruation. The red color palette is the perfect choice to accompany this much needed 'period manifesto'.	Lily Williams & Karen Scneemann	3.2		Grades 6-8
<u>How We Got to the Moon: The People, Technology, and Daring Feats of Science Behind Humanity's Greatest Adventure</u>	This ambitious nonfiction book chronicles one of the most exciting and miraculous accomplishments in American history--the 1969 lunar landing. (Sibert Honor Book)	John Rocco	8.2	1170L	Grades 6-8
<u>Land of the Cranes</u>	Despite being detained in a cruel and inhuman deportation camp with her pregnant mother and separated from her deported papi, Betita survives by	Aida Salazar	4.4		Grades 6-8

	remembering she will return home like a crane in the Aztec legends her papi told her.				
<u>Poisoned Water: How the Citizens of Flint, Michigan, Fought for Their Lives and Warned the Nation</u>	This striking account of the Flint, Michigan, water crisis shows how systemic racism disproportionately impacts the health of marginalized citizens.	Candy C Cooper & Marc Aronson			Grades 6-8
<u>Raybearer</u>	At Tarisai's birth her mother makes a wish that Tarisai is compelled to obey -- kill the emperor's son. Tarisai must learn to resist the command when she becomes part of the prince's council and his best friend.	Jordan Ifueko			Grades 6-8
<u>Snapdragon</u>	Snap's town has a witch. At least that's the rumor. Full of acceptance, love, and relatable characters, Snapdragon shows the connection between loving yourself and magic.	Kat Leyh			Grades 6-8
<u>Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You: A Remix of the National Book Award-winning Stamped from the Beginning</u>	An exploration of racism in the United States through the past 400 hundred years is presented with humanity and wit.	Jason Reynolds & Ibram X		1000L	Grades 6-8
<u>Superman Smashes the Klan</u>	Superman helps a young Chinese American, Roberta Lee, fight racism in Metropolis while dealing with his own issues with assimilation.	Gene Luen Yang			Grades 6-8
<u>The Magic Fish</u>	In this graphic novel, Tién and his mother struggle to communicate, but find a way to tell their truths through the telling of fairy tales, both old and new.	Trung Le Nguyen		HL400L	Grades 6-8
<u>This Light Between Us: A Novel of World War II</u>	Pen pals for 10 years, Japanese American Alex Maki and French Jewish girl Charlie Lévy share a coming-of-age story and fantastical romance amidst historically accurate - and heartbreaking - injustice.	Andrew Fukuda			Grades 6-8