

READING GUIDE

Grades 3 - 5



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Dear Reader,

Summer is a great time to explore all sorts of amazing books! You don't have to worry about homework or required reading from school and if you sign up for a reading challenge through your local library or a local organization, you'll even get a chance to earn prizes for all the reading you're doing!

But, sometimes it's hard to figure out exactly what you want to read. And that's where this reading guide comes in handy. Within these pages you'll find over 40 suggestions of amazing books for kids entering third through fifth grade. Some of these books might grab your attention right away and others you may never pick up. And that's okay. There's a book out there for everyone (and usually more than one!).

So take some time to look through some of these suggestions, find a few that interest you and then head to your local library or independent bookstore to pick them up! If you need help from a librarian or bookseller, there's a useful how-to towards the back of the guide that can help you feel a little more prepared to ask for help (I know, sometimes it feels a little overwhelming!).

Beyond the curated list of book titles, I've also included some really fun book logs and book review pages that you can print out at home to keep track of your reading this summer. And, if you want your own reading challenge - there's a bunch of different options in this guide - try the rainbow challenge to read books with different color covers or the book and movie challenge to read and watch movie adaptations or even a book bingo!

However you choose to read this summer, I hope you find some amazing books that speak to you!

Happy Reading,

Laura

This summer reading guide contains affiliate links, meaning I'll receive a commission if you purchase through my links, at no extra cost. Please read the [full disclosure](#) for more information.

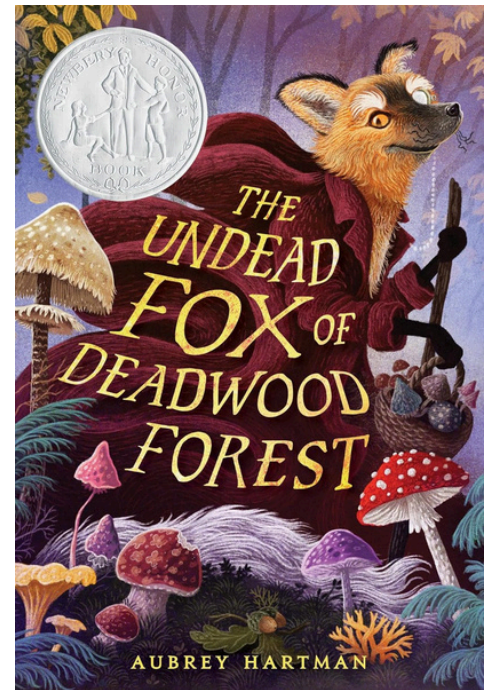
Must Not Miss Titles



These are can't-miss titles that you've got to add to your "to be read" list right away!

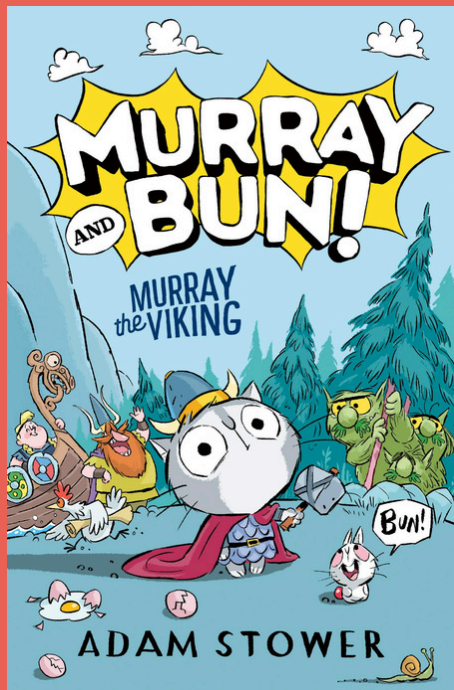
The Undead Fox of Deadwood Forest by Aubrey Hartman

Clare is the undead fox of Deadwood Forest. Here, leaves grow in a perpetual state of fall: not quite dead, but not quite alive—just like Clare. Long ago, he was struck by a car, and, hovering between life and death, he was given the choice to either cross into the Afterlife or become an Usher of wandering souls. Clare chose the latter: a solitary life of guiding souls to their final resting place. Clare's quiet and predictable days are met with upheaval when a badger soul named Gingersnipes knocks on his door.



Nic Blake and the Remarkables by Angie Thomas

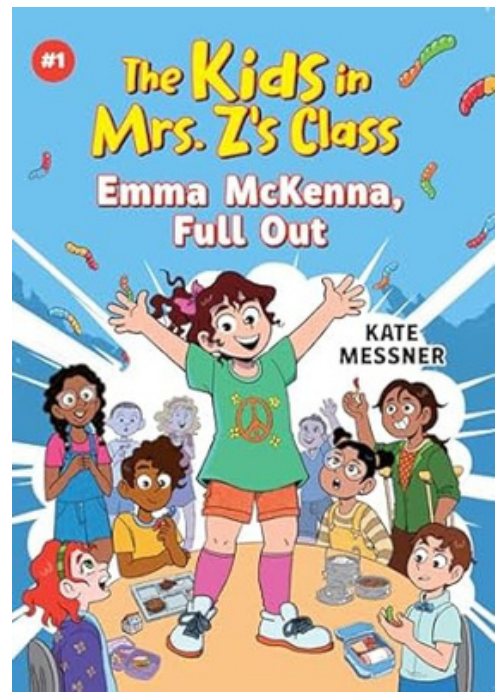
All Nic Blake wants is to be a powerful Manifestor like her dad. But before she has a chance to convince him to teach her the gift, a series of shocking revelations and terrifying events launch Nic and two friends on a hunt for a powerful magic tool she's never heard of...to save her father from imprisonment for a crime she refuses to believe he committed.



Murray the Viking by Adam Stower

Murray the cat likes the quiet life. His favorite activities are snoozing, sleeping, and napping. Too bad for him, he lives with Bun, a rabbit who is bound to end up in trouble, and Fumblethumb, a wizard who accidentally enchanted the cat flap. Which means now the cat flap usually leads to the garden, but sometimes it leads to...

ADVENTURE! Which is how Murray and Bun find themselves in the land of VIKINGS!



Emma McKenna, Full Out by Kate Messner

Emma McKenna can't wait for third grade at the brand-new Curiosity Academy. She'll have a cool teacher who wears high-tops and science earrings. She'll meet interesting classmates from all over Peppermint Falls. Best of all, she'll get a fresh start after last year's talent-show disaster left her with that awful nickname. It's going to be the best year ever! Then Lucy walks into Mrs. Z's room. Lucy, Emma's best-friend-turned enemy. Emma's fresh start is doomed... unless she can make friends before Lucy ruins everything.



Ferris by Kate DiCamillo

It's the summer before fifth grade, and for Ferris Wilkey, it is a summer of sheer pandemonium: Her little sister, Pinky, has vowed to become an outlaw. Uncle Ted has left Aunt Shirley and, to Ferris's mother's chagrin, is holed up in the Wilkey basement to paint a history of the world. And Charisse, Ferris's grandmother, has started seeing a ghost at the threshold of her room, which seems like an alarming omen given that she is also feeling unwell. But the ghost is not there to usher Charisse to the Great Beyond. Rather, she has other plans—wild, impractical, illuminating plans. How can Ferris satisfy a specter with everything else going on?

Three Blue Hearts by Lynne Kelly

Max can't seem to escape the big, looming shadow of his politician dad. But for the next few months, Max and his mom are going away to a quiet Texas beach town where Max can be someone else. Someone who doesn't make dumb mistakes that embarrass his father—someone who knows how to be strong.

He stumbles on his fresh start right away, when he finds an injured octopus washed up onshore after a storm. With the help of a local wildlife center and a couple of new friends, Max rescues the octopus—who they name Ursula—and vows to take care of her until she's ready to return to the sea.





Gracie Under the Waves by Linda Sue Park

Gracie loves snorkeling! She loves it so much, she convinces her parents to let her plan a family vacation to Roatán, Honduras, where they can all snorkel together. She even makes a new friend there. Now, if only her irritating little brother would leave her alone, everything would be perfect. Then Gracie hurts her leg, and all her carefully made plans start to come apart. Worse still, she learns the reef itself is in serious danger. Gracie wants to help the reef . . . but she's just a kid. What can she do to make a difference?



Bibsy Cross and the Bad Apple by Liz Garton Scanlon

Meet Bibsy Cross, the precocious eight-year-old heroine of this charming chapter book series, as she navigates a relationship with a teacher who thinks that Bibsy is just too much.



The Academy by T.Z. Layton

Born and raised in a small town, twelve-year-old Leo K. Doyle has never seen the ocean or stepped foot on a plane. But Leo is a star soccer player with big dreams in life and an invite for a prestigious squad!



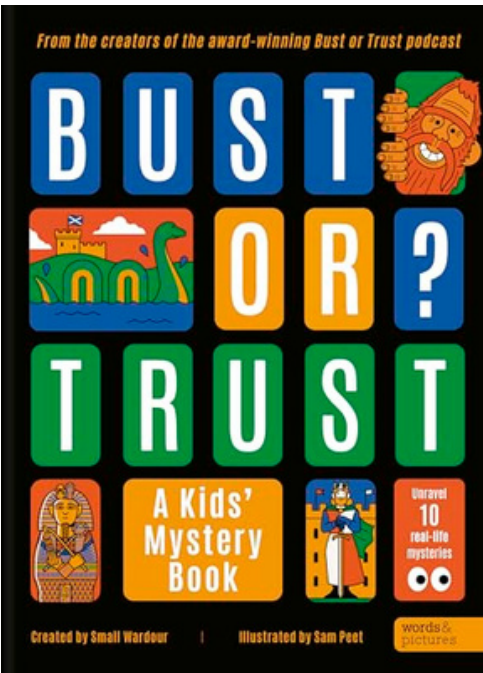
Bodega Cats: Picture Perfect by Hilda Eunice Burgos

A heartwarming and funny illustrated story about the friendship between a bodega owner's kid and his newly-adopted furry friend, with a focus on family and community.

Neat Nonfiction

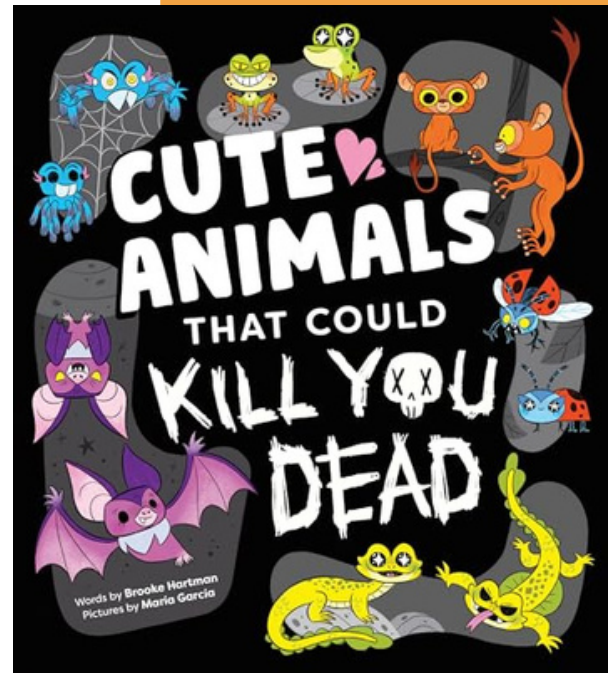


Love learning new information? You'll love picking up these fascinating informational text!



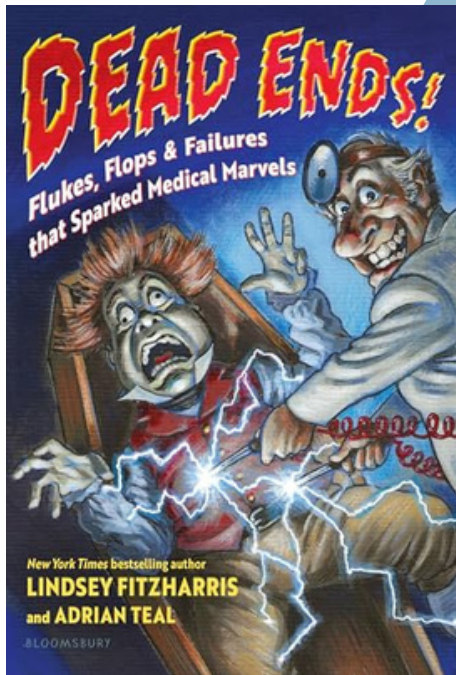
Bust or Trust? A Kids' Mystery Book by Small Wardour

For each mystery you will explore the background to the mystery, the evidence and arguments for both “trusting” and “busting” the mystery, and then YOU will be able to form your own arguments and opinions on the truth! This is an engaging, interactive book where kids bust or trust well-known mysteries by acting as the detective themselves.



Cute Animals That Could Kill You Dead by Brooke Hartman

Each page dives into the shockingly dangerous traits of nature's cutest creatures—think venomous slow lorises, surprisingly savage ladybugs, and owls with a taste for everything. Blending educational content with a wink of humor, this book makes science as thrilling as it is unforgettable.

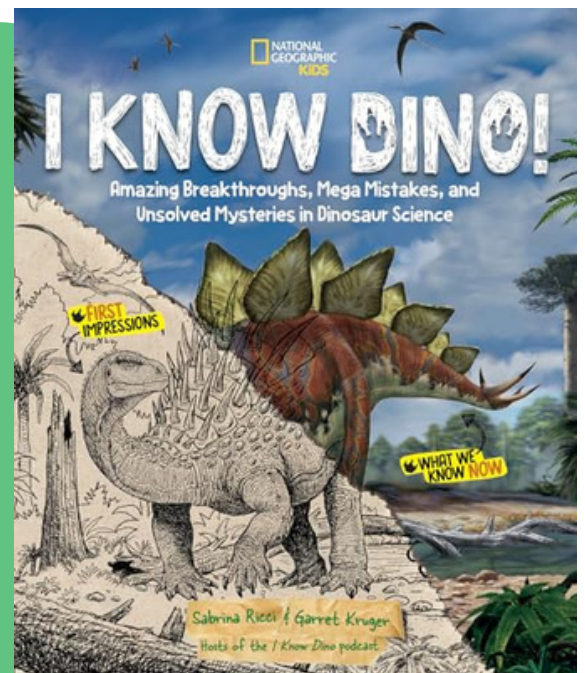


Dead Ends! Flukes, Flops & Failures that Sparked Medical Marvels by Lindsey Fitzharris and Adrian Teal

Beheadings! Bloodletting! Bodysnatching! Journey down a snaking road bristling with medicine's most astonishing "dead ends." Marvel at the diagnoses, experiments, and treatments that were frequently useless, and often harmful, but that sometimes led doctors to discoveries that changed the world for the better.

I Know Dino!: Amazing Breakthroughs, Mega Mistakes, and Unsolved Mysteries in Dinosaur Science by Sabrina Ricci and Garret Kruger

Dinosaurs have been extinct for millions of years, but the world of dinosaur science has never been more alive! Over the last few decades, amazing scientific discoveries have transformed what we know about dinosaurs. And it turns out that a lot of what we *thought* we knew about them was ... totally wrong.



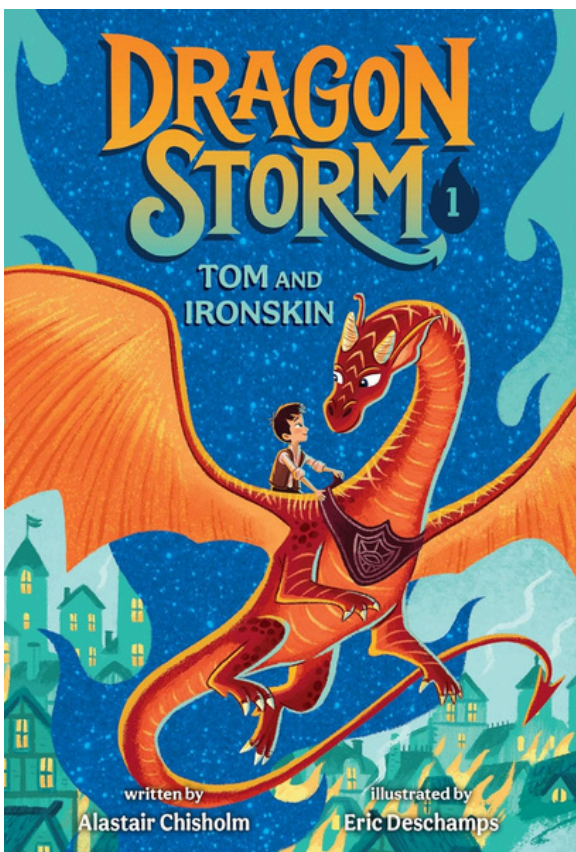
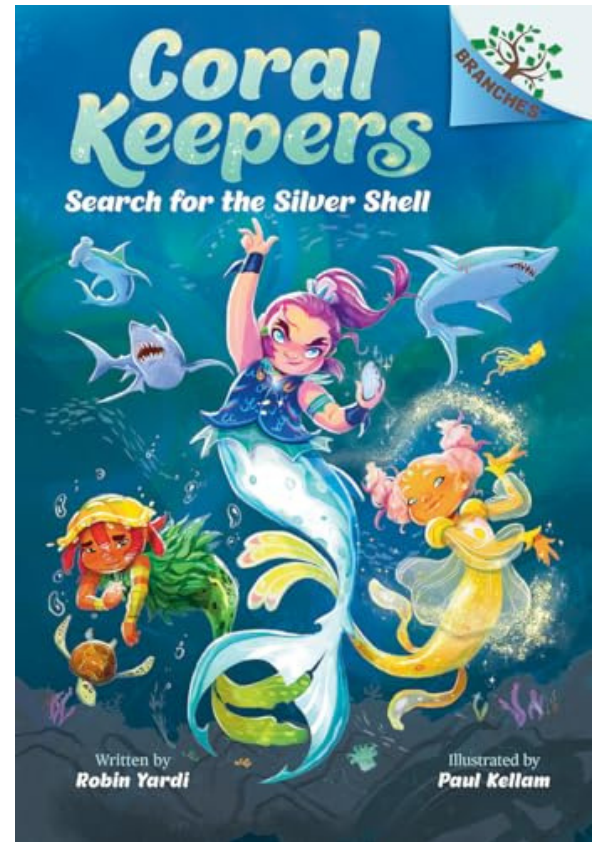
Surefire Fantasy



For the reader who loves a touch of magic in their stories, or dragons, mermaids, and fairies!

Search for the Silver Shell by Robin Yardi

More than anything, Princess Finn and her friends, Moon and Link, want to become Coral Keepers -- mermaid magicians sworn to protect the Queendom of Anjeea. Finn is a shark magician, but she is struggling to pass her shark-magic test. And now, an evil magician named Rozaro is plotting to steal the throne! Only the power of the Silver Shell can stop him. Can Finn master her shark magic, find the magical shell, and protect Anjeea?



Tom and Ironskin by Alastair Chisholm

Tom never knew dragons were real. Then he was taken to the Guild—a training ground for young dragonseers. Now he and his dragon, Ironskin, must bond, discover Ironskin's power, and train to be heroes. When Iron-skin disappears, Tom worries that he isn't a dragonseer after all. Can Tom bring Ironskin back? And can he do it in time to help his kingdom?



Rise of the Green Flame by Bernard Mensah

The day has finally come for eight-year-old Kwame to start Nkonyaa School and learn magic! Kwame is excited to begin magical training with his new friends at school, but he can't access his magic powers! He starts to worry... what if he has no magic at all? Then his friend Fifi starts acting strange. Could an evil magical object be to blame?

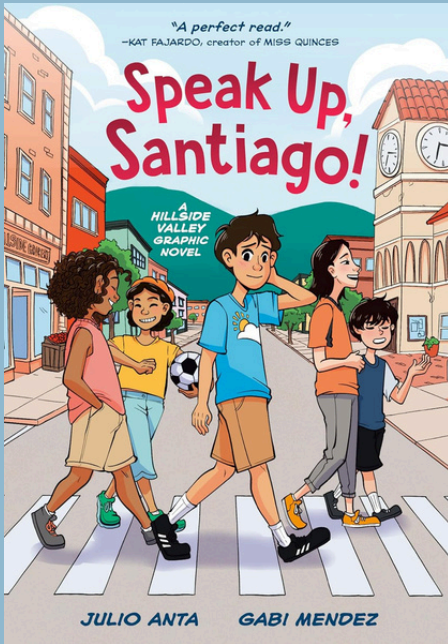


Newbie Fairy by Kate Korsh

Oona Bramblegoop is a Newbie fairy, and she's determined to do big things, especially if they can impress her idol, the Tooth Fairy. There's just one problem: Oona's magic never goes quite how she planned. Good thing Oona is creative, and she never gives up, no matter how surprising her magic gets.

Gutsy Graphic Novels

A fan-favorite format, you've got to check out these graphic novels!



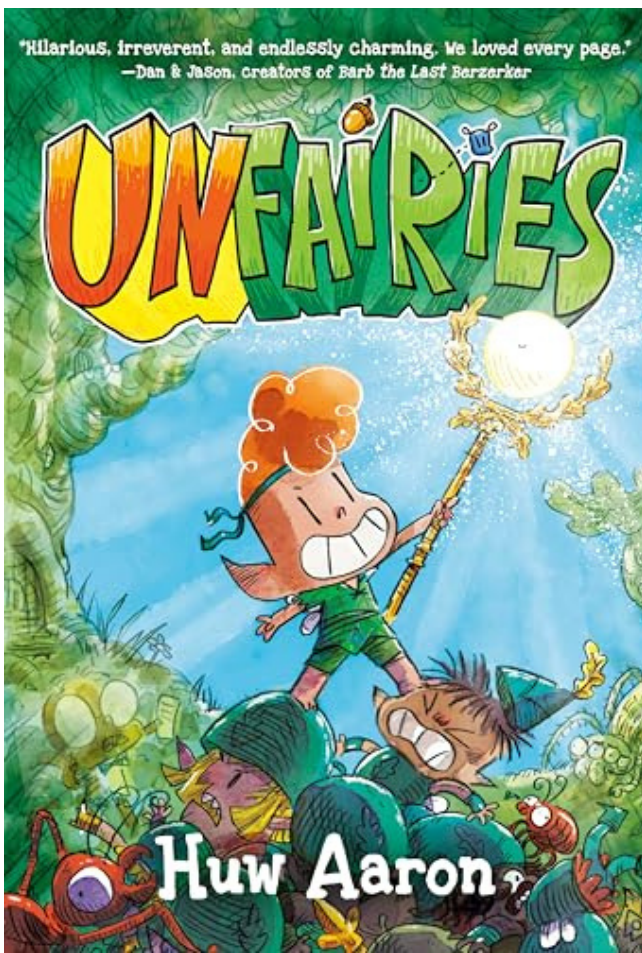
Speak Up, Santiago! by Julio Anta

Santi is excited to spend the summer in Hillside Valley, meeting the local kids, eating his Abuela's delicious food, exploring! There's just one problem—Santi doesn't speak Spanish that well and it feels like everyone he meets in Hillside does. Will Santi find his confidence and his voice? Or will his worries cost him his new friendships...and the chance to play in Hillside's summer soccer tournament?!

Swim Team by Johnnie Christmas

Bree can't wait for her first day at her new middle school, Enith Brigitha, home to the Mighty Manatees—until she's stuck with the only elective that fits her schedule, the dreaded Swim 101. The thought of swimming makes Bree more than a little queasy, yet she's forced to dive headfirst into one of her greatest fears. Lucky for her, Etta, an elderly occupant of her apartment building and former swim team captain, is willing to help.





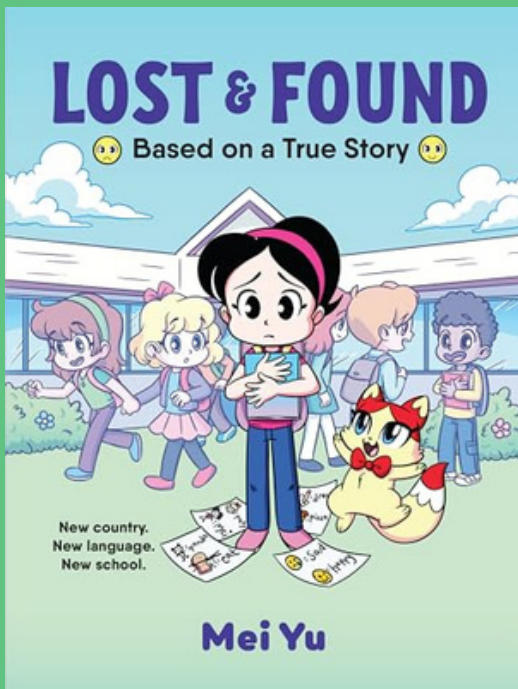
Unfairies by Huw Aaron

Some stories will tell you that fairies are sweet, beautiful, and kind creatures who fly around with sparkly wands. But they are WRONG! Fairies are horrible, rude back stabbers who are constantly at war with each other. (They're not even magical, for crying out loud!) And then there's Pip, a clueless tree fairy who couldn't give two hoots about power and would rather just have a party.



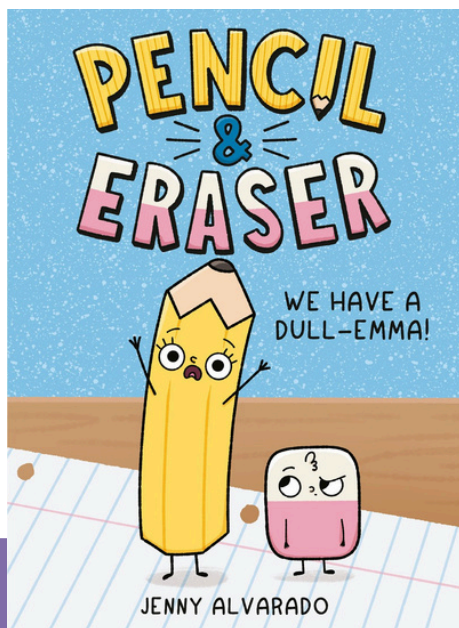
Saving Sunshine by Saadia Faruqi

It's hard enough being a kid without being teased for a funny sounding name or wearing a hijab. It's even harder when you're constantly fighting your sibling - and Zara and Zeeshan really can't stand each other. During a family trip to Florida, when the bickering reach new heights, their parents sentence them to the worst possible fate - each other's company! But when the twins find an ailing turtle, it presents a opportunity for teamwork - if the two can put their differences aside.



Lost & Found by Mei Yu

Being the new kid in school is scary enough. But imagine what it would be like if you were the new kid in a new school, in a new country. That's exactly the situation Mei Yu finds herself in when her family moves from China to Canada. As she navigates her new school, she discovers a unique way to learn English and makes a new friend along the way in this heartwarming story based on the author's own experiences.



Pencil & Eraser: We Have a Dull-Emma! by Jenny Alvarado

Pencil is a joyous adventure seeker and Eraser is a cautious curmudgeon. These two unlikely friends go on all sorts of adventures!



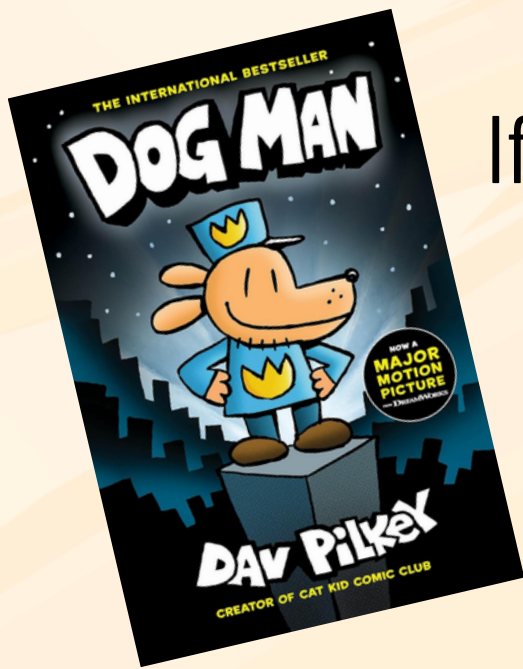
Sidekicks by Dan Santat

Captain Amazing, the hometown hero of Metro City, is so busy catching criminals that he rarely has time for his pets -- he hasn't even noticed they've been developing superpowers of their own!



When Pigs Fly by Rob Harrell

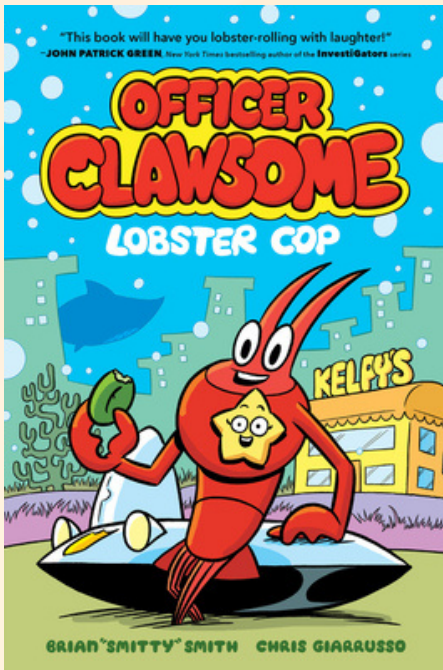
Gary Yorkshire was your perfectly average pig who loved tasty sandwiches, video games, and mud baths. Until one day, a radioactive bat bite gives him powers he never would have dreamed of!



If You Loved *Dog Man*...

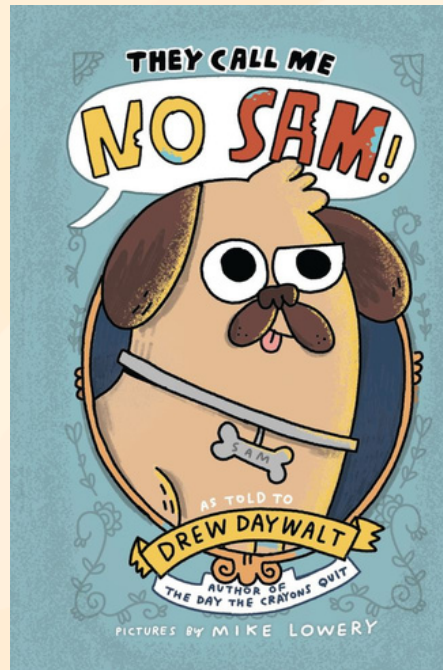


Try these!



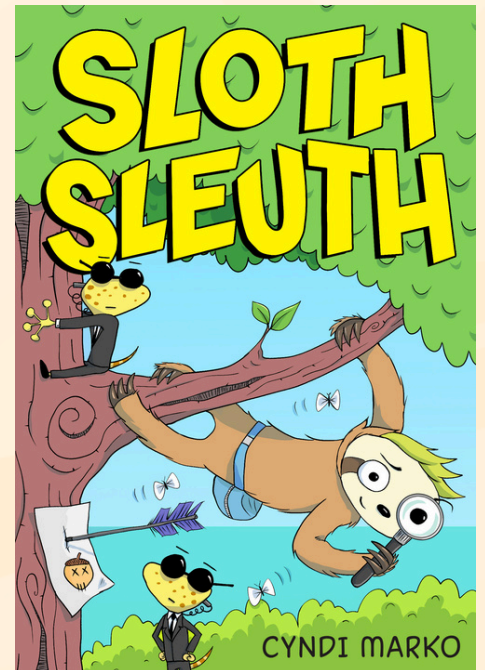
Lobster Cop
by Brian Smith

Crime doesn't pay in Caper Cove with Officer Clawsome and his partner, Stariana, on the case. Just ask the notorious Catburglarfish—she'll confirm.



They Call Me No Sam!
by Drew Daywalt

Meet Sam: an insolent pug—and incidental hero—who will stop at nothing to protect his family!

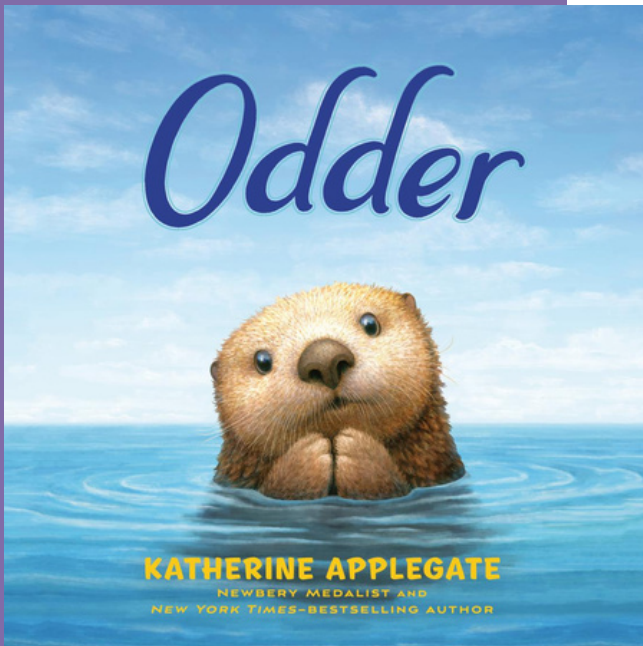


Sloth Sleuth
by Cyndi Marko

On an island crawling with crime, everyone's a suspect. Meet Paz, the world's first sloth sleuth. She may be slow . . . but she's always one step ahead of the bad guys.

Read with your Ears

Taking a road trip? These are great stories and even better audiobooks, so definitely take a listen!

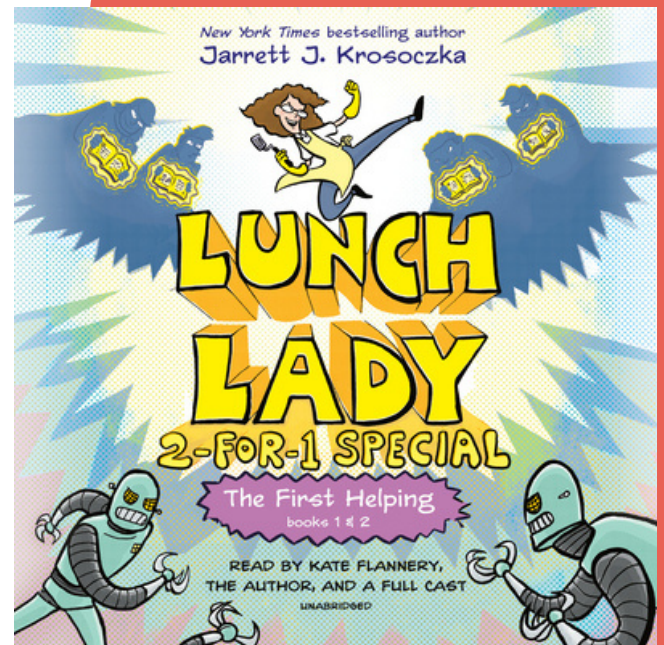


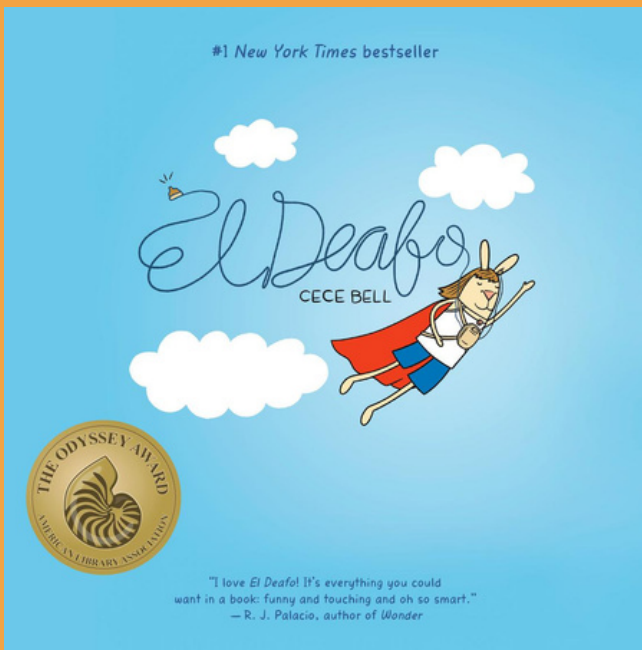
Odder by Katherine Applegate

Odder a fearless daredevil, curious to a fault. But when Odder comes face-to-face with a hungry great white shark, her life takes a dramatic turn, one that will challenge everything she believes about herself—and about the humans who hope to save her.

The First Helping by Jarrett J. Krosoczka

Hector, Terrence, and Dee have always wondered about their school lunch lady. What does she do when she isn't dishing out the daily special? Where does she live? Does she have a lot of cats at home? Little do they know, Lunch Lady doesn't just serve sloppy joes--she serves justice!

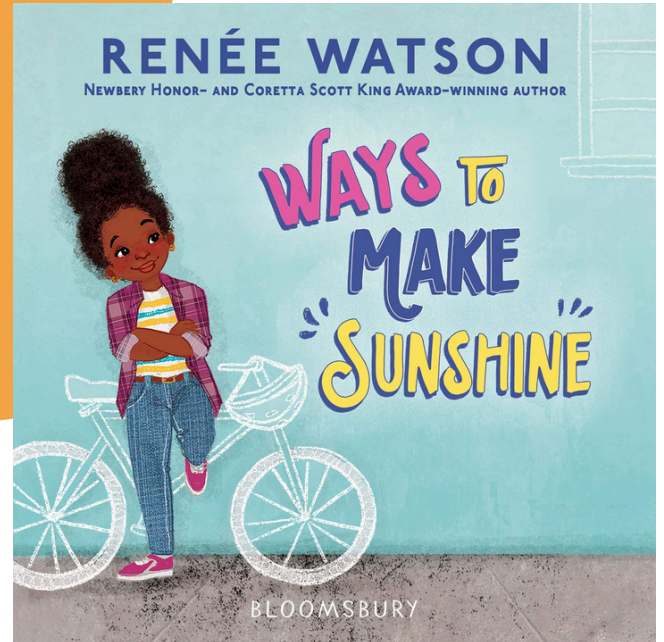




El Deafo by Cece Bell

Starting at a new school is scary, especially with a giant hearing aid strapped to your chest! She's sure the kids are staring at the Phonic Ear, the powerful aid that will help her hear her teacher. Too bad it also seems certain to repel potential friends.

Then Cece makes a startling discovery. With the Phonic Ear, she can hear her teacher not just in the classroom, but anywhere her teacher is in the school—in the hallway... in the teacher's lounge... in the bathroom! This is power. Maybe even superpower! Cece is on her way to becoming El Deafo, Listener for All.

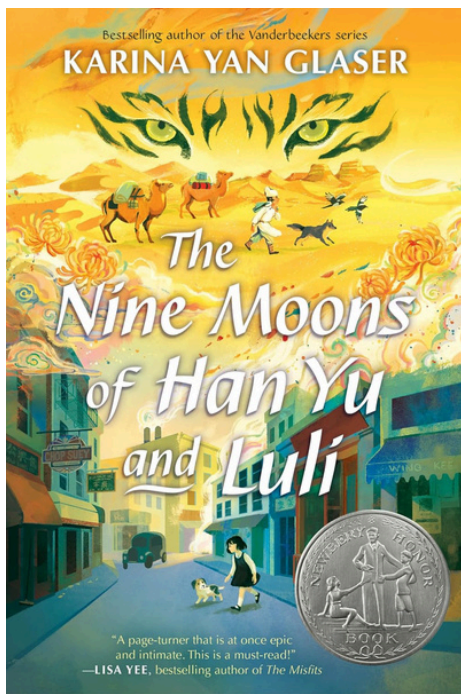


Ways to Make Sunshine by Renée Watson

Ryan Hart can be and do anything. Her name means "king", that she is a leader, and she is determined to keep growing into the name her parents gave her. She is all about trying to see the best in people, to be a good daughter, sister, and friend. But Ryan has a lot on her mind. As even more changes and challenges come her way, Ryan always finds a way forward and shows she is a girl who knows how to glow.



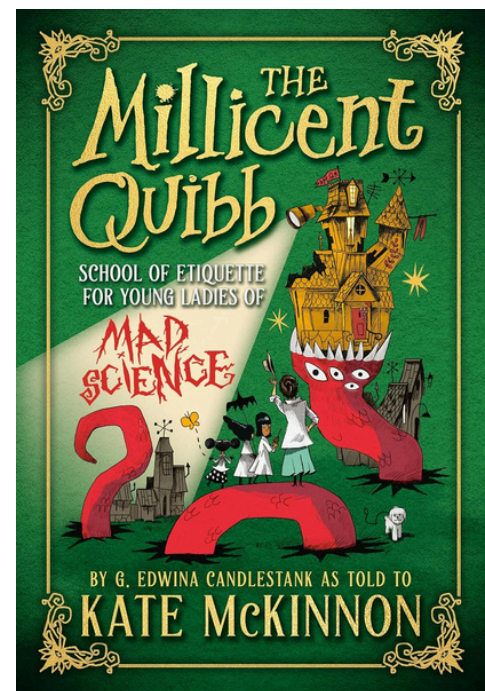
Amazing Adventures



The Nine Moons of Han Yu and Luli by Karina Yan Glaser

In ancient Chang'An, Han Yu sells steamed buns in a bustling market full of whispers about his ability to summon tigers. In New York's Depression-era Chinatown, Luli gazes out from the roof of her parents' restaurant, dreaming of dim sum and Chinese art. Han Yu and Luli must each venture out into the larger world—and into danger-filled adventure—to save what they love most.

For readers looking for their next can't-wait-to-find-out-what-happens-next book, check out these titles!



The Millicent Quibb School of Etiquette for Young Ladies of Mad Science by Kate McKinnon

From beloved Saturday Night Live legend Kate McKinnon comes a madcap adventure about three sisters, a ravenous worm, and a mysterious mad scientist!



The Unexplainable Disappearance of Mars Patel by Sheela Chari

Mars Patel's friend Aurora has disappeared! His teachers are clueless. His mom is stressed out about her jobs. But Mars refuses to give up. The clues seem to point toward eccentric tech genius (and Mars's hero) Oliver Pruitt, whose popular podcast now seems to be commenting on their quest! But when the friends investigate Pruitt's mysterious, elite school, nothing is as it seems—and anyone could be deceiving them.

Bigfoot Takes the Field by Michael Brumm

Lily knows better than to listen to the gossip her little brother, Henry, has heard, but when her school newspaper needs a big headline, the rumor that Bigfoot has been spotted is the best lead she's got. But when claw marks appear on the football equipment and excessive animal hair starts clogging-up the gym showers, Lily knows she can't be afraid. This is her opportunity to break the story wide-open.

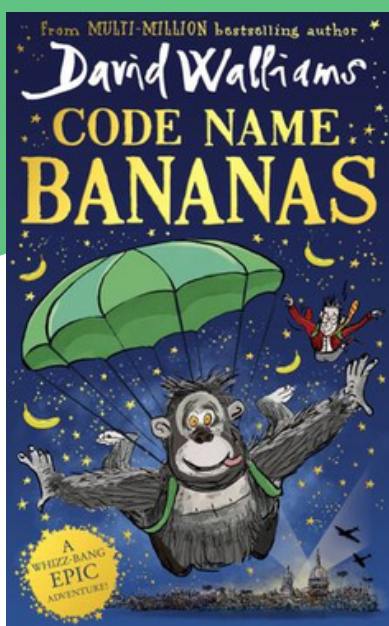
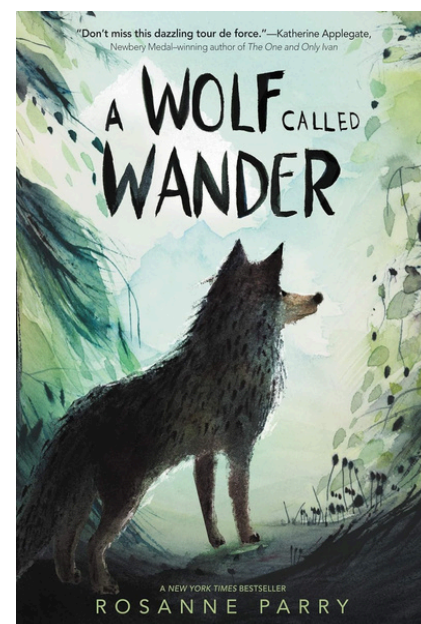


A Strange Thing Happened In Cherry Hall by Jasmine Warga

A painting has been stolen! When Rami sees a floating girl in the museum, he knows he has seen her somewhere before. Then he realizes: She looks just like the girl in the painting that has gone missing. But how does her appearance connect to the theft? Will Rami, with the help of his classmate, Veda, be able to solve the mystery?

A Wolf Called Wander by Rosanne Parry

Swift, a young wolf cub, lives with his pack in the mountains learning to hunt, competing with his brothers and sisters for hierarchy, and watching over a new litter of cubs. Then a rival pack attacks, and Swift and his family scatter. Alone and scared, Swift must flee and find a new home. His journey takes him a remarkable one thousand miles across the Pacific Northwest.



Code Name Bananas by David Walliams

1940. BRITAIN IS AT WAR WITH NAZI GERMANY.

Eleven-year-old Eric practically lives at the London Zoo. And there's one animal in particular he loves to spend time with: Gertrude the gorilla. But with German bombs raining over London, Eric realizes Gertrude is in terrible danger, and together with his Uncle Sid, a keeper at the zoo, the three go on the run. But while hiding out at the seaside, they uncover a top-secret Nazi plot...

The Underdogs Catch a Cat Burglar by Kate and Jol Temple

Crime is on the rise in Dogtown, and it's all thanks to a mysterious cat burglar! They've stolen everything from handbags to ham sandwiches, and nobody has been able to catch them. Now The Underdog Detective Agency is on the case . . . but as their name might suggest, they aren't exactly the best sleuths in town. So to catch this menacing cat burglar, they may have to do the unthinkable and hire their first-ever cat detective..



Reading Logs



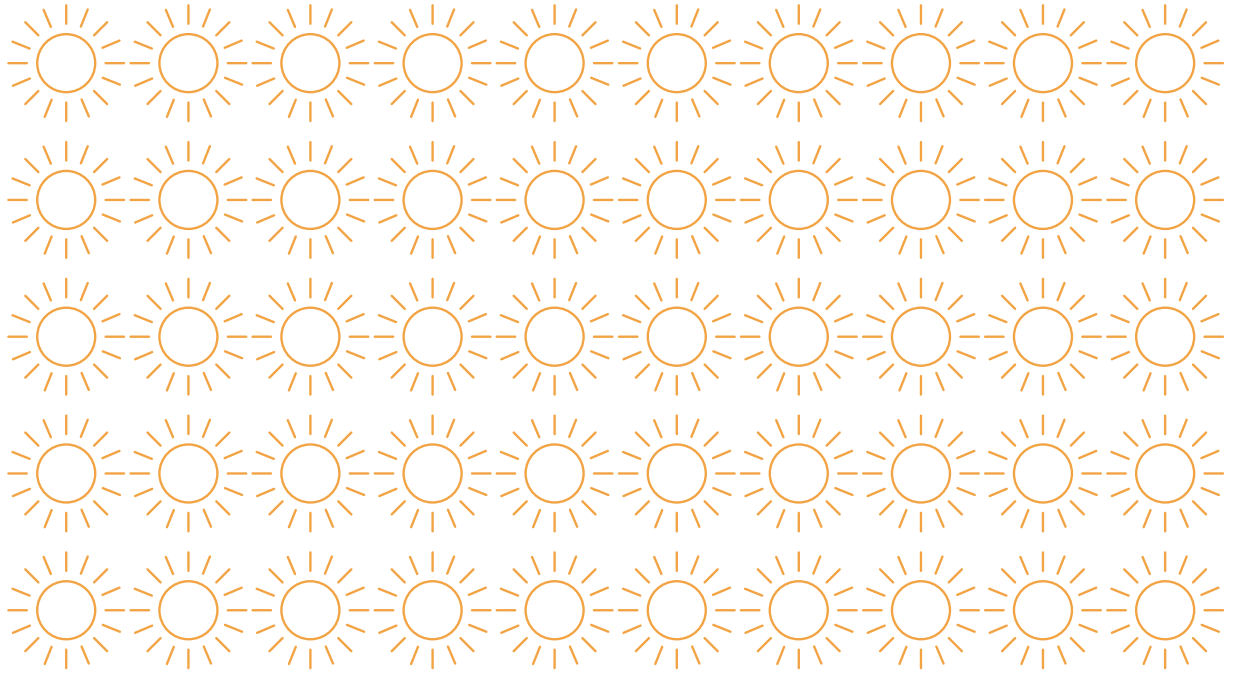
and Reviews

SUMMER READING LOG

Keep track of all the great books you read this summer and rate how much you loved them!

Title

Rating



GOAL: 25 BOOKS

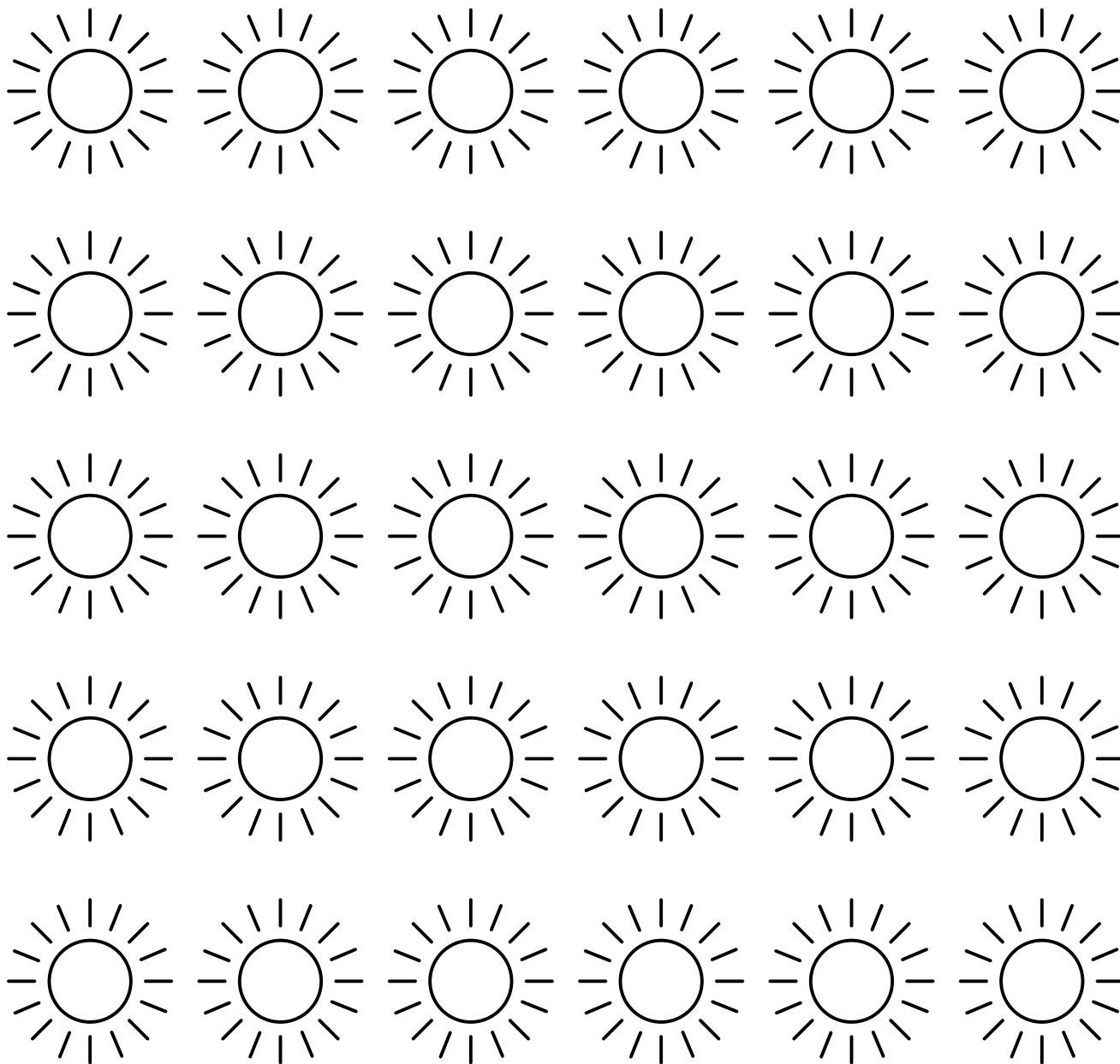
Why not try reading 25 suggestions in the Literacious Summer Reading Guide!
Color in a box for each title you read this summer!

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25

MONTHLY TRACKER

June

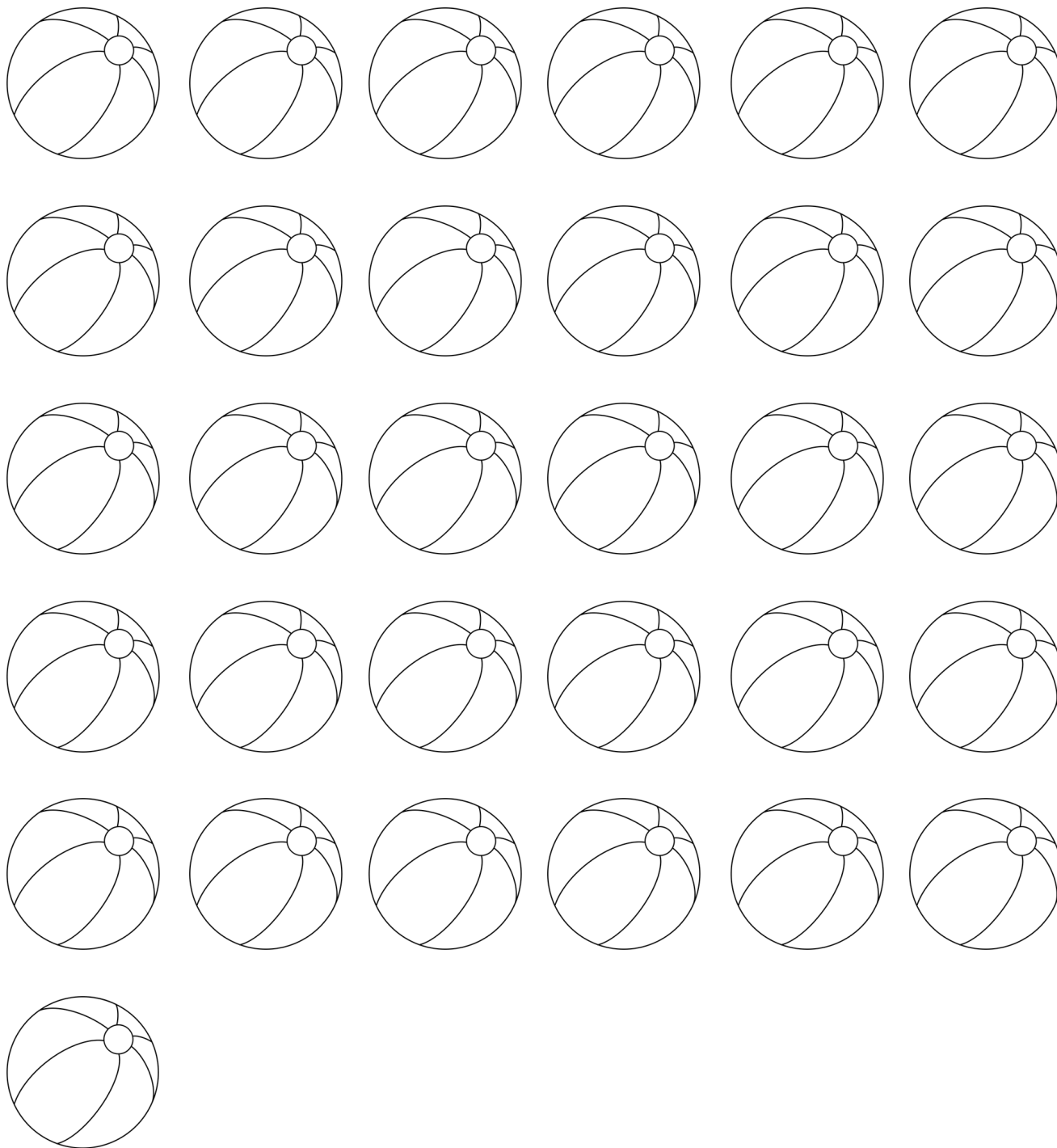
Read for 20 minutes each day in June. Track your progress by coloring in a sun for each day you read.



MONTHLY TRACKER

July

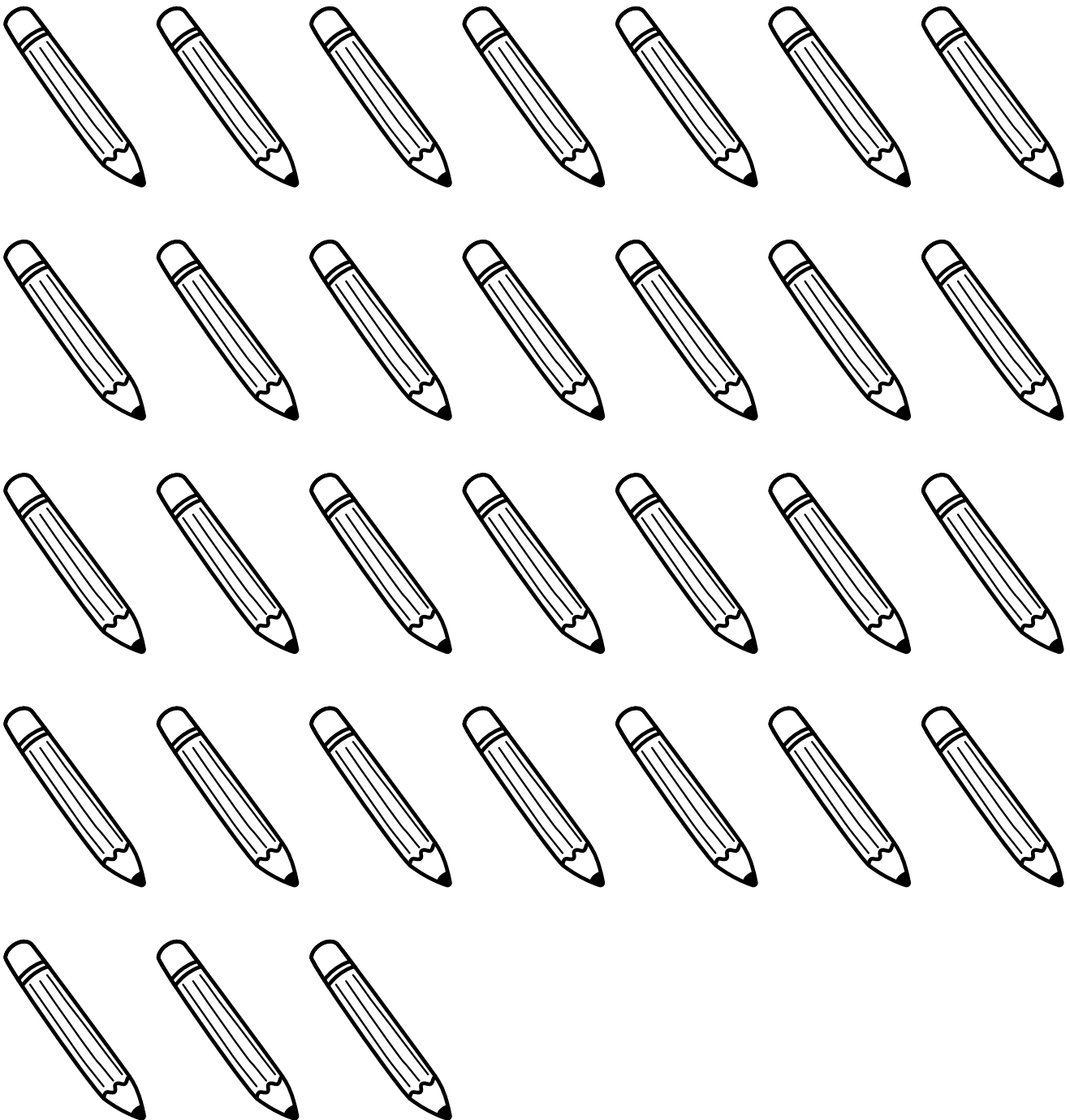
Read for 20 minutes each day in July. Track your progress by coloring in a sun for each day you read.



MONTHLY TRACKER

August



Read for 20 minutes each day in June. Track your progress by coloring in a sun for each day you read.



Book REVIEW

Want to take a moment to review the book you just finished? Use this sheet or the next to write up a quick book review. Remember, you don't have to fill out all the different parts of this worksheet - just the ones you want. I'd suggest to make sure you write down the title and then at least a rating of how many stars!

You may also want to include the genre (see the reference tools for a list of genres). You can also include the number of pages and how you read it - whether it was a typical print book, ebook, or audiobook. Circle the rating for both the characters and plots - did you like how well developed the characters were? Could you picture the setting in your mind? And finally, whether you would recommend it to a friend!

GENRE	TITLE:
PAGE COUNT	AUTHOR:
TYPE   	START/END DATES:
CHARACTER RATING 1 2 3 4 5	REVIEW/THOUGHTS:
PLOT RATING 1 2 3 4 5	
RECOMMEND? Y / N	<i>Rating</i>     

Book REVIEW

TITLE: _____

AUTHOR: _____

Rating



START DATE

END DATE

TYPE



PAGE COUNT

GENRE

CHARACTER RATING 1 2 3 4 5

PLOT RATING 1 2 3 4 5

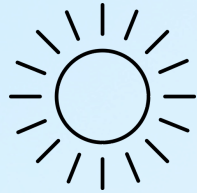
Review/Thoughts:

Summer Reading



Activities

SUMMER BINGO



SEND A LETTER TO A FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND	READ A BOOK SET IN THE DESERT	READ A BOOK ABOUT SUMMER CAMP	READ A STORY ABOUT YOUR FAVORITE ANIMAL
RIDE YOUR BIKE OR TAKE A WALK AROUND TOWN	READ A BOOK ABOUT GOING BACK TO SCHOOL	DESCRIBE YOUR PERFECT VACATION	READ A BOOK WITH A YELLOW COVER
SPEND SOME TIME READING OUTSIDE	DRAW A SUMMER PICTURE	READ A BOOK ABOUT YOUR FAVORITE SPORT	READ A BOOK ABOUT A SUMMER HOLIDAY
READ A BOOK ABOUT CAMPING	READ A BOOK SET NEAR WATER	PLAY OUTSIDE TODAY	COOK A SUMMER INSPIRED RECIPE

Rainbow CHALLENGE

Read the rainbow and choose books with covers that are each color of the rainbow.

You can color in each square and also write down the titles too!

RED

ORANGE

YELLOW

GREEN

TEAL

BLUE

PURPLE

PINK

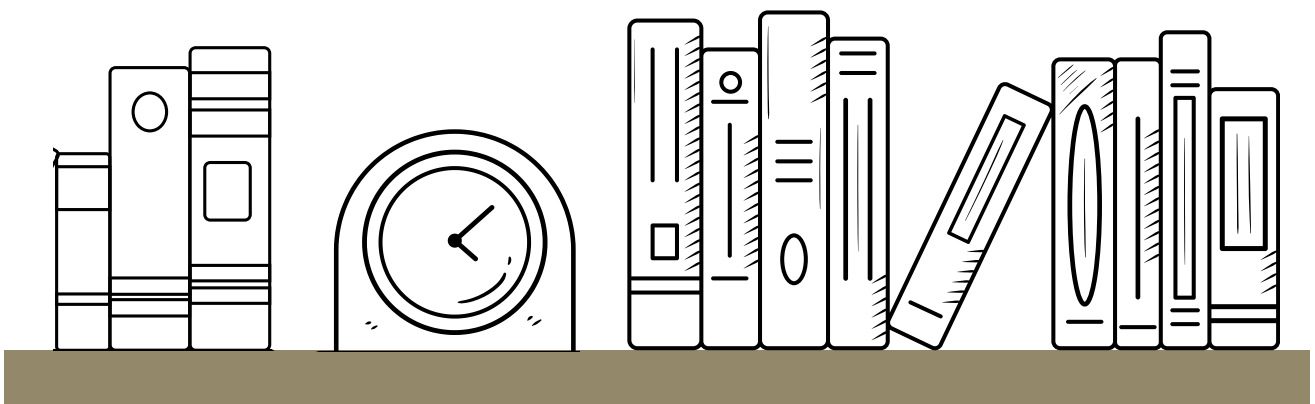
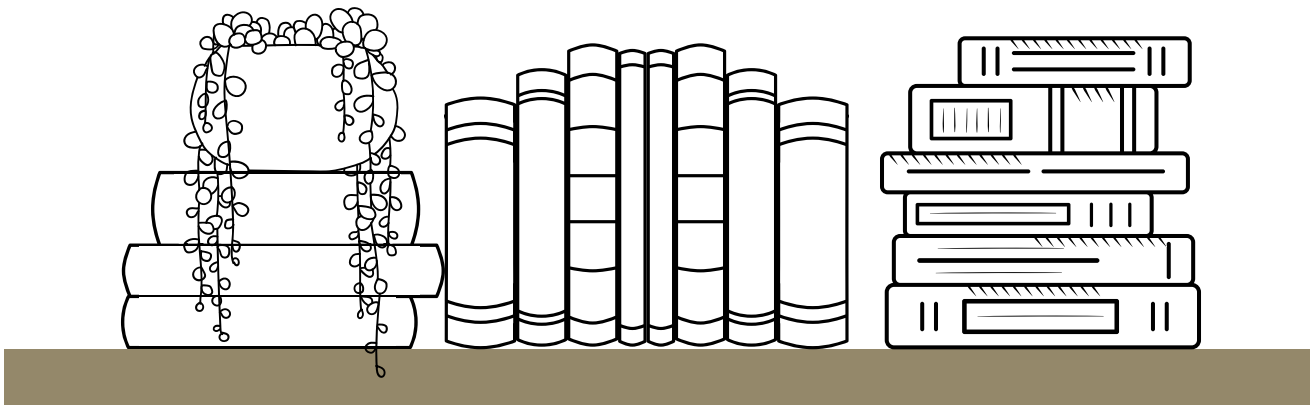
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GRAY

BLACK

WHITE

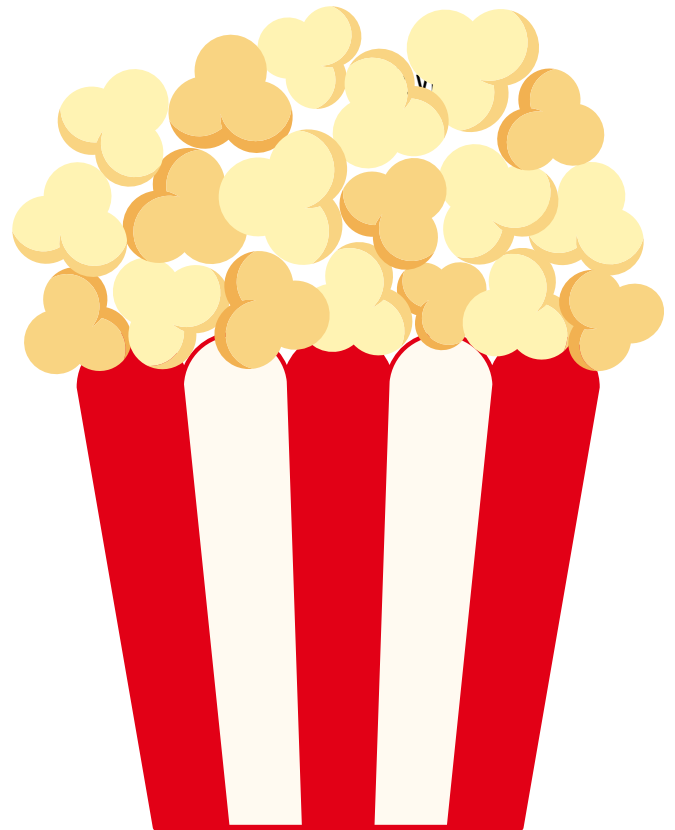
My Bookshelf



Book & Movie CHALLENGE

Create your own book and movie (or TV series) club. Read the book and then see the movie or TV series. You can use the list below or find even more great book & movie adaptations. Which version did you like better?

- *Matilda* by Roald Dahl
- *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* by Jeff Kinney
- *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* by Brian Selznick (Movie Name: *Hugo*)
- *The Bad Guys* by Aaron Blabey
- *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* by Judi Barrows
- *Llama Llama Red Pajama* by Anna Dewdney (Movie Name: *Llama Llama*)
- *Jumanji* by Chris Van Allsburg
- *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll (Movie Name: *Alice in Wonderland*)
- *Charlotte's Web* by E. B. White
- *How to Train Your Dragon* by Cressida Cowell
- *Ramona* by Beverly Cleary
Name: *Ramona and Beezus*)
- *Clifford the Big Red Dog* by Norman Bridwell
- *The Gruffalo* by Julia Donaldson
- *Lyle, Lyle Crocodile* by Bernard Waber
- *Eloise* by Kay Thomspen
- *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter
(Movie Name: *Peter Rabbit*)
- *The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss
- *The Story of Ferdinand* by Munro Leaf
(Movie Name: *Ferdinand*)
- *A Bear Called Paddington* by Michael Bond
(Movie Name: *Paddington*)
- *The Borrowers* by Mary Norton
(Movie Name: *The Secret World of Arrietty*)



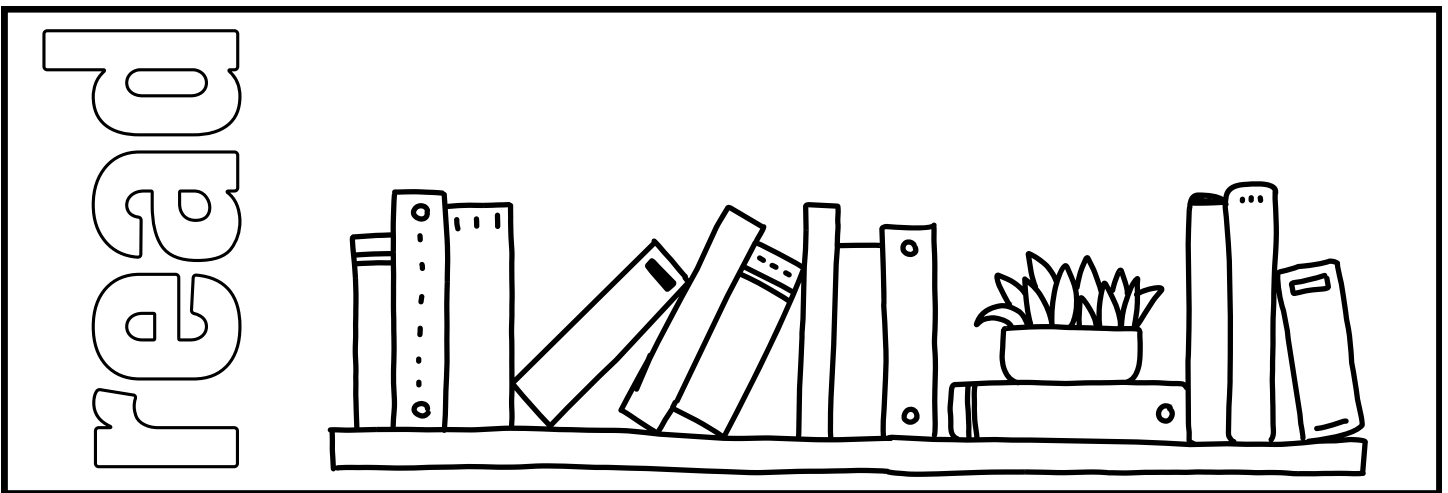
Just for fun!

A special challenge you won't find anywhere else! This includes reading challenges and other fun things to do, check off as many things as you can!

- Write a book review for your latest book
- Read a book about a character who is different from you
- Write a letter to your favorite author or draw a picture for your favorite illustrator
- Read a magazine
- Spend some time in the kitchen baking or cooking a new recipe
- Read a book with a cover of your favorite color
- Write a letter to your favorite author
- Create your very own reading nook for a special place to read
- Read a book set in your state or by an author from your state
- Read a book recommended to you by someone special

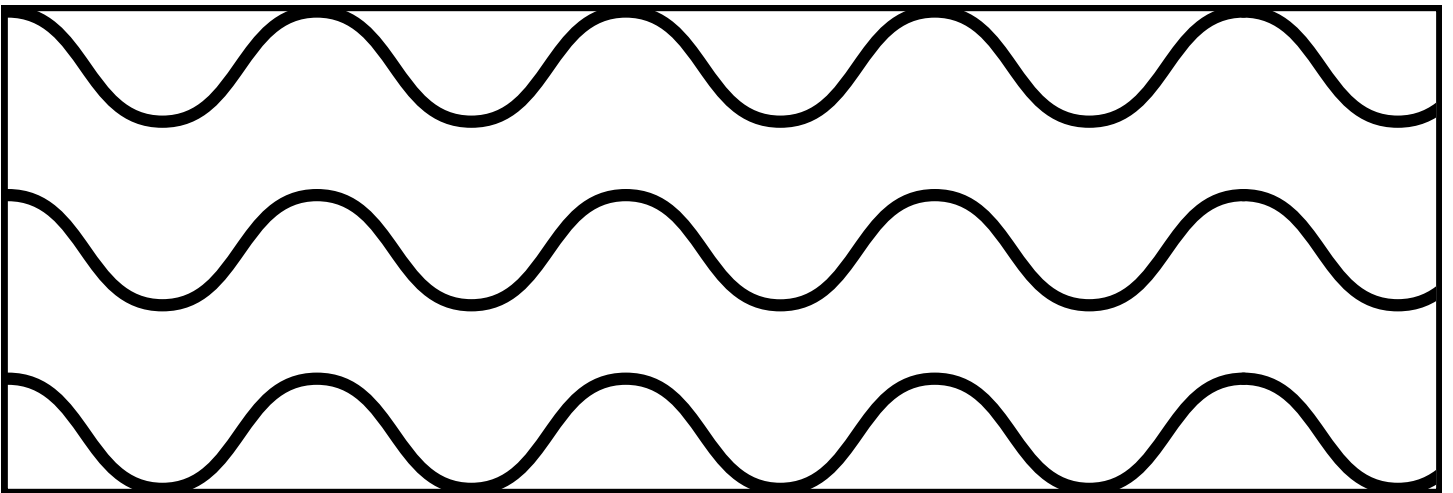
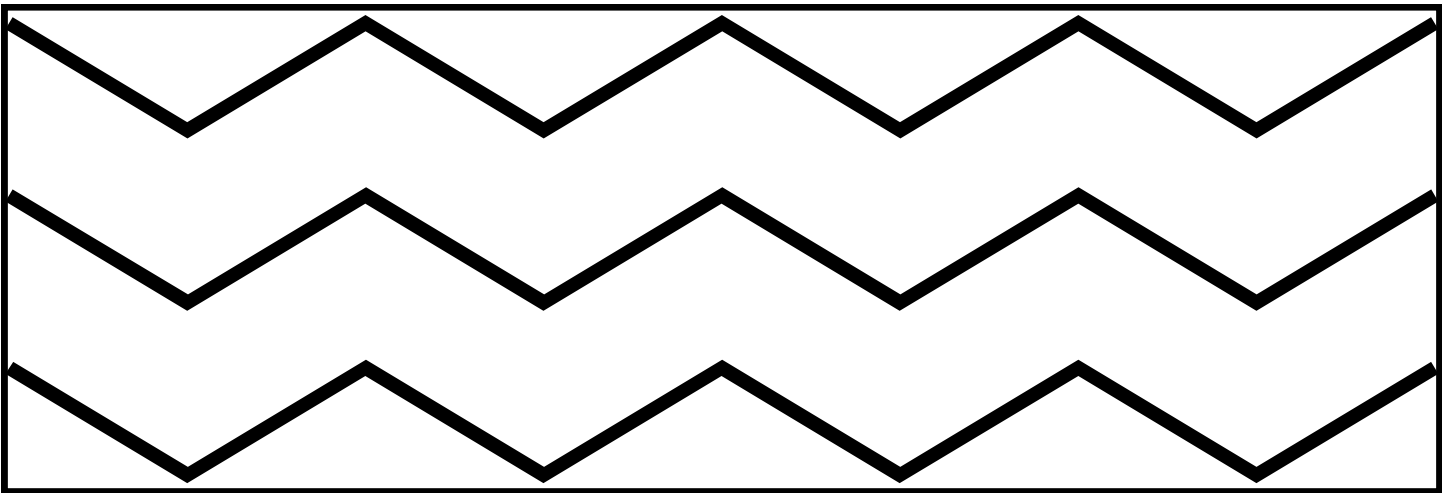
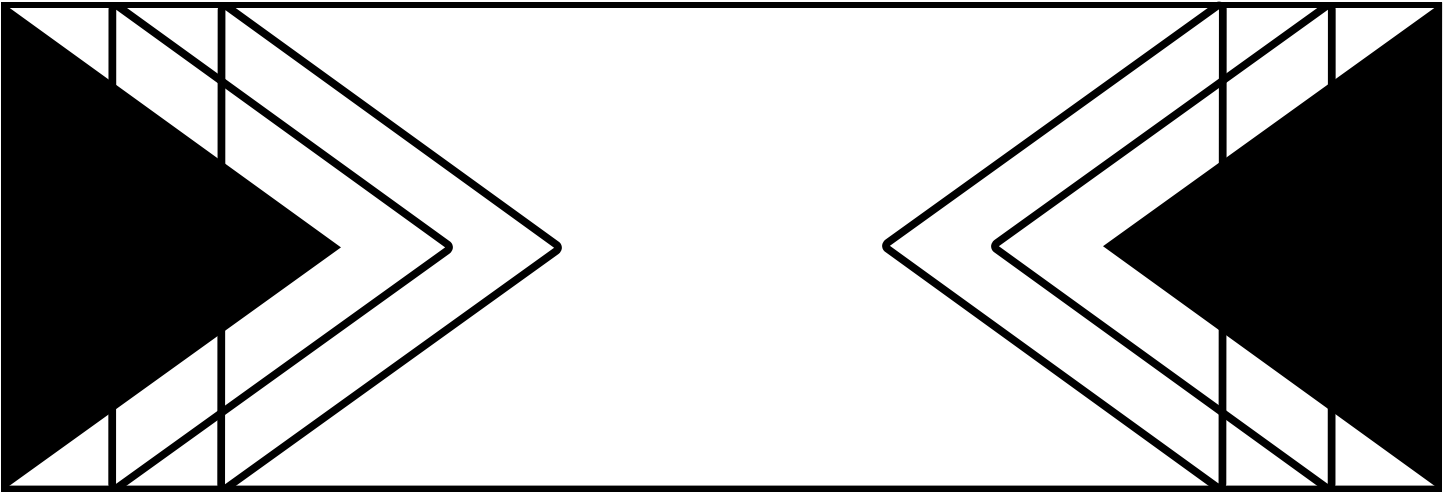
Bookmarks

Cut each bookmark out, color it in and use it with your next book!



Bookmarks

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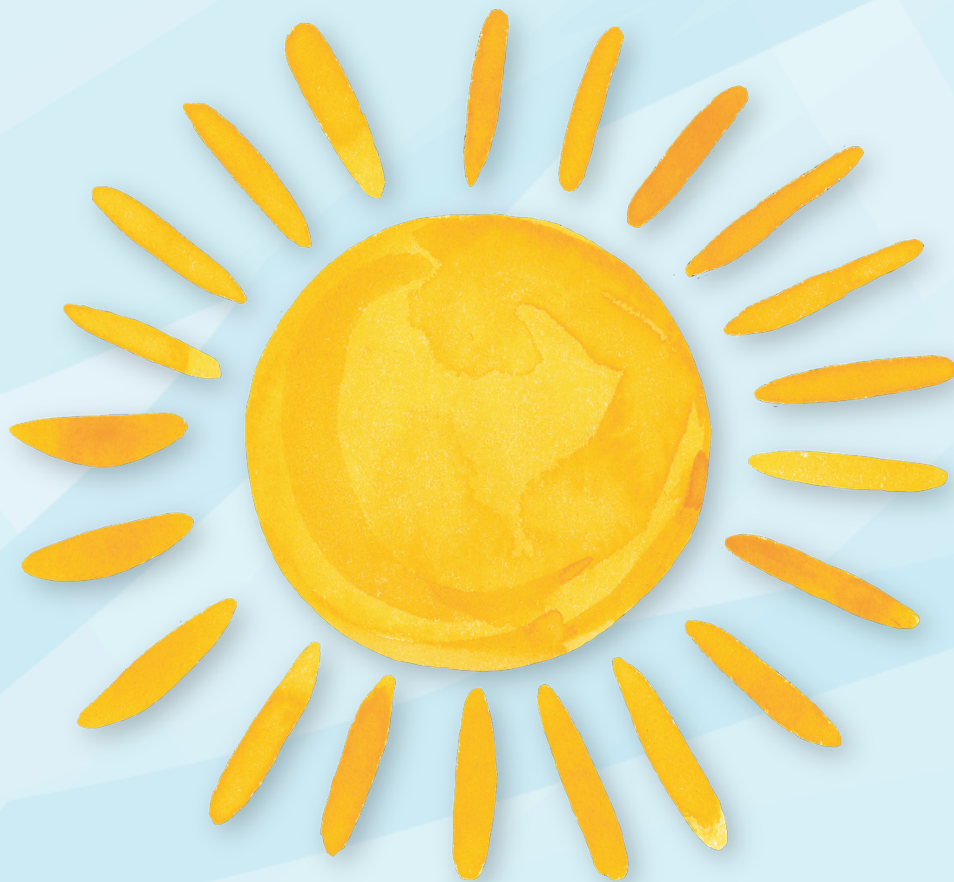


Bookmarks

Design your own bookmarks, print them out, and use them for your own books or share them with friends and family!



Resources



HOW TO

ASK FOR BOOK SUGGESTIONS

Asking for help can sometimes be a little scary, but with a few easy steps, you'll be finding even more great books to read with suggestions from teachers, librarians, booksellers, and even friends! Librarians love to talk about books and make suggestions! Don't be afraid to ask for help.

- **Step 1:** Figure out what it is you're looking for.
- **Step 2:** Find the right words to ask for help.
- **Step 3:** Ask!
- **Step 4:** Review the suggestions.
- **Step 5:** Pick your favorite(s). Don't be afraid to ask for more choices if you haven't found something that grabs your attention. Explain why they aren't what you're looking for and give more information to find better choices.



A QUICK EXAMPLE

Let's say you love the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series and you're looking for another series that is similar.

Your question would be something like, "Do you have any series that are similar to *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*? My favorite thing about the Wimpy Kids books is that they have illustrations and are funny to read."

Formats & Reading Levels



- **Board Book** – created for babies and toddlers with cardboard pages that withstand wonder and exploration.
 - *Anne of Green Gables: A BabyLit Places Primer* by Jennifer Adams, illustrated by Alison Oliver
 - *Snuggle Puppy* by Sandra Boynton
 - *Yummy Yucky* by Leslie Patricelli
- **Picture Book** – a book, usually geared toward children, in which the illustrations are as important (or more important than) the text and conventionally is 32 pages long.
 - *Eyes That Kiss in the Corners* by Joanna Ho, illustrated by Dung Ho
 - *Max the Brave* by Ed Vere
 - *Tiny T. Rex and the Impossible Hug* by Jonathan Stutzman, illustrated by Jay Fleck
- **Wordless Picture Book** – a book usually geared toward children that is illustrated and contains no words.
 - *Flora and the Flamingo* by Molly Idle
 - *Journey* by Aaron Becker
 - *Where's Walrus?* by Stephen Savage
- **Easy Reader** – geared toward beginning readers with limited vocabulary, larger text font and images that illustrate the story to provide context to the reader.
 - *The Cookie Fiasco* by Dan Santat
 - *Kick It, Mo!* by David A. Adler, illustrated by Sam Ricks
 - *A Pig, a Fox, and a Box* by Jonathan Fenske
- **Chapter Book** – geared toward readers that are moving beyond easy readers and are ready for longer texts and fewer illustrations. Chapter books are usually geared toward 7-10 year olds, with short chapters, large type font, and more white space. Chapter books are often less than 100 pages making them the next stepping stone for readers.
 - *Dory Fantasmagory* by Abby Hanlon
 - *Dragon Masters: Rise of the Earth Dragon* by Tracey West
 - *Mercy Watson to the Rescue* by Kate DiCamillo, illustrated by Chris Van Dusen



Formats & Reading Levels



- **Middle Grade** – geared toward 8-12 year old readers, with a more typical type font, less white space, and a few, if any illustrations. The books themselves are usually longer – think 200-300 pages and the chapters are usually longer than chapters found chapter books. Protagonists are usually 11 or 12 years old which allows for more mature content for a more mature reader.
 - *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander
 - *The Girl Who Drank the Moon* by Kelly Barnhill
 - *Sal and Gabi Break the Universe* by Carlos Hernandez
- **Young Adult** – geared toward 13-18 year olds with a protagonist who often learn where they fit into the world, not only within their family and friends, but within a larger context and spend time reflecting on what that means. Young adult novels can include profanity, violence, romance, but doesn't have to.
 - *Cemetery Boys* by Aiden Thomas
 - *Long Way Down* by Jason Reynolds
 - *We Were Liars* by E. Lockhart
- **Anthology** – a selection of short stories written by different authors often about a similar topic.
 - *National Geographic Book of Animal Poetry* edited by J. Patrick Lewis
 - *Flying Lessons & Other Stories* edited by Ellen Oh
 - *A Universe of Wishes* edited by Dhonielle Clayton
- **Graphic novel** – a novel-length narrative written in the format of comic strips – including panels, captions, speech balloons, and the story relies heavily on the graphic/illustration element
 - *Donut Feed the Squirrels* by Mika Song
 - *Freestyle* by Gale Galligan
 - *The Magic Fish* by Trung Le Nguyen
- **Novel in verse** – can be found in middle grade and young adult novels. A novel in verse is a novel-length narrative written in a poetic form rather than in prose (paragraphs).
 - *Like Pickle Juice on a Cookie* by Julie Sternberg
 - *Alone* by Megan E. Freeman
 - *Solo* by Kwame Alexander



PRINTABLE 3RD - 5TH GRADE SUMMER READING LIST

- *The Undead Fox of Deadwood Forest* by Aubrey Hartman
- *Nic Blake and the Remarkables* by Angie Thomas
- *Murray the Viking* by Adam Stower
- *Emma McKenna, Full Out* by Kate Messner
- *Ferris* by Kate DiCamillo
- *Three Blue Hearts* by Lynne Kelly
- *Gracie Under the Waves* by Linda Sue Park
- *Bibsy Cross and the Bad Apple* by Liz Garton Scanlon
- *The Academy* by T.Z. Layton
- *Bodega Cats: Picture Perfect* by Hilda Eunice Burgos
- *Bust or Trust? A Kids' Mystery Book* by Small Wardour
- *Cute Animals That Could Kill You Dead* by Brooke Hartman
- *Dead Ends! Flukes, Flops & Failures that Sparked Medical Marvels* by Lindsey Fitzharris and Adrian Teal
- *I Know Dino!: Amazing Breakthroughs, Mega Mistakes, and Unsolved Mysteries in Dinosaur Science* by Sabrina Ricci and Garret Kruger
- *Search for the Silver Shell* by Robin Yardi
- *Tom and Ironskin* by Alastair Chisholm
- *Rise of the Green Flame* by Bernard Mensah
- *Newbie Fairy* by Kate Korsh
- *Speak Up, Santiago!* by Julio Anta
- *Swim Team* by Johnnie Christmas
- *Unfairies* by by Huw Aaron
- *Saving Sunshine* by Saadia Faruqi
- *Lost & Found* by Mei Yu
- *Pencil & Eraser: We Have a Dull-Emma!* by Jenny Alvarado
- *Sidekicks* by Dan Santat
- *When Pigs Fly* by Rob Harrell
- *Lobster Cop* by Brian Smith
- *They Call Me No Sam!* by Drew Daywalt
- *Sloth Sleuth* by Cyndi Marko
- *Odder* by Katherine Applegate
- *The First Helping* by Jarrett J. Krosoczka
- *El Deafo* by Cece Bell
- *Ways to Make Sunshine* by Renée Watson
- *The Nine Moons of Han Yu and Luli* by Karina Yan Glaser
- *The Millicent Quibb School of Etiquette for Young Ladies of Mad Science* by Kate McKinnon
- *The Unexplainable Disappearance of Mars Patel* by Sheela Chari
- *Bigfoot Takes the Field* by Michael Brumm
- *A Strange Thing Happened In Cherry Hall* by Jasmine Warga
- *A Wolf Called Wander* by Rosanne Parry
- *Code Name Bananas* by David Walliams
- *The Underdogs Catch a Cat Burglar* by Kate and Jol Temple