



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](http://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.

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# Summer

## READING LIST



## K-Grade 2

# Summer Reading List

## K-GRADE 2

*After the Fall (How*

**Humpty Dumpty Got Back Up Again)**

**by Dan Santat, illustrated by the author**  
Roaring Brook Press, 2017,  
ISBN: 9781626726826

Humpty Dumpty conquers his fears in a most extraordinary result.

**The Bad Seed**

**by Jory John, illustrated by Pete Oswald**  
HarperCollins, 2017,  
ISBN: 9780062467768

The story of a baaaaaad sunflower seed who decides it's time for a change.

**Beastly Verse**

**Various authors, illustrated by JooHee Yoon**  
Enchanted Lion Books, 2015,  
ISBN: 9781592701667

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

**Big Cat, Little Cat**

**by Elisha Cooper, illustrated by the author**  
Roaring Brook Press, 2017,  
ISBN: 9781626723719

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

**Blue Sky, White Stars**

**by Sarvinder Naberhaus, illustrated by Kadir Nelson**  
Dial Books, 2017,  
ISBN: 9780803737006

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

**The Book of Mistakes**

**by Corinna Luyken, illustrated by the author**  
Dial Books, 2017,  
ISBN: 9780735227927

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

**Flowers Are Calling**

**by Rita Gray, illustrated by Kenard Pak**

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015, ISBN: 9780544340121

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 Presents: Castles**

**by Tedd Arnold, illustrated by the author**  
Scholastic Press, 2017,  
ISBN: 9780545917384

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

**Freedom in Congo Square**

**by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie**  
little bee books, 2016,  
ISBN: 9781499801033

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.

**Get a Hit, Mo!**

**by David A. Adler, illustrated by Sam Ricks**  
Penguin Young Readers, 2016,  
ISBN: 9780670016327

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

**Good Night, Planet**

**by Liniers, illustrated by the author**

Toon Books, 2017,  
ISBN: 9781943145201

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.

**Hank's Big Day: The Story of a Bug**

**by Evan Kuhlman, illustrated by Chuck Groenink**  
Schwartz & Wade, 2016, ISBN: 9780553511505

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

**Jabari Jumps**

**by Gaia Cornwall, illustrated by the author**  
Candlewick Press, 2017,  
ISBN: 9780763678388

The big moment has come for Jabari 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.

**Marta! Big & Small**

**by Jen Arena, illustrated by Angela Dominguez**  
Roaring Brook Press, 2016,  
ISBN: 9781626722439

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

**My Awesome Summer by P. Mantis**

**by Paul Meisel, illustrated by the author**  
Holiday House, 2017,  
ISBN: 9780823436712

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.

**My Beautiful Birds**

**By Suzanne Del Rizzo, illustrated by the author**  
Pajama Press, 2017,  
ISBN: 9781772780109

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.

**The Night Gardener**

**by Terry Fan and Eric Fan**  
Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2016,  
ISBN: 9781481439787

William and the elderly gardener help transform their town by creating anonymous topiary artwork.

**Now**

**by Antoinette Portis, illustrated by the author.**  
Roaring Brook Press, 2017,  
ISBN: 9781626721371

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

**A Piece of Home**

**by Jeri Watts, illustrated by Hyewon Yum**  
Candlewick Press, 2016,  
ISBN: 9780763669713

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.

**La Princesa and the Pea**

**by Susan Middleton Elya, illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal**

G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers, 2017,  
ISBN: 9780399251566

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

**Robinson**

**by Peter Sis, illustrated by the author**  
Scholastic Press, 2017,  
ISBN: 9780545731669

Exquisite art and a heartfelt story of adventure and friendship come together in this imaginative, magical book.

**Strictly No Elephants**

**by Lisa Mantchev, illustrated by Taeun Yoo**  
Simon & Schuster/Paula Wiseman Books, 2015,  
ISBN: 9781481416474

Pets—and friends—come in all shapes and sizes.

**This is My Dollhouse**

**by Giselle Potter, illustrated by the author**  
Schwartz and Wade, 2016,  
ISBN: 9780553521535

A little girl's homemade dollhouse inspires hours of creativity - but can it compare to her friend's store bought one?

**What Do You Do With a Problem?**

**by Kobi Yamada, illustrated by Mae Besom**  
Compendium Inc., 2016,  
ISBN: 9781943200009

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.

