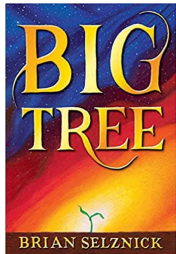


Summer Reading List (students entering 5th grade)



The Rhythm of Time by QuestLove

This smart new time-travel tale carries kids back to Philadelphia in the 1990s. It's not all that far back into the past, but things are just different enough to give Rahim and Kasia some serious adventures.



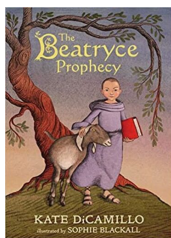
The Big Tree by Brian Selznick

Part fantasy, part nature story, and entirely mesmerizing, this is one of those books that will enchant nature-lovers. Two sycamore tree seeds come alive as they tell their tale of adventure among dinosaurs, volcanoes, and other dangers.



Hummingbird by Natalie Lloyd

Be inspired by the story of Olive, who's determined not to let brittle bone disease stand in the way of her dreams. As she searches for a fabled wish-granting hummingbird, she makes friends and learns more about herself too.



The Beatryce Prophecy by Kate DiCamillo

This is one of the most popular books of the last few years. Mysterious Beatryce might be the girl foretold in a prophecy, and it puts her life in danger. The magical medieval setting captures the imagination, as do the intriguing cast of characters.



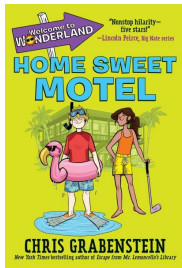
The Many Meanings of Meilan by Andrea Wang

At Meilan's new school, the principal decides she should go by Melanie to make it easier for the other (White) students to pronounce. This sets Meilan off on a journey to find out more about her own name—and herself.



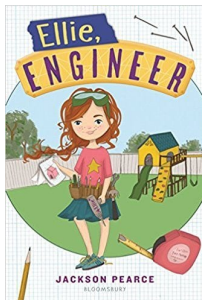
***A Girl Raccoon and the Midnight Moon*
*by Karen Romano Young***

Award-winning author Karen Romano Young spins a clever caper around a group of tweens trying to crack a case that may help them prevent their beloved local library from closing.



Home Sweet Motel by Chris Grabenstein

In this offering from a favorite middle grade author, P.T. Wilkie and his friend Gloria try to save his family's Wonderland motel—a kid's paradise—from financial ruin. Readers will be cheering them on as they laugh at P.T.'s tendency to “embellish” stories, the pair's crazy money making strategies, and their wild attempts to solve an unexpected mystery that crops up. Read more of their adventures in the rest of the [Welcome to Wonderland series](#).



Ellie, Engineer by Jackson Pearce

Friends, creativity, and girl-powered STEM: A story about a neighborhood building project is a perfect summer read, especially when led by Ellie, armed with her trusty tool belt. There are two more Ellie books to enjoy too!



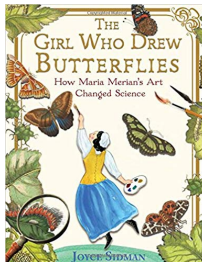
Trapped in a Video Game by Dustin Brady

An unknown villain imprisons Jessie in his least favorite activity—a video game. And if he can't figure out how to beat this mysterious culprit, he'll be stuck in the virtual world. Love Jessie? There's [a whole series](#) about him!



The Season of Styx Malone by Kekia Magoon

Brothers Bobby Gene and Caleb were minding their own business in their small Indiana town when Styx Malone rolled in. Styx is older and wiser and teaches the boys how to pull off an escalator trade, getting better and better stuff until they get something incredible. This book is full of hilarious antics and sweet brotherly relationships.



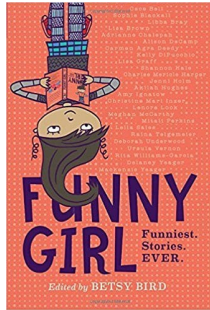
The Girl who Drew Butterflies by Joyce Sidman

Maria Merian was a brave and passionate scientific mind, well ahead of her time. Her story will inspire kids to head outside to look for butterflies and caterpillars in their own garden or nearby park.



Pony on the Twelfth Floor by Polly Faber

Kizzy's desire to own a horse gets the best of her in this humorous tale about trying to own—and hide—a pony in an apartment building.



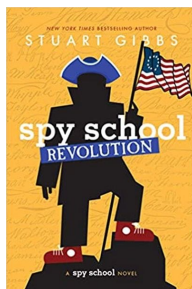
Funny Girl Edited by Betsy Bird

What do you get when 25 of today's funniest women children's book writers combine their stories together in one book? A hilarious collection that will make you laugh until you cry! Bonus: A portion of the proceeds from this book goes to support [WriteGirl](#), a nonprofit whose mission is to empower girls by promoting creativity and self-expression.



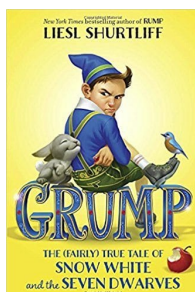
Blended by Sharon M. Draper

A biracial tween must split time equally living with each of her divorced parents (who are both now dating other people and have vastly different income levels). Many kids will see their own lives reflected in her lifestyle-switching tale.



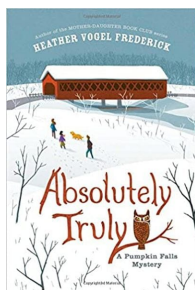
Spy School Revolution by Stuart Gibbs

The latest book in this series features superspy-in-training Ben Dash trying to prove his friend Erica is not a double agent. To do so, he'll have to track down an insurgent group that dates back to colonial times.



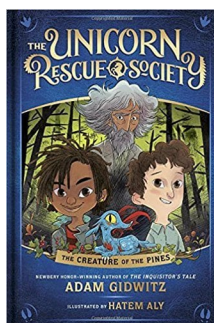
Grump by Liesl Shurtliff

In this author's entertaining way of turning classic fairy tales on their heads for middle grade readers, a young dwarf is torn between the appeal of new friendship and a nagging suspicion that Queen Elfrieda Veronika Ingrid Lenore (E.V.I.L.) has dark intentions.



Absolutely Truly by Heather Vogel Frederick

Truly Lovejoy's family moved from Texas to a tiny town in New Hampshire to take over their family's century-old bookstore. Left largely to her own devices, Truly finds herself chasing down clues found in old books. There are sequels, too.



The Unicorn Rescue Society by Adam Gidwitz

A society for caring for mythical creatures is a surefire hook, but this series by a talented middle-grade author backs up its hype with compelling characters and clever plot twists.



Book Scavenger by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman

The [Book Scavenger Series](#) mystery tales all begin with clues found on Book Scavenger, a fictional geocaching-style game where participants hide books in public places and reveal the locations through encoded clues. Emily and James embark on three rollicking, heart-thumping adventures in and around San Francisco.



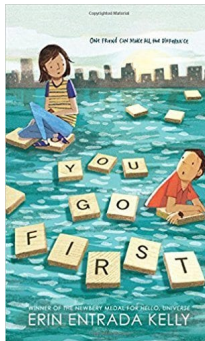
Aline and the Blue Bottle by Carolina Ugazmorán

A Halloween birthday party turns into the beginning of a quest for a young girl who finds out she has magical powers and has to locate a hidden artifact.



The Sea in Winter by Christine Day

Masie Cannon was a ballet dancer in training until a serious leg injury knocked her off her feet. Now she's preparing for a winter road trip to the Native American community where her mother grew up, but she's anything but excited. Can her family help heal her heart?



You Go First by Erin Entrada Kelly

Charlotte and Ben may only know each other through an online Scrabble game, but they're both busy finding their way through middle school. Though they live far apart, their friendship grows in unexpected ways as they spend one eventful week supporting each other through family troubles and school challenges.



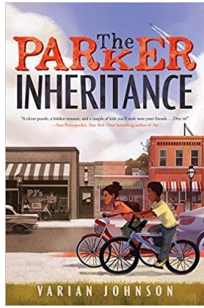
Hide and Seeker by Daka Hermon

Beat the summer heat by sending chills down your spine! In this thriller, a group of tweens is drawn into waking versions of their own nightmares in a spooky game of hide-and-seek. It's the perfect middle school summer reading list pick for reluctant readers.



The Mother-Daughter Book Club by Heather Vogel Frederick

Imagine your mom got together with a group of other moms and decided to form a book club, and you and your middle school acquaintances have no choice but to join. A group reading of *Little Women* makes unlikely friends out of the four girls, leading to a whole [Mother-Daughter Book Club series](#).



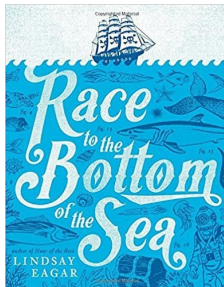
The Parker Inheritance by Varian Johnson

A puzzling letter sends Candice on a summer quest to find treasure and clear her grandmother's name. Reviewers compare this historical mystery to Ellen Raskin's classic [The Westing Game](#).



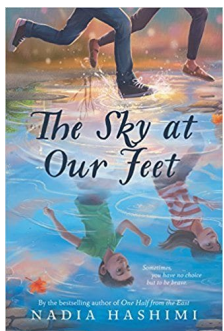
Get a Grip, Vivy Cohen! by Sarah Kapit

Vivy Cohen has wanted to be a baseball pitcher ever since she met pro ballplayer VJ Capello. But things aren't so simple for Vivy: She is autistic, and her mom says she can't play baseball because she's a girl. That doesn't stop Vivy from being invited to join a Little League team. And when Vivy writes a letter to VJ, she's surprised to get a reply.



Race to the Bottom of the Sea by Lindsay Eagar

Fidelia Quail's life assisting in her parents' marine biology research is already unusual. But when they drown in a storm and she's kidnapped by pirates, this story catapults into page-turning summer adventure territory.



The Sky at our Feet by Nadia Hashimi

Summer is for compelling page-turners and characters that move you. Everything changes for Jason when he finds out that his Afghan mother, whom he thought was deported, is living illegally in the United States.