



Summer Reading 2021 Grades K-2

Title	Author	Description
Don't Throw it to Mo!	Adler, A.	Penguin. 2015. Mo is the youngest kid on the Robins football team. The kids on the rival team tease him for being a 'butterfingers' who's too tiny to catch the ball. But Mo's coach has a plan up his sleeve to turn Mo's little size into a big win for the Robins.
Among the Stars	Ahmed, R. Mae	Harper Collins. 2018. When young Mae Jemison is asked by her teacher what she wants to be when she grows up, African American Mae tells her mostly white classmates that she wants to be an astronaut, a dream that her parents wholeheartedly support.
Daniel Finds a Poem	Archer, M. Daniel	Nancy Paulsen Books. 2016. A little boy's animal friends help him discover the poetry to be found in nature.
Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut	Barnes, D.	Bolden. 2017. Celebrates the magnificent feeling that comes from walking out of a barber shop with newly-cut hair.
Whoosh!: Lonnie Johnson's Super-soaking Stream of Inventions	Barton, C.	Charlesbridge. 2016. Chronicles the life and achievements of the NASA engineer and inventor, from his childhood to his accidental invention of the Super Soaker water gun.
Ada Twist, Scientist	Beaty, A.	Abrams. 2016. Ada Twist is a very curious girl who shows perseverance by asking questions and performing experiments to find things out and understand the world.
It's Shoe Time!	Collier, B.	Hyperion. 2017. If you choose to wear unmatched shoes, can they still be a pair?
Jabari Jumps	Cornwall, Gaia.	Candlewick. 2017. Jabari is definitely ready to jump off the diving board. He's finished his swimming lessons and passed his swim test, and he's a great jumper, so he's not scared at all.



Depp in the Sahara	Cunnane, K.	Dragonfly Books. 2013. An Arab girl of the Sahara who wants to wear a malafa, the veiled dress worn by her mother and older sister, learns that the garment represents beauty, mystery, tradition, belonging, and faith.
Last Stop on Market Street.	de la Peña, M.	Putnam. 2015. Every Sunday after church, CJ and his grandma ride the bus across town. But today, CJ wonders why they don't own a car like his friend Colby. Why doesn't he have an iPod like the boys on the bus? How come they always have to get off in the dirty part of town? Each question is met with an encouraging answer from grandma, who helps him see the beauty -- and fun -- in their routine and the world around them.
Island Born	Diaz, J.	Dial. 2018. Lola was just a baby when her family left the Island, so when she has to draw it for a school assignment, she asks her family, friends, and neighbors about their memories of her homeland ... and in the process, comes up with a new way of understanding her own heritage
Llama, Llama and the Bully Goat.	Dewdney, A.	Viking. 2013. Following the teacher's lead, Llama Llama speaks to Gilroy Goats and tells him he should not act like a bully on the playground.
What Can a Citizen do?	Eggers, D.	Chronicle. 2018. Across the course of several seemingly unrelated but ultimately connected actions by different children, readers watch how kids turn a lonely island into a community.
Rainbow Stew	Falwell, C.	Lee & Low. 2013. On a rainy summer day, three children and their grandpa pick vegetables in his garden and then cook and share a delicious meal of his famous Rainbow Stew. Includes recipe.



Julian is a Mermaid	Love, J.	Candlewick. 2018. While riding the subway home from the pool with his abuela one day, Julián notices three women spectacularly dressed up. Their hair billows in brilliant hues, their dresses end in fishtails, and their joy fills the train car. When Julián gets home, daydreaming of the magic he's seen, all he can think about is dressing up just like the ladies in his own fabulous mermaid costume: a butter-yellow curtain for his tail, the fronds of a potted fern for his headdress. But what will Abuela think about the mess he makes -- and even more importantly, what will she think about how Julián sees himself?
The Best Club	Manushkin, F.	Picture Windows. 2017. Katie Woo and her friends would love to be part of Sophie's new club, but Sophie does not think they, or anyone, is good enough, so they form their own club.
Alma and How She Got Her Name.	Martinez-Neal, J	Candlewick. 2018. When Alma José Pura Candela asks her father why she has so many names, she hears the story of her name and learns about her grandparents.
Princess Hair	Miller, S.	Little, Brown. 2017. Little girls pretending to be princesses celebrate the shapes, textures, and styles of their black different hair.
Thank You, Omu!	Mora, O.	Little Brown. 2017. When the aroma of Omu's homemade stew fills the air, her neighbors arrive, one by one, for a taste until all is gone except for her generous spirit.
Dreamers	Morales, Y.	Neal Porter Books. 2018. An illustrated picture book autobiography in which winning author Yuyi Morales tells her own - award immigration story.
This Day in June	Pitman, G.	Magination Press. 2014. A picture book illustrating a Pride parade. The end matter serves as a primer on LGBT history and culture and explains the references made in the story.
The Bear Ate Your Sandwich	Sarccone-Ranch, J.	Knopf. 2015. When a sandwich goes missing, it seems that a bear is the unlikely culprit.
I Got the Rhythm	Schonfield-Morrison, C.	Bloomsbury. 2014. On a trip to the park with her mother, a young girl hears a rhythm coming from the world around her and begins to move to the beat, finally beginning an impromptu dance in which other children join her.



Ballet Cat: The Totally Secret Secret	Shea, B.	Hyperion. 2015. While Ballet Cat and Sparkles the Pony are trying to decide what to play, they each share an important secret.
Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race	Shetterly, M.L.	Harper Collins. 2018. Katherine, Dorothy, Mary, and Christine were hardworking and persistent and most important, smart. And that's why NASA hired them as mathematicians, also known as colored computers, to help send the United States into space for the very first time. This inspiring story brings to life these four hidden figures and what they overcame to succeed, changing not only their own lives, but the face of air and space travel forever.
Mommy's Khimar	Thompkins-Bigelow, J.	Random House. 2018. A young Muslim girl puts on a head scarf and not only feels closer to her mother, she also imagines herself as a queen, the sun, a superhero, and more.
Should I Share My Ice Cream?	Williams, M.	Hyperion. 2011. Gerald the elephant has a big decision to make, but will he make it in time?
The Day You Begin	Woodson, J.	Nancy Paulsen Books. 2018. Other students laugh when Rigoberto, an immigrant from Venezuela, introduces himself but later, he meets Angelina and discovers that he is not the only one who feels like an outsider.
We are Water Protectors	Lindstrom, Carole	Roaring Brook, 2020. Told from the perspective of a Native American child, this bold and lyrical picture book written by Ojibwe/Métis author and illustrated by Tlingit artist is a powerful call to action to defend Earth's natural resources—inspired by the Dakota Access Pipeline protests and similar movements led by Indigenous tribes all across North America.
Eyes That Kiss in the Corner	Ho, Joanna	HarperCollins, 2021. A young Asian girl notices that her eyes look different from her peers'. They have big, round eyes and long lashes. She realizes that her eyes are like her mother's, her grandmother's, and her little sister's. They have eyes that kiss in the corners and glow like warm tea, crinkle into crescent moons, and are filled with stories of the past and hope for the future.



You Matter	Robinson, Christian	Atheneum, 2020. In this full, bright, and beautiful picture book, many different perspectives around the world are deftly and empathetically explored—from a pair of bird-watchers to the pigeons they’re feeding. Young readers will be drawn into the luminous illustrations inviting them to engage with the world in a new way and see how everyone is connected, and that everyone matters.
I am Every Good Thing	Barnes, D.	Nancy Paulsen Books, 2020. The confident Black narrator of this book is proud of everything that makes him who he is. He’s got big plans, and no doubt he’ll see them through—as he’s creative, adventurous, smart, funny, and a good friend. Sometimes he falls, but he always gets back up. And other times he’s afraid, because he’s so often misunderstood and called what he is not. So slow down and really look and listen, when somebody tells you—and shows you—who they are. There are superheroes in our midst!
All the Way to the Top: How One Girl’s Fight for Americans with Disabilities Changed Everything	Pimentel, Annette Bay	Sourcebook Explore, 2020. Experience the true story of lifelong activist Jennifer Keelan-Chaffins and her participation in the Capitol Crawl in this inspiring autobiographical picture book.
I Talk Like a River	Scott, Jordan	Holiday House, 2020. When a boy who stutters feels isolated, alone, and incapable of communicating in the way he’d like, it takes a kindly father and a walk by the river to help him find his voice. Compassionate parents everywhere will instantly recognize a father’s ability to reconnect a child with the world around him.
Under my Hijab	Khan, Hena	Lee & Low, 2018. Grandma’s hijab clasps under her chin. Auntie pins hers up with a whimsical brooch. Jenna puts a sun hat over hers when she hikes. Iman wears a sports hijab for tae kwon do. As a young girl observes the women in her life and how each covers her hair a different way, she dreams of the possibilities in her own future and how she might express her personality through her hijab.



Yo Soy Muslim	Gonzales, Mark	Simon & Schuster, 2017. Written as a letter from a father to his daughter, Yo Soy Muslim is a celebration of social harmony and multicultural identities. The vivid and elegant verse, accompanied by magical and vibrant illustrations, highlights the diversity of the Muslim community as well as Indigenous identity. A literary journey of discovery and wonder, Yo Soy Muslim is sure to inspire adults and children alike.
Fry Bread	Maillard, Kevin Noble	Roaring Brook Press, 2019. A picture book picture book about food, family, history, and culture told in lively and powerful verse by Seminole Nation member Kevin Noble Maillard
In My Mosque	Yuksel, M.O.	Harper, 2021. No matter who you are or where you're from, step in and discover all the rituals and wonders of the mosque—everyone is welcome here. From grandmothers reading lines of the Qur'an and the imam telling stories of living as one, to meeting new friends and learning to help others, mosques are centers for friendship, community, and love.
Amira's Picture Day	Faruqi, Reem	Holiday House, 2021. Amira is excited because tomorrow is Eid with special clothes, treats, gifts, and a morning party at her mosque; but then she realizes that she is going to miss class picture day at school, something she was also looking forward to--so Amira has to figure out a way to be in two places at once.
Fatima's Great Outdoors	Tariq, Ambreen	Kokila, 2021. Fatima Khazi is excited for the weekend. Her family is headed to a local state park for their first camping trip! The school week might not have gone as planned, but outdoors, Fatima can achieve anything. She sets up a tent with her father, builds a fire with her mother, and survives an eight-legged mutant spider (a daddy longlegs with an impressive shadow) with her sister. At the end of an adventurous day, the family snuggles inside one big tent, serenaded by the sounds of the forest. The thought of leaving the magic of the outdoors tugs at Fatima's heart, but her sister reminds her that they can keep the memory alive through stories—and they can always daydream about what their next camping trip will look like.



Your Place in the Universe	Chin, Jason	Most eight-year-olds are about five times as tall as this book...but only half as tall as an ostrich, which is half as tall as a giraffe...twenty times smaller than a California Redwood! How do they compare to the tallest buildings? To Mt. Everest? To stars, galaxy clusters, and...the universe?
Born Ready: the True Story of a Boy Named Penelope	Patterson, Jodie	Just before his fifth birthday, Penelope lets his mother know he is a boy and, with her support and his ninja powers, faces the rest of his family and his classmates.