



Dear Families:

Abington School District is pleased to suggest books your children might enjoy reading over the summer months, curated by our elementary school librarians. You may also enjoy other books by these authors! For more suggestions about books and reading aloud, consult your school and public librarians.

Janine Sack, Supervisor of Literacy
Abington School District | 215-881-2514

Please visit our ASD Libraries website for many great summer reading resources (and all year round!):

<https://sites.google.com/abington.k12.pa.us/asd-libraries/home>

Be sure to visit the “Books & Podcasts” page for additional book lists, reading suggestions, recommended websites, and more. You can also find login information for remote access to our digital libraries and databases, including Tumblebooks and World Book Online.

SUMMER READING SUGGESTIONS - GRADES 5 & 6

GRAPHIC NOVELS

Amulet, by Kazu Kibuishi - After moving to their ancestral home, Emily and Navin’s mother is kidnapped by a tentacled creature in the basement that leads the children on a deadly chase into the magical world below their home.

Dream Jumper, by Greg Grunberg - Ben has an unusual gift: he can jump into other people’s dreams! With danger lurking in the Dream World, can he use his gift to save his friends?

El Deafo, by Cece Bell - A graphic novel memoir of author/illustrator Cece Bell, who grew up hearing impaired.

Hilo, by Judd Winick - A mysterious boy named Hilo falls to the Earth with no memory of who he is or where he came from. Can Gina and DJ help him remember his past—and save the world?

Legends of Zita the Spacegirl, by Ben Hatke - Zita rushes to the rescue after her best friend is whisked away to an alien planet. Look for **Mighty Jack** as well!

Nathan Hale’s Hazardous Tales, by Nathan Hale - A nonfiction series exploring various historical events in graphic novel format.

New Kid, by Jerry Craft - After his parents send him to a prestigious private school known for its academics, Jordan Banks finds himself torn between two worlds.

Real Friends, by Shannon Hale - A graphic memoir recounting the ups and downs of the author’s childhood friendships. Great for fans of Raina

Telgemeier! Look for the sequel, *Best Friends*, as well.

Sanity & Tallulah, by Molly Brooks - Follow the adventures of two smart, creative friends who live on a space station!

Science Comics, by Various Authors - A graphic nonfiction series exploring various science topics.

Star Wars Jedi Academy, by Various Authors - Star Wars fans will love the adventures of a new generation of young Jedis-in-training!

Stargazing, by Jen Wang - Moon and Christine have nothing in common but the Chinese-American suburb in which they both live. Can they find a way to be friends despite their differences? A great graphic novel for fans of Raina Telgemeier and Shannon Hale.

Stepping Stones, by Lucy Knisley - Jen’s life is flipped upside-down when she is forced to move to the country with her mom, her mom’s boyfriend Walter, and her two new “sisters,” Andy and Reese. A great graphic novel for fans of Raina Telgemeier and Shannon Hale.

Sunny, by Jennifer L. Holm & Matthew Holm - This semi-autobiographical series follows Sunny Lewin, whose family must cope as her older brother struggles with addiction. Start with *Sunny Side Up*.

When Stars are Scattered, by Victoria Jamieson & Omar Mohamed - The extraordinary story of Omar Mohamed’s experience growing up in a refugee camp full of resilience and hope, as told by Mohamed to graphic novelist Victoria Jamieson. Look for *Roller Girl* as well.

FICTION

Amina's Voice, by Hena Khan - Amina, whose family is Pakistani-American and Muslim, tries to both stay true to her culture and blend in at school after an act of vandalism in her community.

Ana Maria Reyes Does Not Live in a Castle, by Hilda Eunice Burgos - With a new sibling on the way and a big piano recital on the horizon, Ana María Reyes tries to win a scholarship to a New York City private school.

Because of the Rabbit, by Cynthia Lord - After years of being home schooled, Emma starts fifth grade at a public school and struggles with the challenges of being new and being paired with Jack, a boy who doesn't seem to fit in with anyone, on a school project.

Clean Getaway, by Nic Stone - Join Scoob as he sets off on an unplanned summer road trip with his grandmother--and uncovers some family secrets from long ago.

Dactyl Hill Squad, by Daniel Jose Older - It's the summer of 1863, and while the Civil War is raging, Magdalys and her friends at the Colored Orphan Asylum are trying to survive in dangerous, dinosaur-ridden New York City.

Finding Langston, by Lesa Cline-Ransome - Discovering a book of Langston Hughes' poetry in the library helps Langston cope with the loss of his mother, relocating from Alabama to Chicago as part of the Great Migration, and being bullied. Look for *Leaving Lymon* as well.

Front Desk, by Kelly Yang - Mia Tang helps out at the front desk of the motel where her parents work and dreams of becoming a writer--but she and her family are also using the motel to help immigrants new to the U.S. Will the motel owner uncover their secret?

Hoax for Hire, by Laura Martin - The McNeil family has always been professional hoaxers--tricking bystanders into believing they're seeing legendary creatures like Bigfoot and the Loch Ness Monster. Unlike the rest of his family, Grayson wants nothing to do with the business, but he may be the only one who can help when things go disastrously wrong.

Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus, by Dusti Bowling - Aven was born without arms and has trouble fitting in at her new school after her parents take a job at a struggling western theme park. Can a new friend help her solve a mystery at the park?

The List of Things That Will Not Change, by Rebecca Stead - When Bea's parents divorced several years ago, a lot of things in her life changed, so she started a journal to keep track of the things that don't. Now that

her dad is getting remarried, what else might change? Look for *When You Reach Me* and *Liar & Spy* as well!

Merci Suarez Changes Gears, by Meg Medina - Merci and her brother Roli don't exactly fit in at their new private school as scholarship recipients. Before long, Merci becomes a target of a school bully, while also noticing that her grandfather, Lolo, has become increasingly forgetful.

The One and Only Bob, by Katherine Applegate - In this sequel to *The One and Only Ivan*, Bob, a dog, tells his story and proves to everyone, including himself, that there is a big, brave heart in his little chest.

The Parker Inheritance, by Varian Johnson - Candice Miller is spending the summer in the old house that belonged to her grandmother. When she finds an old letter that once sent her grandmother on a treasure hunt, she finds herself caught up in the mystery.

Prairie Lotus, by Linda Sue Park - In Dakota Territory in the 1880s, half-Chinese Hanna and her white father face racism and resistance to change as they try to make a home for themselves.

Roll With It, by Jamie Sumner - Ellie may be new in town, and the only student in a wheelchair at her new school, but she won't let anything stand in the way of her dreams of being a professional baker.

Sal & Gabi Break the Universe, by Carlos Hernandez - Sal can reach into time and space and manipulate objects (and people!) from other universes. When Gabi discovers his secret, can she help him repair the damage he's caused? Also look for the sequel, *Sal & Gabi Fix the Universe*.

The Season of Styx Malone, by Kekla Magoon - Caleb Franklin and his younger brother, Bobby Gene, spend an extraordinary summer their new, older neighbor, Styx Malone, a foster boy from the city

Stand Up, Yumi Chung!, by Jessica Kim - Yumi may be shy, but she also dreams of becoming a stand-up comic. She's supposed to spend her summer in a tutoring program, but will anyone notice if she takes another girl's place at comedy camp?

Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky, by Kwame Mbalia - Tristan accidentally creates a hole in the world of Midpass, where African gods and African-American folk legends are more real than he imagined. A great choice for Percy Jackson fans!

The War That Saved My Life, by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley - Ada and her brother are evacuated from London to the English countryside during World War II, where they experience a different way of life away from their abusive mother. Look for the sequel, *The War I Finally Won*, too.

NONFICTION & POETRY

Brown Girl Dreaming, by Jacqueline Woodson - Author Jacqueline Woodson shares her childhood memories and reveals the first sparks that ignited her writing career in free-verse poems about growing up in both the Northern and Southern United States.

Camp Panda: Helping Cubs Return to the Wild, by Catherine Thimmesh - Explore efforts to save the vulnerable panda population, especially helping cubs survive in the wild.

Forgive Me, I Meant to Do It, by Gail Carson Levine - A collection of funny false apology poems inspired by William Carlos Williams's classic "This Is Just to Say."

Interactive History Adventure, by Various Authors - Explore several story paths through various periods and events in history. For more interactive nonfiction, look for the **Can You Survive...?** series as well.

Little Dreamers: Visionary Women Around the World, by Vashti Harrison - Tells the true stories of women creators and thinkers from around the world. Also look for **Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History**.

Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Black Boy, by Tony Medina and 13 artists - A collection of 13 poems exploring everyday life as a young man of color.

Two Truths & a Lie, by Laurie Ann Thomson - Can you tell the difference between fact and fiction? Test your skills with some strange stories from history and science!

The Undeclared, by Kwame Alexander - A celebration of African American history and culture.

Wet Cement: A Mix of Concrete Poems, by Bob Raczka - A thoughtful and whimsical collection of concrete poems described by the poet as "word paintings."

SERIES

(Fairly) True Tales and Stories, by Liesl Shurtliff

I Survived, by Lauren Tarshis

**Kiranmala and the Kingdom Beyond,
by Sayantani DasGupta**

Origami Yoda, by Tom Angleberger

Platypus Police Squad, by Jarrett J. Krosoczka

Ranger in Time, by Kate Messner

Robyn Hoodlum, by Kekla Magoon

Wings of Fire, by Tui Sutherland

MORE SUGGESTED AUTHORS

Kwame Alexander
Tom Angleberger
Katherine Applegate
Avi
Joseph Bruchac
Lesa Cline-Ransome
Christopher Paul Curtis
Sharon Draper
Stuart Gibbs
Adam Gidwitz
Tim Green
Margaret Peterson Haddix
Mary Downing Hahn
Carl Hiaasen
Jennifer L. Holm & Matthew Holm
Hena Khan
Erin Entrada Kelly
Victoria Jamieson
Grace Lin
Cynthia Lord
Mike Lupica
Kekla Magoon
Kate Messner
Kadir Nelson
Barbara O'Connor
Linda Sue Park
Matt Phelan
Andrea Davis Pinkney
Jason Reynolds
Brian Selznick
Holly Goldberg Sloan
Laurel Snyder
Jerry Spinelli
Rebecca Stead
Tui Sutherland
Raina Telgemeier
Linda Urban
Rita Williams-Garcia
Jacqueline Woodson

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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