

**Newark**  
Board of Education  
Roger León, Superintendent



# SUMMER



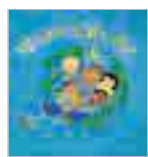
## READING LIST



## BOOKS THAT TELL MANY STORIES

This summer you will read books that tell a variety of stories. You will step into the lives of different people, communities, and cultures that might be very similar or different than your own. Books are a gift that tell a tapestry of stories.

You will read stories about family, belonging, friendship, community, empathy, and so much more. You will learn about others and more about yourself in the pages of a book!



### RISING PRE–KINDERGARTEN

#### **Whoever You Are** by Mem Fox

Every day all over the world, children are laughing and crying, playing and learning, eating and sleeping. They may not look the same. They may not speak the same language. Their lives may be quite different from each other. But inside, they are all alike. Stirring words and bold paintings weave their way around our Earth, across cultures and generations and remind children to accept differences, to recognize similarities, and—most importantly—to rejoice in both.



### RISING KINDERGARTEN

#### **The Colors of Us** by Karen Katz

A positive and affirming look at skin color, from an artist's perspective. Seven-year-old Lena is going to paint a picture of herself. She wants to use brown paint for her skin, but when she and her mother take a walk through the neighborhood, Lena learns that brown comes in many different shades. Through the eyes of a little girl who begins to see her familiar world in a new way, this book celebrates the differences and similarities that connect all people.



### RISING 1ST GRADE

#### **Don't Touch My Hair** by Sharee Miller

It seems that wherever Aria goes, someone wants to touch her hair. In the street, strangers reach for her fluffy curls; and even under the sea, in the jungle, and in space, she's chased by a mermaid, monkeys, and poked by aliens . . . until, finally, Aria has had enough!



### RISING 2ND GRADE

#### **Evelyn Del Rey is Moving Away**

by Meg Medina

Evelyn Del Rey is Daniela's best friend. They do everything together and even live in twin apartments across the street from each other: Daniela with her mami and hamster, and Evelyn with her mami, papi, and cat. But not after today—not after Evelyn moves away. Until then, the girls play amid the moving boxes until it's time to say goodbye, making promises to keep in touch, because they know that their friendship will always be special.



### RISING 3RD GRADE

#### **Go Show the World: A Celebration of Indigenous Heroes** by Wab Kinew

Celebrating the stories of Indigenous people throughout time, Wab Kinew has created powerful song lyrics of which are the basis for the text in this beautiful picture book, including figures such as Crazy Horse and Canadian NHL goalie Carey Price. *Go Show the World* showcases a diverse group of Indigenous people in the U.S. and Canada.



### RISING 4TH GRADE

#### **Return to Sender** by Julia Alvarez

After Tyler's father is injured in a tractor accident, his family is forced to hire migrant Mexican workers to help save their Vermont farm from foreclosure. Tyler isn't sure what to make of these workers. Are they undocumented? The migrant family lives in constant fear of being discovered by the authorities and sent back to the poverty they left behind in Mexico.



### RISING 5TH GRADE

#### **Flying Lessons & Other Short Stories** by Ellen Oh

Whether it is basketball dreams, family fiascos, first crushes, or new neighborhoods, this bold short story collection celebrates the uniqueness and universality in all of us.



### RISING 6TH GRADE

#### **Look Both Ways: A Tale Told in Ten Blocks**

by Jason Reynolds

Jason Reynolds conjures ten tales (one per block) about what happens after the dismissal bell rings, and brilliantly weaves them into one wickedly funny, piercingly poignant look at the detours we face on the walk home, and in life.



### RISING 7TH GRADE

#### **Been There, Done That: Writing Stories from Real Life** by Mike Winchell

This anthology looks at the process of taking real-life experiences and turning them into works of engaging fiction. The collection provides both original fictional short stories as well as the nonfiction accounts that inspired them.



### RISING 8TH GRADE

#### **The Hero Next Door**

by Olugbemisola Rhuday-Perkovich

This vibrant anthology features thirteen acclaimed authors whose powerful and diverse voices show how small acts of kindness can save the day. So pay attention, because a hero could be right beside you. Or maybe the hero is you.



### RISING 9TH GRADE

#### **Black Enough: Stories of Being Young & Black in America**

by Ibi Zoboi

*Black Enough* is an essential collection of captivating stories about what it's like to be young and Black in America.



### RISING 10TH GRADE

#### **Come on In: 15 Stories About Immigration and Finding Home**

by Adi Alsaid

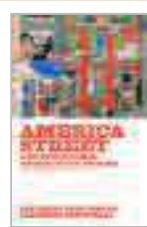
This exceptional and powerful anthology explores the joys, heartbreaks and triumphs of immigration, with stories by critically acclaimed and bestselling young adult authors who are shaped by the journeys they and their families have taken from home—and to find home.



### RISING 11TH GRADE

#### **Fresh Ink: An Anthology** by Lamar Giles

This collection addresses topics like gentrification, acceptance, untimely death, coming out and poverty. It ranges in genre from contemporary realistic fiction to adventure and romance. It will inspire you to break conventions, bend the rules, and color outside the lines. All you need is fresh ink.



### RISING 12TH GRADE

#### **America Street: A Multi-Cultural Anthology of Stories**

by Anne Mazer

Welcome to *America Street*, where every story is as vital and unique as the friends, neighbors, and relatives we encounter every day. Here are fourteen stories about young people told by some of America's best storytellers.