

Prince William County Public Schools
Summer Reading Suggested Reading List

Elementary - Third Grade

The purpose of the Prince William County Public Schools Summer Reading Suggested Reading List is for students to enjoy quality literature and to continue developing their independent reading skills to support critical thinking, creative thinking, communication, collaboration, and citizenship. Student participation in the challenge is voluntary. Students who choose to participate will read books they self-select. Students that read during the summer can grow and explore new experiences to support life-long reading habits.

The following titles are suggestions to help foster a love of reading for pleasure. Other books selected by the student with guidance from a parent, guardian, or librarian are also acceptable.

Author	Title	Publication Date	Annotation
Alexander, Kwame	<i>The Undeclared</i>	2019	An ode to black American triumph and tribulation, with art from a two-time Caldecott Honoree in picture book form. (Caldecott Medal Award)
Barton, Bethany	<i>I'm Trying to Love Spiders</i>	2019	I'm Trying to Love Spiders will help you see these amazing arachnids in a whole new light, from their awesomely excessive eight eyes, to the seventy-five pounds of bugs a spider can eat in a single year! And you're sure to feel better knowing you have a better chance of being struck by lightning than being fatally bit by a spider. (Children's Choice Award)
Barton, Chris	<i>Whoosh!</i>	2016	You know the Super Soaker. It's one of top twenty toys of all time, and it was invented entirely by accident. Read how this toy was invented and is so popular.
Clark-Robinson, Monica	<i>Let the Children March</i>	2018	Under the leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King, children and teenagers march against segregation in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1963. (Coretta Scott King Award, Virginia Readers Choice)
Elliott, Zetta	<i>Dragons in a Bag</i>	2018	In Brooklyn, nine-year-old Jax joins Ma, a curmudgeonly witch who lives in his building, on a quest to deliver three baby dragons to a magical world, and
Engle, Margarita	<i>Dancing Hands</i>	2019	The story of Teresa Carreño, a child prodigy and immigrant from Venezuela who played piano for Abraham Lincoln. (Pura Belpre Award)

Eulberg, Elizabeth	<i>The Great Shelby Holmes: Girl Detective</i>	2017	Shelby Holmes, age 9, is the best detective her New York City neighborhood has ever seen. She uses her mind to solve crimes even before the police have a chance. When John Watson, age 11, moves into her building, Shelby finds a new friend to help her solve the dog napping case in her neighborhood. (Virginia Readers' Choice nomination 2-18-19)
Florian, Douglas	<i>Poem Depot: Aisles of Smiles</i> or any children's poetry book by this author	2014	An illustrated collection of silly nonsense poems about topics kids care about: talents, avoiding homework, friends and more.
Gates, Stefan	<i>Science You Can Eat: Putting What We Eat Under the Microscope</i>	2019	This exciting kids' book tackles all the tasty science questions you have about food - plus plenty more that you hadn't even thought of! Science You Can Eat will transform your kitchen into an awesome lab through 20 fun food experiments. (Children's Choice Awards)
Johnson, Terry Lynn	<i>Avalanche! (Survivor Diaries)</i>	2018	Twelve-year-old twins Ashley and Ryan are tested to the extreme when faced with a powerful avalanche while skiing in Wyoming's Grand Teton mountains. (Virginia Readers Choice)
Jones, Noah	<i>Moldylocks and the Three Beards</i> or any book in the Princess Pink and the Land of Fake-Believe Series	2014	After falling through the refrigerator into the Land of Fake-Believe, Princess meets a girl named Moldylocks who takes her to the home of the Three Beards for chili – but when the Beards capture her friend, Princess must come up with a plan to save her.
Kirby, Stan	<i>Captain Awesome to the Rescue!</i> or any book in the Captain Awesome Series	2012	When second-grader Eugene and his family move to a new neighborhood and he starts at a new school, he has a chance to bring out his superhero alter ego, Captain Awesome, to find the kidnapped class hamster.
Krieg, Katherine	<i>Marie Curie: Physics and Chemistry Pioneer</i>	2014	The life and career of the famous scientist; from her work to her two Noble Prize awards.
Lieb, Josh	<i>Chapter Two is Missing</i>	2019	An investigation is launched to find the missing chapter. Milo, the book's janitor, offers to help, but he ends up not really helping. This comical mystery is a favorite that will prompt readers to talk to the book in order to help solve the mystery. (Children's Choice Awards)

Lorenzi, Natalie	<i>Long Pitch Home</i>	2016	Bilal, age ten, has to leave his home, Pakistan, to come live in America, Bilal tries to keep up with his older cousin by joining a baseball team. Being a cricket player doesn't really help with baseball, but maybe if he proves himself as a pitcher his father just may join the family in America. (Virginia Readers' Choice Title 2018-19)
Maas, Wendy and Stead, Rebecca	<i>Bob</i>	2019	It's been five years since Livy and her family have visited Livy's grandmother in Australia. Now that she's back, Livy has the feeling she's forgotten something really, really important about Gran's house. Bob, a short greenish creature dressed in a chicken suit, has been waiting five years for Livy to come back, hiding in a closet like she told him to (Virginia Readers Choice)
Maciano, Johnny Chenoweth, Emily	<i>Klawde: Evil Alien Warlord Cat</i>	2018	Klawde is not your average cat but an emperor from another planet exiled to Earth. He's cruel. He's cunning. He's brilliant...and about to become Raja's best friend. Elementary Virginia Readers' Choice nomination 2020-21
Marko, Cindy	<i>Let's Get Cracking</i> or any book in the Kung Pow Chicken Series	2014	Gordon Blue and his brother Benny, unlikely superheroes, must save Fowladelphia from Granny Goosebumps, who has filled the city with cookies that cause innocent chickens' feathers to fall off.
McDonald, Megan	<i>Judy Moody, Mood Martian</i> or any book in the Judy Moody Series	2014	When it is "Backward Day," Judy must turn her usual sour mood upside down and be happy and nice for a change.
Meltzer, Brad	<i>I Am Martin Luther King, Jr.</i> or any book in the Ordinary People Change the World Series	2016	A biography of Martin Luther King, Jr. that tells the story of how he used nonviolence to lead the civil rights movement.
Mylnowski, Sarah	<i>Fairest of All</i> or any book in the Whatever After Series	2012	After moving to a new house ten-year-old Abby and brother Jonah discover an antique mirror that transports them into the Snow White fairy tale.
Parry, Rosanne	<i>A Whale of the Wild</i>	2020	A young orca whale must lead her brother on a adventurous journey to be reunited with their pod. This animal adventure novel explores family bonds, survival, global warming, and a changing seascape. Includes information about orcas and their habitats. (Booklist Starred Review)
Peirce, Lincoln	<i>Big Nate: In a Class by Himself</i> or any book in the Big Nate Series	2010	Supremely confident middle school student Nate Wright manages to make getting detention from every one of his teachers in the same day seem like an achievement.

Pierce, Lincoln	<i>Max and the Midknights (series)</i>	2020	With his trademark comic book-style illustrations, Lincoln Peirce brings epic adventure, riotous fun and medieval silliness in Max and the Midknights (Virginia Readers Choice)
Robeson, Teresa	<i>Queen of Physics: How Wu Chien Shiung Helped Unlock the Secrets of the Atom</i>	2019	When Wu Chien Shiung was born in China 100 years ago, most girls did not attend school; no one considered them as smart as boys. But her parents felt differently. They encouraged her love of learning and science. This engaging biography follows Wu Chien Shiung as she becomes what Newsweek magazine called the “Queen of Physics” for her work on beta decay. (International Literacy Association Award)
Shaffer, Jody Jensen	<i>Bearded Dragons</i>	2014	Describes the physical characteristics, behavior and environment of the bearded dragons.
Sherman, Jill	<i>All About Online Gaming</i>	2017	Explores the fascinating world of online gaming with exciting looks at this technology and all it does.
Stewart, Melissa	<i>Pipsqueaks, Slowpokes and Stinkers: Celebrating Animal Underdogs</i>	2020	Describes how the characteristics of some animals that may appear to be weaknesses are critical for finding food or staying safe, from the size of the Amau frog to the stink of the hoatzin's feathers. (Virginia Readers Choice)
Ullman, R. L.	<i>Epic Zero Book 7: Tales of a Long Lost Leader</i>	2020	Elliott Harkness is now the leader of Next Gen, his very own team of preteen superheroes! But when they try to stop a powerful Meta villain from attacking Keystone City, Elliott discovers they're in way over their heads, resulting in absolute disaster! (series)
Winick, Judd	<i>Hilo Book 6: All the Pieces Fit</i>	2020	D.J. and Gina are totally ordinary kids. But Hilo isn't! Hilo fell out of the sky and doesn't know where he came from, or what he's doing on Earth. But UH-OH, what if Hilo wasn't the only thing to fall to our planet? Can the trio unlock the secrets of Hilo's past? Find out in each HILO laugh-out-loud, epic story of friendship! Adventure! (Series)

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