Middle School Summer Reading List 2021

This list was developed by Howard County Public School Library Media Specialists and Children’s Instruction and Research Staff from the Howard County Library System. http://www.hcps.org/academics/library-media/

The titles selected for this recommended summer reading list were chosen specifically for those students leaving grades 6, 7 and 8. Titles included are just a sampling of the books you may enjoy reading during this summer. Many of the authors on this list have written more than one book. Check out some of these titles, too!

Friendship Matters
- The Only Black Girls in Town by Brandy Colbert
- New Kid by Jerry Craft
- Surfside Girls: The Secret of Danger Point by Kim Dwinell
- As the Crow Flies by Melanie Gillman
- Restart by Gordon Korman
- Click by Kayla Miller
- White Bird: A Wonder Story by R. J. Palacio

Tales to Inspire
- The Eagle Huntress: The True Story of the Girl Who Soared Beyond Expectations by Nurgaĭv Aĭsholpan
- Infinite Hope: A Black Artist’s Journey from World War II to Peace by Ashley Bryan
- Back from the Brink: Saving Animals from Extinction by Nancy Castaldo
- Kakapo Rescue: Saving the World’s Strangest Parrot by Sy Montgomery
- Sachiko: A Nagasaki Bomb Survivor’s Story by Caren Barzelay Stelson
- The Girl Who Drew Butterflies: How Maria Merian’s Art Changed Science by Joyce Sidman

Tales of Families and Prides
- Elatso by Darcie Little Badger
- Swing It, Sunny! by Jennifer L. Holm
- See You In the Cosmos by Jack Cheng
- All the Impossible Things by Lindsay Lackey
- Other Words For Home by Jasmine Warga
- Fast Break by Mike Lupica
- The List of Things That Will Not Change by Rebecca Stead
- When You Trap a Tiger by Tae Keller
- Stepping Stones by Lucy Knisley
- The Ghost Collector by Allison Mills
- Twilight Hauntings by Angie Sage

Tails of Adventure
- Monstrous: The Lore, Gore and Science Behind Your Favorite Monsters by Carlyn Beccia
- Journey of the Pale Bear by Susan Fletcher
- Saving Marty by Paul Griffin
- The Magnificent Monsters of Cedar Street by Lauren Oliver
- Immortal Guardians by Eliot Schrefer
- Ultimate Book of Sharks: Your Guide to these Fierce and Fantastic Fish by Brian Skerry
- This Is War by Margaret Stohl
- Mooncakes by Suzanne Walker

Gales, Tales & Things with Sails
- The Grand Escape: The Greatest Prison Breakout of the 20th Century by Neal Bascomb
- Clean Getaway by Nic Stone
- Refugee by Alan Gratz
- Capsized!: The Forgotten Story of the SS Eastland Disaster by Patricia Sutton
- Torpedoed: The True Story of the World War II Sinking of "The Children’s Ship" by Deborah Heiligman

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**Historical Tales**

- *Crossing Ebenezer Creek* by Tonya Bolden
- *Forensic Investigations of the Ancient Egyptians* by James Bow
- *The Unabomber: Agent Kathy Puckett and the Hunt for a Serial Bomber* by Bryan Denson
- *War in the Ring: Joe Louis, Max Schmeling, and the Fight between America and Hitler* by John Florio and Ouisie Shapiro
- *If I Ever Get Out of Here* by Eric Gansworth
- *The Disappearing Spoon: And Other True Tales of Rivalry, Adventure, and the History of the World from the Periodic Table of the Elements* by Sam Kean
- *Show Me a Sign* by Ann Clare LeZotte

**Social Issues & Other Tales**

- *King and the Dragonflies* by Kacen Callender
- *Maybe He Just Likes You* by Barbara Dee
- *Standing Up Against Hate: How Black Women in the Army Helped Change the Course of WWII* by Mary Cronk Farrell
- *When Stars are Scattered* by Victoria Jamieson
- *This Book is Anti-Racist: 20 Lessons on How to Wake Up, Take Action, and Do the Work* by Tiffany Jewell
- *Something Rotten: A Fresh Look at Roadkill* by Heather L. Montgomery
- *Dissenter On the Bench: Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s Life and Work* by Victoria Ortiz
- *A Good Kind of Trouble* by Lisa Moore Ramée

**Tales of Thriving and Surviving**

- *Flowers in the Gutter: The True Story of the Edelweiss Pirates, Teenagers Who Resisted the Nazis* by K. R. Gaddy
- *The Trail* by Meika Hashimoto
- *Lalani of the Distant Sea* by Erin Entrada Kelly
- *Amazon Adventure: How Tiny Fish are Saving the World’s Largest Rainforest* by Sy Montgomery
- *A Wolf Called Wander* by Rosanne Parry
- *The Light at the Bottom of the World* by London Shah

**Black-Eyed Susan, Grades 6-9**

- *Becoming Muhammad Ali* by Kwame Alexander and James Patterson
- *Finding Orion* by John David Anderson
- *The Disaster Days* by Rebecca Behrens
- *Fighting Words* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
- *Golden Arm* by Carl Deuker
- *Wink: Surviving Middle School with One Eye Open* by Rob Harrell
- *War Stories* by Gordon Korman
- *Homerooms and Hall Passes* by Tom O’Donnell
- *Stamped: Racism, Anti-Racism, and You* by Jason Reynolds
- *Zora and Me: The Cursed Ground* by T. R. Simon

**Black-Eyed Susan Graphic Novel, Grades 6-9**

- *Kodi, Book 1* by Jared Cullum
- *The Dark Matter of Mona Starr* by Laura Lee Gulledge
- *Magus of the Library, Book 1* by Mitzu Izumi
- *Beetle & the Hollowbones* by Aliza Layne
- *The Oracle Code* by Marieke Nijkamp
- *Astronauts: Women on the Final Frontier* by Jim Ottaviani; Illustrated by Maris Wicks
- *Lightfall: The Girl & the Galdurian* by Tim Probert
- *The Magic Fish* by Le Nguyen Trung
- *Dragon Hoops* by Gene Luen Yang
- *City of Secrets* by Victoria Ying