

Reading can be one of the many fun activities children choose to fill their summer time. And research has shown it is also much more!



Children who participate in public library summer reading programs make achievement leaps during the summer and score higher on fall reading achievement tests.

The books on this list come highly recommended by kid readers from all over the country and may also be available in ebook, audio book, braille, and large print formats. Connect with your local library to find out what's happening this summer.

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The 2020 Summer Reading Book List was created by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). Titles on this list were selected by members of ALSC's Quicklists Consulting Committee.

For more booklists, please visit www.ala.org/alsc/booklists.

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SUMMER READING LIST

BIRTH *through* PRESCHOOL

All Kinds of People

by Shelley Rotner, photographs by Sheila M. Kelly
HOLIDAY HOUSE, 2018
ISBN: 9780823439720

Vibrant photographs will inspire young readers to notice that people come in lots of shades in this introduction to racial and ethnic diversity.

Before & After

by Jean Jullien
PHAIDON PRESS, 2017
ISBN: 9780714874081

A series of clever and funny before-and-after scenarios that explore the concept of cause and effect.

Be Kind

by Pat Zietlow Miller, illustrated by Jen Hill
ROARING BROOK, 2018
ISBN: 9781626723214

This sweet story shows how acts of kindness, both big and small, can make a huge difference in someone's life—and yours!

Besos for Baby: A Little Book of Kisses

by Jen Arena, illustrated by Blanca Gómez
LITTLE, BROWN, 2014
ISBN: 9780316230377

This is a wonderful bilingual read-aloud with beautiful graphic illustrations. It's a story that is bound to show that love is the same no matter the language!

Ciao, Baby! In the Park

by Carole Lexa Schaefer, illustrated by Lauren Tobia
CANDLEWICK, 2018
ISBN: 9780763683986

Baby and Nonna go to the park and greet new friends with a warm hello: Ciao, squirrel! Ciao, pigeon!

Goodbye, Friend! Hello, Friend!

by Cori Doerrfeld
DIAL, 2019
ISBN: 9780525554233

Stella and Charlie are best friends, but how will their friendship change when Charlie must move away?

Hair Love

by Matthew A. Cherry, illustrated by Vashti Harrison
KOKILA, 2019
ISBN: 9780525553366

Daddy steps in when Mommy is busy and Zuri needs help doing her hair.

Hello Humpback!

by Roy Henry Vickers and Robert Budd, illustrated by Roy Henry Vickers
HARBOUR PUBLISHING, 2017
ISBN: 9781550177992

First Nations artist Vickers takes toddlers to the wild and magical West Coast.

Littles: And How They Grow

by Kelly DiPucchio, illustrated by AG Ford
DOUBLEDAY, 2017
ISBN: 9780399555268

From swaddles to school buses, celebrate everyday cherished moments in the lives of growing children.

Little Sunny Sunshine / Sol solecito

by Susie Jaramillo
ENCANTOS, 2018
ISBN: 9781945635113

A little piggy celebrates the radiance of the sun and the wistfulness of the moon, in English and Spanish.

Lucía the Luchadora

by Cynthia Leonor Garza, illustrated by Alyssa Bermudez
POWL, 2017
ISBN: 9781576878279

"With that mask, you can become anything you dream of being." Lucía's abuela helps her find the courage to stand up to bullies, by sharing that Lucía comes from a long line of strong luchadoras.

My Heart

by Corinna Luyken
DIAL, 2019
ISBN: 9780735227934

Listen to the gentle, rhythmic text describe your heart in an abstract way.

One Lonely Fish

by Andy Mansfield, illustrated by Thomas Flintham
BLOOMSBURY, 2017
ISBN: 9781681192017

Bold colors, die-cut pages, and a twist ending assure repeated readings of this cleverly designed concept book.

A Parade of Elephants

by Kevin Henkes
GREENWILLOW, 2018
ISBN: 9780062668271

Five elephants are on a mission, marching from

dawn to dusk, up and down, through and around in this colorful concept book.

Puppy Truck

by Brian Pinkney
ATHENEUM, 2019
ISBN: 9781534426870

Carter wants a puppy, but he gets a truck instead. Carter's imagination grows, while the reader becomes immersed in the words and sounds of his world.

Rain!

by Linda Ashman, illustrated by Christian Robinson
HMH BOOKS, 2017
ISBN: 9780544880375

A delightful exploration of the power of positive thinking, in a board book format for young children.

Rainbow: A First Book of Pride

by Michael Genhart, illustrated by Anne Passchier
MAGINATION PRESS, 2019
ISBN: 9781433830877

Learn the meaning behind the colors of the Pride flag in this colorful and inclusive story.

Red House, Tree House, Little Bitty Brown Mouse

by Jane Godwin, illustrated by Blanca Gómez
DIAL, 2019
ISBN: 9780525553816

A little brown mouse makes her way around town, naming colors and more as she goes. Engaging rhymes and questions will keep young readers enthralled.

Saturday Is Swimming Day

by Hyewon Yum
CANDLEWICK, 2018
ISBN: 9780763691172

A little girl gradually conquers her fear of swimming in this inspiring story of bravery.

Summer Supper

by Rubin Pfeffer, illustrated by Mike Austin
RANDOM HOUSE, 2018
ISBN: 9781524714642

Shovel, sow, seed, snack: learn how food goes from farm to table in this alliterative, vibrantly colored tale.

Ten Little Toes, Two Small Feet / Diez dedos de los pies, dos piecitos

by Kristy Dempsey, illustrated by Jane Massey
LITTLE BEE, 2018
ISBN: 9781499807073

A diverse parade of toddlers wiggle, waddle, and learn to count in English and Spanish.

Tiny T. Rex and the Impossible Hug

by Jonathan Stutzman, illustrated by Jay Fleck
CHRONICLE BOOKS, 2019
ISBN: 9781452170336

Tiny T. Rex is determined to master hugging, despite having small arms.

Tomorrow Most Likely

by Dave Eggers, illustrated by Lane Smith
CHRONICLE BOOKS, 2019
ISBN: 9781452172781

In this book exploring how soothing and exciting anticipation can be, a child imagines all the adventures he'll "most likely" have in the city tomorrow.

Up, Up, Up, Down!

by Kimberly Gee
PUTNAM, 2019
ISBN: 9780525517337

An entertaining look at opposites featuring an energetic toddler and stay-at-home dad.

Vroom!

by Barbara McClintock
FARRAR, STRAUS AND GIROUX, 2019, ISBN: 9781626722170

A little girl zooms over forests, mountains, rivers, and deserts on an imaginary journey in a race car.

You and Me

by Rebecca Kai Dotlich, illustrated by Susan Reagan
CREATIVE EDITIONS, 2018
ISBN: 9781568463216

This poetically and sensitively explores the importance of balancing attention given to an older and younger sibling.