



**Summer  
Reading  
List**

**Preschool – Grade 12**



## Preschool

**All Kinds of People** by Shelly 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.

**A Parade of Elephants** by Keven Henkes. Illustrated 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.

**Before and After** by Jean Jullien. Illustrated by Jean Jullien. Phaidon Press. 2017. ISBN: 978071487408. A series of clever and funny before-and-after scenarios that explore the concept of cause and effect.

**Beware of the Crocodile** by Martin Jenkins. Illustrated by Satoshi Kitamura. Candelwick. 2019. ISBN: 978763675387. This book explores the life of crocodiles. It begins with how they feed and then goes into how their babies are born and how they grow up.

**Green** by Laura Vaccaro Seeger. Illustrated by Laura Vaccaro Seeger. Roaring Book Press. 2012. ISBN: 9781596433977. Homage to the color green. This book creates a book that will delight and quite possibly astonish.

**Hair Love** by Mathew A. Cherry. Illustrated by Vashti Harrison. Kokila. 2019. ISBN: 9780525553366. Daddy steps in when Mommy is busy and Zuri needs help doing her hair. "With the mask, you can become anything you dream of being."

**Lucia the Luchadora** by Cynthia Leonor Garza. Illustrated by Alyssa Bermudez. POW! 2017. ISBN: 9781576878279. Lucia's abuela helps her find the courage to stand up to bullies by sharing that Lucia comes from a long line of strong luchadoras.

**One Lonely Fish** by Andy Mansfield. Illustrated by Thomas Flitham. Bloomsbury. 2017 ISBN: 9781681192017. Bold colors, die-cut pages and a twist ending assure repeated readings of this cleverly designed concept book.

**Puppy Truck** by Brian Pickney. Illustrated by Brian Pickney. 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. This is a delightful exploration of the power of positive thinking, in a board book format.

**Saturday is Swimming Day** by Hyewon Yum. Illustrated by Hyewon Yum. Candelwick. 2018. ISBN: 9780763691172. A little girl gradually conquers her fear of swimming in this Inspiring story of bravery.

**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.



## Grades K - 2



**Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story** by Kevin Noble Maillard. Illustrated by Juana Martinez- Neal. Roaring Book Press/Macmillan. 2019. ISBN: 9781626727465. It takes a staple food of many tribes across the country and uses it to think about family, history, memory and community.

**Little Taco Truck** by Tanya Valentine. Illustrated by Jorge Martin Random House. 2019. ISBN: 9781524765859. Little Taco Truck finds the perfect place to serve his customers, but what will he do when another truck parks in his spot? This includes vivid colors and a great lesson about communicating with others when there are problems.

**Llama Destroys the World** by Jonathan Stutzman. Illustrated by Heather Fox. Henry Holt Books. 2019. ISBN: 9781250303172. A funny silly llama eats too much cake, and the resulting silliness takes the reader on a rollicking journey through his wild adventures.

**Moon! Earth's Best Friend** by Stacy McAnulty. Illustrated by Steve Lewis. Henry Holt Books. 2019. ISBN: 97812502039839. This is an autobiography told from the moon's perspective. Moon explains why she and Earth will always stick together and how she never turns her back on Earth. This is a wonderful explanation of the moon's purpose and relationship to our planet.

**My Papi Has a Motorcycle** by Isabel Quintero. Illustrated by Zeke Pena. Kokila. 2019. ISBN: 9780525553410. Daisy and her papi take a spin on his motorcycle taking in the sights and sounds of their beloved neighborhood.

**Parker Looks Up: An Extraordinary Moment** by Parker Curry and Jessica Curry. Illustrated by Brittany Jackson. Illustrated by Simon & Schuster. 2019. ISBN: 9781534451865. A visit to Washington D.C.'s National Portrait Gallery forever alters Parker Curry's young life when she views First Lady Michelle Obama's portrait.

**Planting Stories: The Life of Librarian and Storyteller Pura Belpre** by Anika Aldamuy Denise. Illustrated by Paola Escobar. Harper Collins. 2019. ISBN: 9780062748683. This is an inspiring Picture book biography of storyteller, puppeteer, and New York City's first Puerto Rican librarian who championed bilingual literature.

**Queen of Physics: How Wu Chien Shiung Helped Unlock the Secrets of the Atom** by Teresa Robeson. Illustrated by Rebecca Huang. Sterling Children's Books. 2019. ISBN: 9781454932208. This engaging biography follows Wu Chien Shiung as she battles sexism and racism to become the "Queen of Physics" for her work on beta decay.

**Skulls!** by Blair Thornburgh. Illustrated by Scott Campbell. Atheneum. 2019. ISBN: 9781534414006. This is a book all about skulls and their many functions!

**Superheroes Are Everywhere** by Kamala Harris. Illustrated by Metal Renee Roe. Penguin Random House. 2019. 9781984837493. From Senator Kamala Harris comes a picture book with an Empowering message: Superheroes are all around us — and if we try, we can all be heroes too.

**The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family** by Ibtihaj Muhammad and S.K. Ali. Illustrated by Hatem Aly. Little Brown. 2019. ISBN: 9780316519007. Faizah's older sister, Asia, is a Princess. She certainly looks like one on her first day of sixth grade and her first day learning her beautiful, bold blue headscarf to school.



## Grades 3 - 5

**Chapter Two is Missing** by Josh Lieb. Illustrated by Kevin Cornell. Penguin Young Readers/Razorbill. 2019. ISBN: 9781984835482. An investigation to find the missing Chapter. Milo, the book's janitor, offers to help, but he ends up not really helping.

**Does it Fart? A Kid's Guide to the Gas Animals Pass** by Nick Caruso and Dani Rabaiotti. Illustrated by Alex G. Griffiths. Little Brown Books for Young Readers. 2019. ISBN: Have you ever wondered if animals fart? Or how gas can even pass? Well, wonder no more! This entertaining and humorous nonfiction book will keep you guessing.

**Front Desk** by Kelly Yang. Arthur A. Levin. 2019. ISBN: 9781338157796. A young girl and her family manage a motel and adjust to a new life in America after emigrating from China.

**Her Own Two Feet: A Rwandan Girl's Brave Fight to Walk** by Meredith Davis and Rebeka Uwitonze. Scholastic Focus. 2020. ISBN: 97813383856373. Rebeka was born with twisted feet. Her inspiring story through her eyes, with the help of one of her hosts.

**Jake the Fake: Goes for Laughs** by Craig Robinson and Adam Mansbach. Illustrated By Keith Knight. Penguin Random House. 2020. 9780553523584. For fans of *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* and *Big Nate* comes the second book in the side-splitting series about a class clown faking his way to comedy stardom from comedian and film star Craig Robinson.

**Lety Out Loud** by Angela Cervantes. Scholastic Press. 2019. 9781338159349. Let Munoz's first language is Spanish, and she likes to take her time putting her words together. She loves volunteering at the Furry Friends Animal Shelter because dogs and cats don't care if she can't always find the right word.

**The Crayon Man: The True Story of the Invention of Crayola Crayons** by Nathaniel Biebow. Illustrated by Steven Salemo. HMH. 2019. ISBN: 9781328866844. An inspiring and informative story of Edwin Binney, the inventor of one of the world's most beloved toys.

**The Next President: The Unexpected Beginnings and Unwritten Future of America's Presidents** by Kate Messner and Adam Rex. Chronicle Books. 2020. ISBN: 9781452174884. An Inspiring and informative book for kids about the past and future of America's presidents.

**The Parker Inheritance** by Varian Johnson. Arthur A. Levine. 2018. ISBN: 9780545946179. Candice would rather be home in Atlantan with her friends this summer, instead of where she is, in her grandmother's small town of Lambert, South Carolina. But the discovery of clues to an intricate puzzle entwined in the town's complicated history could lead to a hidden fortune.

**The Undefeated** by Kwame Alexander. Illustrated by Kadir Nelson. Anderson Press. 2020. ISBN: 9781783449293. This poem love letter to black life in the United States. It highlights the unspeakable trauma of slavery, the faith and fire of the civil rights movement, and the grit, passion, and perseverance of some of the world's greatest heroes.



## Grades 6 - 8

**Apple in the Middle** by Dawn Quigley. North Dakota State University Press. 2018. ISBN: 9781946163073. Apple's name chosen by her Indian mother on her deathbed, has a double meaning: treasured apple of my eye, but also the negative connotation a person who is red, or Indian, on the outside, but white on the inside.

**Born a Crime: Stories From a South African Childhood** by Trevor Noah. Penguin Random House. 2019. ISBN: 9780399588198. The compelling, inspiring, and comically sublime story of one man's coming-of-age, set during the twilight of apartheid and the tumultuous days of freedom that followed.

**Dissenter on the Bench: Ruth Bader Ginsburg's Life and Work** by Victoria Ortiz. Clarion. 2019. 9780544973640. This biography provides highlights from iconic Supreme Court justice's life and career and will inspire young readers to change the world.

**Look Both Ways: A Tale Told in Ten Blocks** by Jason Reynolds. Illustrated by Alexander Nabaum. Atheneum. 2019. ISBN: 9781481438285. Ten tales (about one per block) about what happens after the dismissal bell rings, and brilliantly weaves them into one funny, piercingly poignant look at the detours we face on the walk home, and in life.

**New Kid** by Jerry Craft. Illustrated by Jerry Craft. Harper Collins. 2019. ISBN: 9780062691200. Seventh-grader Jordan Banks navigates a new private school lauded for its academics. The school is lacking in both diversity and art, making the transition difficult for art-loving, African-American Jordan.

**Rise Up! The Art of Protest** by Jo Rippon. Penguin Random House. 2020. ISBN: 9781623541507. Human rights belong to every single one of us, but they are often under threat. Developed in collaboration with Amnesty International, Rise Up! encourages young people to engage in peaceful protest and stand up for freedom.

**Rising Water: The Story of the Thai Cave Rescue** by Marc Aronson. Simon & Schuster. 2020. 9781534444140. The incredible true story of the twelve boys trapped with their coach in a flooded cave in Thailand and their inspiring rescue.

**Stepsister** by Jennifer Donnelly. Scholastic Press. 2019. 97813438268461. Isabelle has tried to fit in. To live up to her mother's expectations. To be like her stepsister. To be sweet. To be pretty. One by one, she has cut away pieces of herself in order to survive a world that doesn't appreciate a girl like her. This has made her mean, jealous, and hollow. Until she gets a chance to alter her destiny and prove what ugly stepsisters have always known: it takes more than heartache to break a girl.

**They Called Us Enemy** by George Takei, Justin Eisinger, Steven Scott. Illustrated by Harmony Becker. Top Shelf Productions, an Imprint of IDW Publishing. 2019. ISBN: 9781603094504. In 1942, at the order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, every person of Japanese descent on the west coast was rounded up and shipped to one of ten "relocation centers," hundreds or thousands of miles from home, where they would be held for years under armed guard.

**Us, in Progress: Short Stories About Young Latinos** by Lulu Delacre. Illustrated Lulu Delacre. Harper Collins. 2017. ISBN: 9780062392145. A collection of short stories offering refreshing and nuanced depictions of young Latin boys and girls growing up in the United States.



## High School

**A Light in the Darkness** by Albert Marrin. Alfred A. Knopf, an Imprint of Random House. 2019. ISBN: 9781524701208. This book takes a heart-wrenching look at history of the Warsaw Ghetto, told by comparing the philosophies of doctor Janusz Derczak, a pediatrician turned-orphanage-director who championed children's rights, and Adolf Hitler, a racist fanatic whose policies led to the murder and manipulation of children.

**I'm Not Dying with You Tonight** by Kimberly Jones and Gilly Segal. Source FireBooks. 2019. ISBN: 9781728216300. This book is about two high school girls in Atlanta, one black and one white, who must depend on their wits and each other to make it home after fights break out at their school football game and rioting and looting break out in the streets.

**In Good Hands: Remarkable Female Politicians from Around the World Who Showed Up, Spoke Out and Made Change** by Stephanie Mackendrick. KCP Loft. 2020. ISBN: 9781525300356. This book highlights tools, resources and real-life role models for young women eager to start their own political journeys.

**Lawn Boy** by Jonathan Evison. Algonquin Books. 2018. ISBN: 9781616202620. For Mike Munoz, a young Chicano living in Washington State, life has been a whole lot of waiting for something to happen. Not too many years out of high school and he is still doing menial work. He's got to be the one to shake things up if he's ever going to change his life. But how? Read the book to find out!

**Life Sucks: How to Deal With the Way Life is, Was and Always Will Be Unfair** by Michael I. Bennett and Sara Bennett. Illustrated by Bridget Gibson. Penguin Young Readers. 2019. ISBN: 97815247877905. This book gives no-nonsense advice from a father- daughter duo explaining just how much high school is a hormonal, stressful and chaotic storm phase of life. You really can be whoever you want once you figure out who that is, and some adults can be helpful as allies.

**Loki: Where Mischievous Lies** by Mackenzi Lee. Illustrated by Stephanie Hans. Disney Book Group. 2019. ISBN: 9781368022262. Young Loki longs to be seen as respected and heroic, but he lives in the shadow of his brother Thor. His magic makes others suspect villains; only Amor sees magic as a gift, not a threat.

**On the Come Up** by Angie Thomas. Harper Collins/Balzer Bray. 2019. ISBN: 9780062498564. Bri follows in the footsteps of her father, who was murdered, and creates a viral rap about a racial injustice at school. As she attempts to deal with the incident and the community's misconceptions, Bri discovers the power of her voice amplified by the support of those around her. This is a significant and powerful novel by the author of *The Hate You Give*.

**The Borden Murders: Lizzie Borden and the Trial of the Century** by Sarah Miller. Schwartz & Wade. 2019. ISBN: 9781984892447. This book is an investigation of murders of wealthy and prominent Andrew and Abby Borden. Who are the accused? Mild mannered Lizzie Borden, daughter of Andrew Borden.

**The Bridge Home** by Padma Venkatraman. Penguin Young Readers. 2019. ISBN: 9781524738112. This book is about four preteens are abused, neglected and forced into homelessness in India. A tale of survival, this book describes the agonizing choices family and friends must make to protect loved ones.

**Tribe: On Homecoming and Belonging** by Sebastian Junger. Harper Collins. 2017. ISBN: 9780008168186. Tribe explores what we can learn from tribal societies about loyalty, belonging, and the eternal human quest for meaning. It explains the irony that for many veterans as well as civilians - war feels better than peace, adversity can turn out to be a blessing, and disasters are sometimes remembered more fondly than weddings or tropical vacations.