

Reading can be one of the many fun activities children fill their summer time with. Research has shown it is also much more! Children who participate in public library summer reading programs not only avoid the “summer slide” in learning, but also score higher on reading achievement tests than those who do not participate.

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. This summer, encourage your child to participate in the summer programs happening at your library.



The Summer Reading Book List was created by the Quicklists Consulting Committee and the School Age Services and Programs Committee, Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association through a Carnegie Whitney Grant funded by the American Library Association Publishing Committee.



Summer Reading List

Actual Size

by Steve Jenkins
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2004, ISBN: 9780618375943.
In this book, animals and parts of animals are depicted life-size, from the smallest fish to the largest land animal. Foldout sections get readers up close and personal with some of the world's most amazing animals.

Big Red Lollipop
by Rukhsana Khan, illustrated by Sophie Blackall
 Viking, 2010, ISBN: 9780670062874.

What is a big sister to do when she has to take her little sister along to the very first birthday party she has been invited to in the United States?

Boot and Shoe
by Marla Frazee
Simon & Schuster/Beach Lane Books, 2012, ISBN: 9781442422476.

This is a charming and very funny story of two cats who share their daily routine until a squirrel mixes things up.

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom
by Bill Martin Jr. and John Archambault, illustrated by Lois Ehlert
Simon & Schuster, 1989, ISBN: 9780671679491

An alphabet rhyme that relates what happens when the whole alphabet tries to climb a coconut tree.

Chirchir Is Singing
by Kelly Cunnane, illustrated by Jude Daly
Random House/Schwartz & Wade, 2011, ISBN: 9780375861987.

Chirchir, who lives in rural Kenya, wants to be helpful to her family, but nothing ever seems to go right!

Chu's Day
by Neil Gaiman, illustrated by Adam Rex
HarperCollins, 2013, ISBN: 9780062017819.

Chu goes on outings with his mother and father, who continually worry that he might sneeze.

Duck! Rabbit!
by Amy Krouse Rosenthal, illustrated by Tom Lichtenheld
Chronicle Books, 2009, ISBN: 9780811868655.

Is it a duck or a rabbit? It depends on how you look at it!

The Eagles Are Back
by Jean Craighead George, illustrated by Wendell Minor
Dial, 2013, ISBN: 9780803737716.

A young boy helps a ranger feed and watch over one of the last pairs of bald eagles in the Hudson Valley region, and many years later, he brings his son back to see the population thriving.

Interrupting Chicken
by David Ezra Stein
Candlewick Press, 2010, ISBN: 9780763641689.

The little red chicken cannot help but interrupt her favorite bedtime stories.

It's a Tiger!
by David LaRochelle, illustrated by Jeremy Tankard
Chronicle Books, 2012, ISBN: 9780811869256.

A young boy runs away from a tiger hiding in every scene.

I Want My Hat Back
by Jon Klassen
Candlewick Press, 2011, ISBN: 9780763655983.

A bear asks all of the animals he encounters if they have seen his hat.

Ling & Ting: Not Exactly the Same!
by Grace Lin
Little, Brown; 2010; ISBN: 9780316024525.

Two identical twins share many traits, but each one is unique. Fun abounds as the sisters have silly mishaps.

Luke on the Loose
by Harry Bliss
TOON Books, 2009, ISBN: 9781935179009.

Pigeons don't stand a chance when fast-moving Luke gets them in his sights. Beware, birdies!

Marisol McDonald Doesn't Match
by Marisol McDonald no combina by Monica Brown, illustrated by Sara Palacios
Children's Book Press, 2011, ISBN: 9780892392353.

Marisol is Peruvian, Scottish, and American. She has brown skin and red hair and loves peanut butter and jelly burritos in her lunch box!

More Bears!
by Kenn Nesbitt, illustrated by Troy Cummings
Sourcebooks/Jabberwocky, 2010, ISBN: 9781402238352.

The author of this book makes one thing clear: he wants absolutely NO BEARS in the story! But the reader may have a thing or two to say about that.

Nighttime Ninja
by Barbara DaCosta; illustrated by Ed Young
Little, Brown; 2012; ISBN: 9780316203845.

A young ninja goes on a secret mission at night when everyone else is asleep.

Panda Kindergarten
by Joanne Ryder, photographs by Katherine Feng
HarperCollins, 2009, ISBN: 9780060578503.

Meet the sixteen panda cubs who live at the Wolong Nature Reserve in China.

Penny and Her Song
by Kevin Henkes
Greenwillow Books, 2012, ISBN: 9780062081957.

Penny is so excited to share her new song with her parents, but they are too busy with her baby twin siblings. Waiting is so difficult!

Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes
by Eric Litwin, illustrated by James Dean
HarperCollins, 2010, ISBN: 9780061906220.

Pete the Cat is a real cool feline who loves his brand-new shoes.

Red-Eyed Tree Frog
by Joy Cowley, photographs by Nic Bishop
Scholastic, 2006, ISBN: 9780439782210 (PB).

Follow the adventures of one rain forest frog as it escapes from dangerous predators, searches for food, and finally goes to sleep.

Scaredy Squirrel
by Mélanie Watt
Kids Can Press, 2006, ISBN: 9781553379591.

Scaredy Squirrel is afraid to leave his tree, but one day he leaps into the great unknown!

Shark vs. Train
by Chris Barton; illustrated by Tom Lichtenheld
Little, Brown; 2010; ISBN: 9780316007627.

Two boys with two toys have a series of contests to see which toy is better.

Ugly Fish
by Kara LaReau, illustrated by Scott Magoon
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2006, ISBN: 9780152050825.

Ugly Fish is content to live by himself in his tank, no matter how many fish try to join him.

The Watcher: Jane Goodall's Life with the Chimps
by Jeanette Winter
Random House/Schwartz & Wade, 2011, ISBN: 9780375867743.

This picture-book biography tells the story of the famous zoologist Jane Goodall, whose gift of observation led to years of studying chimpanzees.

We Are in a Book!
by Mo Willems
Hyperion, 2010, ISBN: 9781423133087.

Elephant and Piggie find out that being a reader and being read are fun, but what happens when the book ends?

