

ways. Virgil is shy and kindhearted and feels out of place in his sports crazy family. Valencia, who is deaf, is smart, brave, and secretly lonely. Kaori is a self-proclaimed psychic, whose little sister, Gen, is always following her around. And Chet wishes the weird kids would just stop being so different so that he can concentrate on basketball. They aren't friends, at least not until Chet pulls a prank that traps Virgil at the bottom of a well. Through luck, smarts, bravery, and a little help from the universe, a rescue is performed, a bully is put in his place, and friendship blooms.

◆ ***Amina's Voice*** by Hena Khan. Salaam Reads. Eleven-year-old Amina, a Pakistani-American Muslim girl, struggles with the trials and tribulations of middle school: changing friendships, performance anxiety, and trying to stay true to her family's vibrant culture while simultaneously blending in. When tragedy strikes her community, Amina must find her own voice. From the award-winning author of *Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns*.

◆ ***When the Sea Turned to Silver*** by Grace Lin. Little, Brown and Company. Pinmei's grandmother always has the most exciting tales for her granddaughter and the other villagers. Then soldiers of the Emperor arrive and kidnap the storyteller. Determined to have her grandmother returned, Pinmei embarks on a journey to find the Luminous Stone alongside her friend Yishan, a mysterious boy who seems to have his own secrets to hide. Together, the two must face obstacles usually found only in legends.

◆ ***As Brave As You*** by Jason Reynolds. Atheneum Books for Young Readers. Genie's summer is full of surprises. The first is that he and his big brother, Ernie, are leaving Brooklyn to spend the summer with their grandparents in Virginia back country—no internet, no tv. So how will Genie keep track of his many questions? How does his blind and fiercely independent grandfather get by? When the two brothers decide to prove how brave they are, everything backfires—literally.

◆ ***Ghosts*** by Raina Telgemeier. Graphix. Catrina and her family are moving to the coast of Northern California because her little sister, Maya, is sick. Cat isn't happy about leaving her friends, but Maya has cystic fibrosis and will benefit from the cool, salty air that blows in from the sea. As the girls explore their new home, a neighbor lets them in on a secret: There are ghosts in Bahía de la Luna.

Grades 9-12

◆ ***Flame in the Mist*** by Ren'e Ahdieh. G.P. Putnam's Sons Books. A sweeping, action-packed adventure set against the backdrop of Feudal Japan where Mulan meets Throne of Glass. 17 year old Mariko narrowly escapes a bloody ambush by a dangerous gang of bandits known as the Black Clan. Dressed as a peasant boy, Mariko sets out to infiltrate the Black Clan and track down those responsible for the target on her back. But what she uncovers forces her to question everything she's ever known about her family, her purpose, and her deepest desires.

◆ ***Original Fake*** by Kirstin Cronn-Mills. G.P. Putnam's Sons. Introvert Frankie Neumann hates his life, and understandably so. He's got a weird, tutu-wearing sister, Lou, and even weirder parents, Bridget and Brett-Frank Sinatra and Dr. Frank-N-Furter impersonators, respectively. And, he's just the guy who makes pizza at Pizza Vendetta. Though he has secret artistic aspirations of his own, his over-the-top family makes him want to stay in the background. But Frankie's life is about to change—becoming way more interesting, even a little dangerous, but definitely cool.

◆ ***Indeh : a story of the Apache Wars*** by Ethan Hawke. Grand Central Publishing. The year is 1872. The place, the Apache nations, a region torn apart by decades of war. The people, like Goyahkla, lose his family and everything he loves. Young Goyahkla approaches the Apache leader Cochise to lead an attack; it is this wild display of courage that transforms the young brave Goyahkla into the Native American hero Geronimo. A remarkable glimpse into the raw themes of cultural differences, the horrors of war, the search for peace, and, ultimately, retribution.

◆ ***Exit, Pursued by a Bear*** by E. K. Johnston. Dutton Books. Hermione Winters is captain of her cheerleading team, and in tiny Palermo Heights, this doesn't mean what you think it means. At PHHS, the cheerleaders don't cheer for the sports teams; they are the sports team—the pride and joy of a tiny town. Then someone slips something in her drink. And it all goes black. In every class, there's a star cheerleader and a pariah pregnant girl. They're never supposed to be the same person...

◆ ***Jane Steele*** by Faye Lyndsay. G.P. Putnam's Sons. A sensitive orphan, Jane Steele suffers first at the hands of her spiteful aunt and predatory cousin, then at a grim school where she fights for her very life until escaping to London. After years of hiding from the law Jane returns to her childhood home as governess. Burning to know whether she is in fact the rightful heir, Jane takes the position incognito and learns that Highgate House is full of marvelously strange new residents. A satirical romance about identity, guilt, goodness, and the nature of lies.

◆ ***This Adventure Begins*** by Emma Mills. Henry Holt. Sloane isn't expecting to fall in with a group of friends when she moves from New York to Florida—especially not a group of friends so intense, so in love, so all-consuming. Yet that's exactly what happens. Vera, a social-media star who lights up any room, and Gabe, Vera's twin brother and the most serious person Sloane's ever met. When a beloved painting by the twins' late mother goes missing, Sloane takes on the responsibility of tracking it down, a journey that takes her across state lines—and ever deeper into the twins' lives.

◆ ***Every Hidden Thing*** by Kenneth Oppel. Simon & Schuster Books. The hunt for a dinosaur skeleton buried in the Badlands, bitter rivalries, and a forbidden romance come together in this beautifully written new novel that's Romeo and Juliet meets Indiana Jones. As their paths cross and the rivalry between their fathers becomes more intense, Samuel

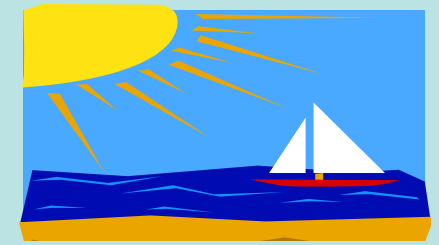
and Rachel are forced to make a decision. Can they join forces to find their quarry—and with it a new life together—or will old enmities and prejudices keep them from both the rex and each other?

◆ ***Bone Gap*** by Laura Ruby. Balzer + Bray. Everyone knows Bone Gap is full of gaps. So when young, beautiful Roza went missing, the people of Bone Gap weren't surprised. But Finn knows what really happened to Roza. He knows she was kidnapped by a dangerous man whose face he cannot remember. As we follow the stories of Finn, Roza, and the people of Bone Gap, acclaimed author Laura Ruby weaves a tale of the ways in which the face the world sees is never the sum of who we are.

◆ ***X : a novel*** by Ilyasah Shabazz. Candlewick Press. Malcolm Little's parents have always told him that he can achieve anything, but from what he can tell, that's a pack of lies—after all, his father's been murdered, his mother's been taken away, and his dreams of becoming a lawyer have gotten him laughed out of school. There's no point in trying, he figures, and he escapes into a world of fancy suits, jazz, girls, and reefer. Deep down, he knows that the freedom he's found is only an illusion—and that he can't run forever. Cowritten by Malcolm X's daughter.

◆ ***Challenger Deep*** by Neal Shusterman. Harper Teen. Caden Bosch is on a ship that's headed for the deepest point on Earth: Challenger Deep, the southern part of the Marianas Trench. Caden Bosch is a brilliant high school student whose friends are starting to notice his odd behavior. Caden Bosch is designated the ship's artist in residence to document the journey with images. Caden Bosch pretends to join the school track team but spends his days walking for miles, absorbed by the thoughts in his head. Caden Bosch is split between his allegiance to the captain and the allure of mutiny. Caden Bosch is torn. Caden Bosch is about to be committed.

◆ ***The Hate U Give*** by Angie Thomas. Balzer + Bray. Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the shooting of her friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed. Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil's name. What everyone wants to know is: what really went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr.



Summer Reading for Kids 2017

These books have been selected by VSLA (Vermont School Library Association) Teacher Librarians, and are recommended for summer reading for children and young adults. For more recommendations, see your school or public librarian.

2017 Award Winners

Caldecott Medal—for most distinguished American picture book: ***Radiant Child: The Story of Young Artist Jean-Michel Basquiat*** written by Javaka Steptoe. Little, Brown and Company.

Newbery Medal—for most outstanding contribution to children's literature: ***The Girl Who Drank the Moon*** by Kelly Barnhill. Algonquin Young Readers.

Robert F. Sibert Award—for most distinguished informational book: ***March: Book Three*** by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin, illustrated by Nate Powell. Top Shelf Productions.

Coretta Scott King Author Award—recognizing an African American author of outstanding books: ***March: Book Three*** by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin, illustrated by Nate Powell. Top Shelf Productions.

Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award—recognizing an African American illustrator of outstanding books: ***Radiant Child: The Story of Young Artist Jean-Michel Basquiat*** written by Javaka Steptoe. Little, Brown and Company.

Theodor Seuss Geisel Award—for most distinguished beginning reader: ***We Are Growing: A Mo Willems' Elephant & Piggie Like Reading! Book*** by Laurie Keller. Disney-Hyperion.

Michael L. Printz Award—for excellence in literature written for young adults: ***March: Book Three*** by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin, illustrated by Nate Powell. Top Shelf Productions.

Vermont Red Clover Award Books:

The Red Clover Award promotes the reading and discussion of the best of contemporary picture books. 2017-2018 Master list available at: tinyurl.com/redcloveraward2017

Vermont Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award:

The Dorothy Canfield Children's Book Award, first given in 1957, honors excellence in children's literature targeted for readers grades 4-8. 2017-2018 Master list available at: tinyurl.com/dcfaward2017

Green Mountain Book Award:

A Vermont reader's choice award for students in grades 9-12. 2017-2018 Master list available at: tinyurl.com/gmbaward2017



Kindergarten - 4th Grade Picture Books and Emergent Readers

- ◆ **5 Little Ducks** by Denise Fleming. Beach Lane Books. Featuring a flock of oh-so-adorable fuzzy ducklings, this delightfully fresh take on the nursery rhyme emphasizes numbers and the days of the week—and these lucky ducklings are doted on by a loving Papa Duck as well as the traditional Mama. Young readers won't be able to resist counting—and quacking—along!
- ◆ **Good Night Owl** by Greg Pizzoli. Disney-Hyperion. Owl is ready for bed. But as soon as he settles in, he hears a strange noise. He'll never get to sleep unless he can figure out what's going on! He looks everywhere-in his cupboard, underneath the floorboards-even in his walls. But while he's busy tearing his house apart, he doesn't notice one tiny, squeaky, mouse-shaped detail. . . . Will Owl ever get a good night's sleep?
- ◆ **Are We There Yet?** by Dan Santat. Little, Brown and Company. And when things get boring, time slows down. A boy feels time slowing down so much that it starts going backward--into the time of pirates! Of princesses! Of dinosaurs! The boy was just trying to get to his grandmother's birthday party, but instead he's traveling through Ancient Egypt and rubbing shoulders with Ben Franklin. When time flies, who knows where--or when--he'll end up.
- ◆ **Oops, Pounce, Quick, Run! An Alphabet Caper** by Mike Twohy. Balzer + Bray. A little mouse is asleep until a ball suddenly bounces into his home, setting off an epic chase—from A to Z. A hilariously clever alphabet caper.
- ◆ **Go Otto Go!** by David Milgrim. Simon Spotlight. See Otto work. Work, work, work on a spaceship to take him home. Since landing on Earth, Otto has made many friends, but what Otto wants most is to visit his family. Will Otto's spaceship take him up, up, up, so he can go, go, go? Bright illustrations and minimal text for the true emergent reader.
- ◆ **Triangle** by Mac Barnett; illustrated by Jon Klassen. Candlewick. Meet Triangle. He is going to play a sneaky trick on his friend, Square. Or so Triangle thinks. . . . With this first tale in a new trilogy, partners in crime Mac Barnett and Jon Klassen will have readers wondering just who they can trust in a richly imagined world of shapes.
- ◆ **Glow : Animals with Their Own Night-lights** by W.H. Beck. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. Why be afraid of the dark when there is so much to see? Whether it's used to hunt, hide, find a friend, or escape an enemy, bioluminescence--the ability to glow--is a unique adaptation in nature. In this fun and fascinating nonfiction picture book, join world-renowned photographers and biologists on their close encounters with the curious creatures that make their own light.
- ◆ **Leave Me Alone!** by Vera Brosgol. Roaring Brook Press. One day, a grandmother shouts, "LEAVE ME ALONE!" and leaves her tiny home and her very big family to journey to the moon and beyond to find peace and quiet to finish her knitting. Along the way, she encounters ravenous bears,

obnoxious goats, and even hordes of aliens! But nothing stops grandma from accomplishing her goal.

- ◆ **Quit Calling Me a Monster!** by Jory John, illustrated by Bob Shea. "I'm no monster! Just because I have horns. And wild eyes. And fangs..." Floyd Peterson is so much more than shaggy purple fur and pointy monster teeth--why can't people just see him for him? A knee-slapping, read-it-again story that will start a valuable discussion about how we treat others and how it feels to be seen as "different."
- ◆ **Plants Can't Sit Still** by Rebecca E. Hirsch, illustrated by Mia Posada. Millbrook Press. Do plants really move? Absolutely! You might be surprised by all the movements that plants can make. Plants might not pick up their roots and walk away, but they definitely don't sit still! Discover the many ways plants (and their seeds) move. Whether it's a sunflower, a Venus flytrap, or intriguingly exotic plants like an exploding cucumbers, this fascinating picture book shows just how excitingly active plants really are.
- ◆ **Flying Frogs and Walking Fish : Leaping Lemurs, Tumbling Toads, Jet-propelled Jellyfish, and More Surprising Ways that Animals Move** by Steve Jenkins. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. A red-lipped batfish waddles across the sea floor on its fins, searching for small sea creatures to eat. Other animals may fly or glide, or jet-propel themselves to get around. These creatures come equipped with legs, wings, or tentacles, and they often move from place to place in surprising ways. This fascinating and fun illustrated nonfiction melds science, art, biology, and the environment.
- ◆ **Is that Wise, Pig?** by Jan Thomas. Beach Lane Books. Mouse is making a yummy pot of soup and Cow and Pig are helping add ingredients. Mouse adds four tomatoes, Cow adds five potatoes, and Pig adds...six galoshes?! Is that wise, Pig? Young readers will be so busy giggling at Pig's antics, they won't even realize they are counting, too. A twist ending and irresistible characters will make this a favorite read-aloud.
- ◆ **What to Do with a Box** by Jane Yolen, illustrated by Chris Sheban. Creative Editions. If you give a child a box, who can tell what will happen next? It may become a library or a boat. It could set the scene for a fairy tale or a wild expedition. The most wonderful thing is its seemingly endless capacity for magical adventure, a feature imaginatively captured in cardboardesque art by Chris Sheban and rhythmically celebrated in this poetic tribute by renowned author Jane Yolen.

Middle Grades

- ◆ **Maker Lab : 28 Super Cool Projects : Build, Invent, Create, Discover** by Jack Challoner. DK/Penguin Random House. Young makers can build an exploding volcano, race balloon rocket cars, construct a solar system, make a lemon battery, and more. Photographs and facts carefully detail the "why" and "how" of each experiment using real-world examples to provide context so kids can gain a deeper understanding of the scientific principles applied. A step-by-step activity guide requiring only household materials.

- ◆ **Hippopotamister** by John Green. First Second Books. Hippo hardly ever gets any visitors at the zoo. So he decides to set off for the outside with his friend Red Panda. To make it in the human world, Hippo will have to become a Hippopotamister: he'll have to act like a human, get a job, and wear a hat as a disguise. He's a good employee, whether he's a construction worker, a hair stylist, or a sous chef. But what he really needs is a job where he can be himself.
- ◆ **The Infamous Ratsos** by Kara LaReau, illustrated by Matt Myers. Candlewick Press. Louie and Ralphie Ratso's dad says that there are two kinds of people: those who are tough and those who are soft. Louie and Ralphie are tough, tough, tough, just like Big Lou, and they're going to prove it. But every time they try to show just how tough they are, the Ratso brothers end up accidentally doing good deeds instead. Perfect for emerging and reluctant readers.
- ◆ **Under water : Under earth** by Aleksandra Mizielinska. BPP. Discover the amazing world that lies just beneath the surface! Dive below the surface and find out what happens under earth and under sea—from early submarines and deep-sea life to burrowing animals and man-made tunnels. You will never look at the world in the same way again!
- ◆ **The Best Man** by Richard Peck. Dial Books for Young Readers. Archer is in search of grown-up role models. Three of the best are his grandpa, the great architect; his dad, the great vintage car customizer; and his uncle Paul, who is just plain great. These are the three he wants to be. Along the way he finds a fourth--Mr. McLeod, a teacher. But now here comes middle school and puberty. Change. Archer wonders how much change has to happen before his voice does. Pages that ripple with laughter, and more than a few insights about the bewildering world of adults, made by a boy on his way to being the best man he can be.
- ◆ **Dog Man** by Dav Pilkey; illustrated by George Beard. Graphix. New from the creator of Captain Underpants, it's Dog Man, the crime-biting canine who is part dog, part man, and ALL HERO! Dog Man digs into deception, claws after crooks, and rolls over robbers. With the head of a dog and the body of a human, this heroic hound has a real nose for justice. But can he resist the call of the wild to answer the call of duty?
- ◆ **Stepping Stones: a Refugee Family's Journey** by Margriet Ruurs; illustrated by Nizar Ali Badr. Orca Book Publishers. Inspired by the stone artwork of its Syrian artist, Stepping Stones tells the story of Rama and her family, who are forced to flee their once-peaceful village to escape the ravages of the civil war raging ever closer to their home. With only what they can carry on their backs, Rama and her mother, father, grandfather and brother, Sami, set out to walk to freedom in Europe. Dual-language, with story in English and Arabic.
- ◆ **Echo Echo : Reverso Poems about Greek Myths** by Marilyn Singer. Dial Books. What happens when you hold up a mirror to poems about Greek myths? You get a brand-new perspective on the classics! And that is just what happens

in Echo Echo, the newest collection of reverso poems from Marilyn Singer. Read one way, each poem tells the story of a familiar myth; but when read in reverse, the poems reveal a new point of view.

Grades 5-8

- ◆ **The Firefly Code** by Megan Frazer Blakemore. Bloomsbury. Mori and her friends live a normal life on Firefly Lane in their utopian community, Old Harmonie. In a world this safe and perfect, they've never had to question anything . . . never had to wonder about how their lives came to be. Until a new girl named Ilana moves in. She's so perfect that Mori and her friends are curious . . . Where exactly did Ilana come from, and why does she act so strange sometimes? When Ilana's secret is revealed, the kids on Firefly Lane must decide: is it finally time to start questioning the only world they've ever known?
- ◆ **The Wolf Keepers** by Elise Broach, Henry Holt and Company. Twelve-year-old Lizzie and Tyler Briggs, a runaway who has made the zoo his makeshift home, stumble into an investigation of dying zoo wolves. Little do they know, this mystery will draw them into a high-stakes historical adventure involving the legend of John Muir as they try to navigate safely while lost in Yosemite National Park.
- ◆ **All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook** by Leslie Connor. Katherine Tegen Books. Eleven-year-old Perry was born and raised by his mom at the Blue River Co-ed Correctional Facility. His mom is a resident on Cell Block C, and so far Warden Daugherty has made it possible for them to be together. That is, until a new district attorney discovers the truth. Desperate to be reunited with his mom, Perry goes on a quest for answers about her past crime. As he gets closer to the truth, he will discover that love makes people resilient no matter where they come from . . .
- ◆ **Summerlost** by Allyson Braithwaite Condie. Dutton Children's Books. It's the first real summer since the accident that killed Cedar's father and younger brother. Cedar and what's left of her family are just settling into their new house when a boy named Leo, dressed in costume, rides by on his bike. Intrigued, Cedar follows him to the renowned Summerlost theatre festival. Soon, she not only has a new friend in Leo and a job working concessions at the festival, she finds herself surrounded by mystery.
- ◆ **Vietnam: a History of a War** by Russell Freedman. Holiday House. A succinct account of perhaps the most puzzling and contentious of America's wars. Describing how a superpower caught up in Cold War politics became increasingly enmeshed in a conflict over 8,000 miles away, Freedman explains why twenty years later an exit was so difficult. In words and photographs he chronicles the unfolding events in Vietnam and at home as increasing numbers of young men were sent into the jungles to fight.
- ◆ **Hello, Universe** by Erin Entrada Kelly. Greenwillow Books. In one day, four lives weave together in unexpected