

Summer Reading 2024

Experience the Joy of Reading!

This summer, Middle School English/Language Arts teachers and our Wellington librarians invite you to experience the joy of reading! Reading should be an enjoyable, enriching experience. We love it and want you to love it too. Sharing what we read is rewarding, which is why we are giving you the opportunity to read that book you have been wanting to read or to discover what kind of books you enjoy. Then we invite you to bring your experience back to share with our community in the fall.

This summer, please choose at least one book to read, fiction or nonfiction, that truly interests you. You may choose something from our “Recommended Titles” list or choose something on your own. Once you have finished the book, write a letter and email it to your new English/Language Arts teacher and/or the librarians. In your letter, include the following:

- Title and author
- Why you chose that book
- Brief summary of the book
- Description of characters and setting
- Your reaction to the book (was it funny, sad, thoughtful?)
- Information about your reading preferences, such as:
 - How much you read
 - What types of titles/authors you like to read
 - How you like to read (print, digital, audio), etc.

Take the opportunity to talk with family, friends, teachers, and librarians to get book suggestions and to find out what books they are enjoying right now.

Happy reading!

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Recommended titles:

**Here are some recommended titles by grade level.*

5th Grade

Fiction:

- *Once Upon an Eid* edited by S.K. Ali and Aisha Saeed
- *The Marvellers* by Dhonielle Clayton
- *We Still Belong* by Christine Day
- *Invisible* by Christina Diaz Gonzalez
- *The Superteacher Project* by Gordon Korman
- *Pahua and the Soul Stealer* by Lori M. Lee
- *Show Me a Sign* by Ann Clare LeZotte
- *The Insiders* by Mark Oshiro
- *Marcus Makes a Movie* series by Kevin Hart
- *Barely Floating* by Lilliam Rivera
- *Mañanaland* by Pam Muñoz Ryan
- *A Duet for Home* by Karina Yan Glaser

Non-Fiction:

- *A Sporting Chance: How Ludwig Guttman Created the Paralympic Games* by Lori Alexander
- *A Different Kind of Normal: My Real-Life Completely True Story About Being Unique* by Abigail Balfe
- *Race to the Bottom of the Earth: Surviving Antarctica* by Rebecca Barone
- *Shining a Light: Celebrating 40 Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Who Changed the World* by Veeda Bybee
- *Mexikid* by Pedro Martín
- *The Museum of Odd Body Leftovers: A Tour of Your Useless Parts, Flaws, and Other Weird Bits* by Rachel Poliquin
- *Pizza: The Cool Stories and Facts Behind Every Slice* by Dan Sipple
- *Rewilding: Bringing Wildlife Back Where It Belongs* by David A. Steen
- *Beastly Bionics: Rad Robots, Brilliant Biomimicry, and Incredible Inventions Inspired by Nature* by Jennifer Swanson
- *The Science of Song: How and Why We Make Music* by Alan Cross
- *Nuestra América: 30 Inspiring Latinas/Latinos Who Have Shaped the United States* by Sabrina Vourvoulias
- *We Got Game!: 35 Female Athletes Who Changed the World* by Aileen Weintraub

6th Grade

Fiction:

- *Small Spaces* series by Katherine Arden
- *Figure it Out, Henri Weldon* by Tanita S. Davis
- *Starfish* by Lisa Fipps
- *Not an Easy Win* by Chrystal D. Giles
- *Girl Giant and the Monkey King* series by Van Hoang
- *Temple Alley Summer* by Sachiko Kashiwaba
- *Stand Up, Yumi Chung* by Jessica Kim
- *Tethered to Other Stars* by Elisa Stone Leahy
- *You Only Live Once, David Bravo* by Mark Oshiro
- *Tumble* by Celia C. Pérez
- *A Wish in the Dark* by Christina Soontornvat
- *Before the Ever After* by Jacqueline Woodson

Nonfiction:

- *The Last Unexplored Place on Earth: Investigating the Ocean Floor with Alvin the Submersible* by Aly Brown
- *I Am Not a Label: 34 Disabled Artists, Thinkers, Athletes, and Activists from Past and Present* by Cerrie Burnell
- *Lifting As We Climb: Black Women's Battle for the Ballot Box* by Evette Dionne
- *Total Garbage: A Messy Dive into Trash, Waste, and Our World* by Rebecca Donnelly
- *The Wonders We Seek: Thirty Incredible Muslims Who Helped Shape the World* by Saadia Faruqi
- *Hurricane: My Story of Resilience* by Salvador Gómez-Colón
- *The National Parks: Preserving America's Wild Places* by Falynn Koch
- *Buzzkill: Fighting Insect Extinction from the Ground Up* by Brenna Maloney
- *Shelter: Homelessness in Our Community* by Lois Peterson
- *One Earth: People of Color Protecting Our Planet* by Anuradha S. Rao
- *Orca Rescue!: The True Story of an Orphaned Orca Named Springer* by Donna Sandstrom
- *Bomb: The Race to Build – and Steal – the World's Most Dangerous Weapon: Graphic Novel* by Steve Sheinkin

7th Grade

Fiction:

- *The Door of No Return* by Kwame Alexander
- *Iveliz Explains It All* by Andrea Beatriz Arango
- *We Are Not Free* by Traci Chee
- *The Midnight Children* by Dan Gemeinhart
- *Deeplight* by Frances Hardinge
- *The Last Cuentista* by Donna Barba Higuera
- *Mixed Up* by Gordon Korman
- *Six Crimson Cranes* by Elizabeth Lim
- *A Snake Falls to Earth* by Darcie Little Badger
- *The Magic Fish* by Le Nguyen Trung
- *Mascot* by Charles Waters and Traci Sorell
- *Remember Us* by Jacqueline Woodson

Non-Fiction:

- *Men of the 65th: The Borinqueneers of the Korean War* by Talia Aikens-Nunez
- *Awesome Asian Americans: 20 Stars Who Made America Amazing* by Philip Amara
- *The Race of the Century: The Battle to Break the Four-Minute Mile* by Neal Bascomb
- *Speak Up, Speak Out!: The Extraordinary Life of Fighting Shirley Chisholm* by Tonya Bolden
- *Quiet Fire: Emily Dickinson's Life and Poetry* by Carol Dommermuth-Costa
- *Indigenous Ingenuity: A Celebration of Traditional North American Knowledge* by Deidre Havrelock
- *The Story of More: How We Got to Climate Change and Where to Go From Here (adapted for young adults)* by Hope Jahren
- *You Can't Say That!: Writers for Young People Talk About Censorship, Free Expression, and the Stories They Have to Tell* edited by Leonard S. Marcus
- *Into the Deep: Science, Technology, and the Quest to Protect the Ocean* by Christy Peterson
- *Black Hole Chasers: The Amazing True Story of an Astronomical Breakthrough* by Anna Crowley Redding
- *What It's Like to Be a Bird (adapted for young readers): From Flying to Nesting, Eating to Singing – What Birds are Doing and Why* by David Sibley
- *Heads Up: Changing Minds on Mental Health* by Melanie Siebert

8th Grade**Fiction:**

- *All You Have to Do* by Autumn Allen
- *The Inheritance Games* series by Jennifer Barnes
- *Heroes: A Novel of Pearl Harbor* by Alan Gratz
- *Rust in the Root* by Justina Ireland
- *Attack of the Black Rectangles* by A.S. King
- *Borders* by Thomas King
- *I'll Be the One* by Lyla Lee
- *Luck of the Titanic* by Stacey Lee
- *The Wide Starlight* by Nicole Lesperance
- *Elatsoe* by Darcie Little Badger
- *Shuna's Journey* by Hayao Miyazaki
- *Punching the Air* by Ibi Anau Zoboi and Yusef Salaam

Nonfiction:

- *Writing in Color: 14 Writers on the Lessons We've Learned* edited by Nafiza Azad
- *Poisoned Water: How the Citizens of Flint, Michigan, Fought for Their Lives and Warned the Nation* by Candy J. Cooper
- *Flowers in the Gutter: The True Story of the Edelweiss Pirates, Teenagers Who Resisted the Nazis* by K.R. Gaddy
- *Sunshine* by Jarrett J. Krosoczka
- *This is Your Brain on Stereotypes: How Science is Tackling Unconscious Bias* by Tanya Lloyd Kyi
- *Attention Hijacked: Using Mindfulness to Reclaim Your Brain from Tech* by Erica B. Marcus
- *The 21: The True Story of the Youth Who Sued the U.S. Government Over Climate Change* by Elizabeth Rusch
- *How to Change Everything: The Young Human's Guide to Protecting the Planet and Each Other* by Rebecca Stefoff
- *Heroines, Rescuers, Rabbis, Spies: Unsung Women of the Holocaust* by Sarah Silberstein Swartz
- *Everything You Wanted to Know About Indians But Were Afraid to Ask (young readers edition)* by Anton Treuer
- *Disability Visibility: 17 First-Person Stories for Today (adapted for young adults)* by Alice Wong
- *Star Child: A Biographical Constellation of Octavia Estelle Butler* by Ibi Zoboi