

Just Read, Florida! 2014 Summer Recommended Reading List

Grades K-3

A Day in the Life of Murphy, Alice Provensen
A Drop of Water: A Book of Science and Wonder, Walter Wick
Actual Size, Steve Jenkins
Ants, Melissa Stewart
Ape Escapes!: And More True Stories of Animals Behaving Badly, Aline Alexander Newman
Aunt Flossie's Hats, Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard
Benny and Penny in the Big No-No! Geoffrey Hayes
Big Wolf and Little Wolf, Nadine Brun-Cosme
Buffy the Burrowing Owl, Betty Gilbert
Buster, Denise Fleming
Charlotte's Web, E.B. White
Chicka Chicka ABC, Bill Martin and John Archambault
Chicken Soup with Rice, A Book of Months, Maurice Sendak
Christian, the Hugging Lion, Justine Richardson and Peter Parnell
Count Down to Fall, Fran Hawk
Daddy & I, Eloise Greenfield
Deep in the Swamp, Donna Bateman
Diary of a Worm, Doreen Cronin
Dino-Dinners, Mick Manning and Brita Granstrom
Discovery in the Cave, Mark Dubowski
Flat Stanley, Jeff Brown
Fly Danny, Fly, Chip Gilbertson, Gina Restivo, and Michelle Kendrick
Frog and Toad Together, Arnold Lobel
Gracias *Thanks, Pat More
Hi! Fly Guy, Tedd Arnold
Hot City, Barbara Joosse
How People Learned to Fly, Fran Hodgkins and True Kelley
How to Eat Fried Worms, Thomas Rockwell
I Always, Always Get My Way, Thad Krasnesky
Jitterbug Jam, Barbara Jean Hicks
Leaf Jumpers, Carole Gerber
Little Skink's Tail, Janet Halfmann
Market Day, Eve Bunting
Miss Nelson Is Missing!, Harry Allard
My Name is Yoon, Helen Recorvits
No, David!, David Shannon
Ocean Hide and Seek, Jennifer Evans Kramer
Polar Slumber, Dennis Rockhill
Poppleton in Winter, Cynthia Rylant
River of Dreams: The Story of the Hudson River, Hudson Talbott
She Sang Promise: The Story of Betty Mae Jumper, Seminole Tribal Leader, J.G. Annino
Sheep in a Jeep, Nancy Shaw
The BFG, Roald Dahl
The Chicken Sisters, Laura Joffe Numeroff
The Napping House, Audrey and Dan Wood
The Secret Olivia Told Me, N. Joy
The Story of Ruby Bridges, Robert Coles
The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Eric Carle
Twas the Day Before Zoo Day, Catherine Ipcizade
What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?, Steve Jenkins and Robin Page
Wonder Horse, Emily Arnold McCully

Grades 4-5

A Faraway Island, Annika Thor
A History of US, Joy Hakim
A Nest for Celeste: A Story About Art, Inspiration, and the Meaning of Home, Henry Cole
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, Lewis Carroll
AQUIFERioius, Margaret Ross Tolbert
Bad News for Outlaws: The Remarkable Life of Bass Reeves, Deputy U.S. Marshal, Vaunda Micheaux Nelson
Bud, Not Buddy, Christopher Paul Curtis
Chasing Redbird, Sharon Creech
Dare to Dream! Carl Sommer
Discovering Mars, Melvin Berger
Do Not Open: An Encyclopedia of the World's Best-Kept Secrets, John Farndon
Dog Diaries: Secret Writings of the WOOF Society, Betsy Byars, Betsy Duffey, and Laurie Myers
Eidi, Bodil Bredsdorff
Elijah of Buxton, Christopher Paul Curtis
Extreme Pets! Jane Harrington
Heroes for My Son, Brad Meltzer
Hurricanes: Earth's Mightiest Storms, Patricia Lauber
Inside Out & Back Again, Thanhha Lai
Island of the Blue Dolphins, Scott O'Dell
Jason and Elihu, Shelley Frazer Mickle
Just Being Audrey, Margaret Cardillo
Life Under Ice, Mary M. Cerullo
My Side of the Mountain, Jean Craighead George
Number the Stars, Lois Lowry
Princess Academy, Shannon Hale
Quest for the Tree Kangaroo, Sy Montgomery
Riddle-iculous Math, Joan Holub
Sarah, Plain and Tall, Patricia MacLachlan
Search for the Shadowman, Joan Lowery Nixon
See What You Can Be: Explore Careers That Could Be for You! Diane Heiman, and Liz Suneby
The Birchbark House, Louise Erdrich
The Black Stallion, Walter Farley
The Indian in the Cupboard, Lynne Reid Banks
The Underneath, Kathi Appelt
Where the Mountain Meets the Moon, Grace Lin
Whittington, Alan Armstrong
Who Has Seen the Wind? Christina G. Rossetti
Zlateh the Goat, Isaac Bashevis Singer

Grades 6-8

A Long Walk to Water: Based on a True Story, Linda Sue Park
A Long Way from Chicago, Richard Peck
Any Which Wall, Laurel Snyder,
Artemis Fowl: the Arctic Incident, Eoin Colfer
Breaking Stalin's Nose, Eugene Yelchin
Bridge to Terabithia, Katherine Paterson
Carver, a Life in Poems, Marilyn Nelson
Dead End in Norvelt, Jack Gantos
Dragonwings, Laurence Yep
Eragon, Christopher Paolini
Escape! The Story of the Great Houdini, Sid Fleischman

Esperanza Rising, Pam Munoz Ryan
Fire From the Rock, Sharon Draper
Flush, Carl Hiaasen
Football Genius, Tim Green
Freedom Walkers: The Story of the Montgomery Bus Boycott, Freedman, Russell
Gifted Hands: The Story of Ben Carson, Ben Carson
Heart of a Samurai, Margi Preus
Hugo Cabret, Brian Schnick
Little Women, Louisa May Alcott
Lockdown, Walter Dean Myers
Lost in the River of Grass, Ginny Rorby
Magnificent Voyage: An American Adventurer on Captain James Cook's Final Expedition, Laurie Lawlor
Mockingbird, (Mok'ing;buerd), Kathryn Erkin
Moon over Manifest, Clare Vanderpool
Old Yeller, Fred Gipson
One Crazy Summer, Rita Williams-Garcia
Peter and the Starcatchers, Dave Barry & Ridley Pearson
Saving the Ghost of the Mountain: An Expedition Among Snow Leopards in Mongolia, Sy Montgomery and Nic Bishop
Scat, Carl Hiaasen
Slob, Ellen Potter
Tasting the Sky: A Palestinian Childhood Ibtisam Barakat
The Anybodies, N.E. Bode,
The Lightning Thief, Rick Riordan
The Lost Hero, Richard Riordan
The Man Who Went to the Far Side of the Moon: The Story of Apollo 11 Astronaut Michael Collins, Bea Uusma Schyffert
The Road Not Taken, Robert Frost
The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle, Avi
The Trumpet of the Swan, E.B. White
The View from Saturday, E.L. Konigsburg
The Wednesday Wars, Gary D. Schmidt
The Wright Sister: Katharine Wright and Her Famous Brothers, Richard Maurer
Treasure Island, Robert Louis Stevenson
Twelve Rounds to Glory: The Story of Muhammed Ali, Charles R. Smith
Wangari's Tree of Peace, Jeanette Winter
When the Wolves Returned: Restoring Nature's Balance in Yellowstone, Dorothy Hinshaw Patent
Where the Red Fern Grows, Wilson Rawls
Wild Things, Clay Carmichael

Grades 9-12

A Separate Peace, John Knowles
Allegiant, Veronica Roth
All Quiet on the Western Front, Erich Maria Remarque
Bunheads, Flack, Sophie
Cloaked, Alex Flinn
Cookie & Me, Mary Jane Ryals
Divergent, Veronica Roth
Ender's Game, Orson Scott Card
Florida Cowboys, Carlton Ward Jr.
Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story, Ben Carson
Imaginary Enemy, Julie Gonzalez
Insurgent, Veronica Roth
Kon-Tiki: Across the Pacific by Raft, Thor Heyerdahl
Looking for the New Deal, Elna C. Green

Marcelo in the Real World, Francisco Stork
Money Hungry, Sharon Flake
Monster, Walter Dean Myers
Music Was It: Young Leonard Bernstein, Susan Goldman Rubin
Night, Elie Wiesel
November Blues, Sharon Draper
Pilgrim in the Land of Alligators: More Stories about Real Florida, Jeff Klinkenberg
Poof: A Play, David Auburn
Resurrecting Lazarus, Texas, Nathan Barber
Reubin O'D. Askew and the Golden Age of Florida Politics, Martin A. Dyckman
Silent Spring, Rachel Carson
Solomon, Marilyn B. Shaw
Southern Comforts: Rooted in a Florida Place, Sudy Cauthen
Sugar Changed the World: A Story of Magic, Spice, Slavery, Freedom and Science, Marc Aronson and Marina Budhos
Taken, Edward Bloor
The Book Thief, Markus Zusak
The Diving Bell and the Butterfly: A Memoir of Life in Death, Jean-Dominique Bauby
The Everglades, River of Grass, Marjorie Stoneman Douglas
The First Hollywood Florida and the Golden Age of Silent Filmmaking, Shawn Bean
The Great Wide Sea, M. H. Herlong
The Hot Zone: A Terrifying True Story, Richard Preston
The House on Mango Street, Sandra Cisneros
The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism, & Treachery, Steve Sheinkin
The Old Man and the Sea, Ernest Hemingway
The Real Question, Adrian Fogelin
The Shakespeare Stealer, Gary Blackwood
The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference, Malcolm Gladwell
The Yearling, Marjorie K. Rawlings
Things Fall Apart, Chinua Achebe
Through Her Eyes, Jennifer Archer
We Beat the Street: How a Friendship Pact Led to Success, Sampson Davis, George Jenkins, Rameck Hunt, and Sharon Draper
Wheels of Change: How Women Rode the Bicycle to Freedom (With a Few Flat Tires Along the Way), Sue Macy
When You Reach Me, Rebecca Stead
Whispers from the Bay, John Tkac
Written in Bone: Buried Lives of Jamestown and Colonial Maryland, Sally M. Walker

You may also find more selections for Middle and High School readers at www.justreadflorida.com under the Student Section – For Teens, by Teens recommended reading.

Below are a few websites that will provide reading levels for many of the books listed above. Please feel free to use one of these to find a reading level or use any similar tool that may be available to you. Librarians and teachers are also experts in helping pair students with appropriate books.

- AR BookFinder: <http://www.arbookfind.com/default.aspx>
- Lexile Find a Book: <http://www.lexile.com/search/filters/results/>
- Scholastic Book Wizard: <http://www.scholastic.com/bookwizard/>
- If a reader tackles a book above his or her reading level, consider what additional instruction or lower-level reading resources might help.
- Ask the reader to keep track of unknown words within the book, and look them up together.
- Take turns reading aloud to each other to help process the information into smaller portions.



Just Read, Florida!

2014 Summer Literacy Adventure

Florida's First Lady Ann Scott and the Florida Department of Education's Just Read, Florida! Office proudly announce the **2014 Summer Literacy Adventure**. As summer is fast approaching, we encourage schools, students and parents to prepare for the summer break by participating in this fun challenge to have students read during the break.

Literacy experts and educators agree that children of all ages need to be read to, read by themselves and talk about the books they have read during the summer. Your student's summer reading and book discussions will help maintain reading skills, improve reading fluency and provide the opportunity to learn new vocabulary and concepts. Most importantly, when parents and children enjoy summer reading together, children develop a love of books and reading that lasts a lifetime. According to research by Richard Allington (2007), by the time a struggling reader reaches middle school, summer reading loss has accumulated to a two-year lag in reading achievement. Researchers also conclude that two-thirds of the ninth-grade reading achievement gap can be explained by this summer learning loss. Let's work together to help students in Florida stay on track and not lose valuable ground in reading.

The **2014 Summer Literacy Adventure** is geared to help children stay on target, motivated and excited about reading and literacy. During summer vacation, it is important for students to spend time reading and writing on a regular basis whether the student is a beginning or proficient reader.

The Summer Literacy Adventure invites you to have your students read as many books as possible. Each student can fill out his or her pledge on the Just Read, Florida! website at www.justreadfamilies.org, and by the end of the summer, the department will tally up which schools have the most participants.

In addition to this challenge, here are some suggestions and resources for you as the district literacy leader to share with administrators, reading coaches and teachers in every school in your community to encourage reading. Thank you for your continued efforts to provide Florida's students the resources and support they need to be successful in school and in life.

2014 Summer Literacy Adventure Suggestions and Resources:

- Provide tips to parents for summer reading. (See Parent Tips for Summer attachment)
 - Provide Just Read, Florida! parent brochures for parents of elementary school and secondary students. (See parent brochures attached.)
 - Use up to any remaining Parent-Teacher Organizational funds at the school or district levels, by providing summer book-packs. Book-packs include age-appropriate books at the student's reading level with follow-up activities for students to complete during the summer break.
 - Materials that support the themes of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics).
 - Materials that foster parental involvement, reinforce learning at home and support Florida Standards.
 - Resources that include, when possible, online engagement.
 - Consider having Open Library Nights at your schools where children and parents can come and check out books and read at the school library. Media specialists may want to track grade-level participation and recognize these children/grades at a schoolwide **2014 Summer Literacy Adventure Celebration**.
 - Consider allowing children to use classroom library books or media center books as tools to meet the **Summer Literacy Adventure** challenge. Books can be checked out during summer library hours.
 - Consider sending phone messages via your district's automated messaging system to all students, encouraging them to keep reading and be part of the **Summer Literacy Adventure Celebration** when they return to school. This message can come from the superintendent, principal, reading coach or classroom teacher.
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Parent Tips For Summer Reading

- Consider using the school website to promote the [Summer Literacy Adventure Celebration](#).
- When students return to school in the fall, coordinate a [Summer Literacy Adventure Celebration](#) for the students who participated.
- Consider having rewards or prizes for students who complete the [Summer Literacy Adventure](#).
- Encourage your students to visit their local libraries during the break.
- Invite your students to use the Find a Book tool to find books that are geared toward their interests.
<https://www.lexile.com/fab/fl/>

Additional Student, Parent and Teacher Resources:

- **Reading Rockets** is a great resource for parents and teachers. <http://www.readingrockets.org/guides/readingrockets>
Click on the following links for more information and guidance.
 - [Launching Young Readers Guides](#)
 - [Reading Rockets Parent Tip Sheets](#)
 - [A Tale of Two Schools Guides](#)
 - Parents will be thrilled with the [summer travel activities](http://www.familyeducation.com/home/html) <http://www.familyeducation.com/home/html>. Explore games, activities and crafts for children.
 - **Summer Time Reading** a parent resource http://www.rif.org/documents/us/summer_reading.pdf
 - **Just Read, Florida!** website provides a list of suggested summer reading selections as well as tips for helping children with reading skills at home. <http://www.justreadflorida.com>
 - **For Teens, By Teens** recommended reading list <http://www.justreadflorida.com/recommend/PublicDisplay.asp>
 - **Just Read, Families!** <http://www.justreadfamilies.org/>
 - **Sunshine State Young Reader Awards Program** is a statewide reading motivation program for students in grades 3-8. <http://www.floridamedia.org/?page=ssyrahome>
 - **Education World** a list of activities is provided on this site to extend your child's understanding of what he or she reads in addition to an annotated list of recommended reading for kindergarten through eighth grade. http://www.education-world.com/summer_reading
 - **KidsReads** offers an excellent annotated list of classic and new books arranged by age level. <http://www.kidsreads.com/>
 - **International Reading Association** provides a unique, annotated, downloadable list of literature chosen by children and teachers each year from 1998 to 2013 arranged by reading level. <http://www.reading.org/Resources/Booklists.aspx>
 - **Learn More About Favorite Authors and Illustrators** after reading a book this summer, you and your child may enjoy looking at the author or illustrator's website. Most authors include information about themselves and their books as well as information about how to send them a message. Check out these sites for more links to authors' and illustrators' websites:
 - **Children's Book Council** website offers an alphabetical listing of children's authors and illustrators with links to their websites. <http://www.cbcbooks.org/>
 - Excerpts from "Why Summers Matter in the Rich/Poor Achievement Gap" by Richard Allington & Anne McGill-Franzen (2009) <http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/face/lib/funding/WhySummersMatterintheRich-PoorAchmtGapAllington.pdf>
 - "Summer Reading Loss" by Maryann Mraz and Timothy V. Rasinski (2007) http://www.Ldonline.org/article/Summer_Reading_Loss?theme=print
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