

Reading can be one of the many fun activities children choose to fill their summer time. And research has shown it is also much more!

Children who participate in public library summer reading programs make achievement leaps during the summer.

ALSC reading lists are created by children's librarians as a resource to share with patrons, and may also be available in ebook, audio book, braille, and large print formats. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to explore this list to find resources that may match or spark their child's interest. Connect with your local library to find out what's happening this summer.



ASSOCIATION FOR LIBRARY
SERVICE TO CHILDREN

www.ala.org/alsc

The 2021 Summer Reading Book List was created by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). Titles on this list were selected by members of ALSC's Quicklists Consulting Committee.

For more booklists, please visit www.ala.org/alsc/booklists.

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SUMMER READING LIST



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BIRTH through PRESCHOOL

Antiracist Baby

by Ibram X. Kendi, illustrated by Ashley Lukashevsky

KOKILA, 2020
ISBN: 9780593110416

Racial consciousness develops younger than many people realize, and this picture book will give parents and caregivers a launchpad for having these important conversations with their little ones.

Families Belong

by Dan Saks, illustrated by Brooke Smart

RISE X PENGUIN WORKSHOP, 2020
ISBN: 9780593222768

A celebration of families loving, singing, and belonging together.

Future Doctor

by Lori Alexander, illustrated by Allison Black

SCHOLASTIC, 2020
ISBN: 9781338312256

A board book teaching the basics of being a doctor, and encouraging Baby that they can be anything.

The Hips on the Drag Queen Go Swish, Swish, Swish

by Lil Miss Hot Mess, illustrated by Olga de Dios

RUNNING PRESS, 2020
ISBN: 9780762467655

Written by one of the first Drag Queen Story Hour performers, this picture book will get kids moving and proudly flaunting their most glamorous selves.

Hurry Up! A Book about Slowing Down

by Kate Dopirak, illustrated by Christopher Silas Neal

BEACH LANE BOOKS, 2020
ISBN: 9781534424975

With repeating refrains, this picture book follows a busy morning and afternoon of a young girl. After school, she

learns to slow things down and enjoy what is around her.

I Love My Tutu Too!

by Ross Burach

SCHOLASTIC, 2020
ISBN: 9781338504279

Every animal loves their tutu and wants to find more animal friends who love their tutus as well. Clever rhymes and a vibrant color palette make this a highly re-readable board book.

I Love You, Baby Burrito

by Angela Dominguez

ROARING BOOK, 2021
ISBN: 9781250231093

With a mix of both English and Spanish languages, this book takes you through the act of swaddling a newborn.

Me & Mama

by Cozbi A. Cabrera

SIMON & SCHUSTER, 2020
ISBN: 9781534454217

A young child enjoys a day with her mama, splashing in the rain and being cozy at home.

A New Green Day

by Antoinette Portis

HOLIDAY HOUSE, 2020
ISBN: 9780823444885

Poetic riddles create a guessing game as readers explore nature during a summer day.

Raven Squawk, Orca Squeak

by Roy Henry Vickers and Robert Budd, illustrated by Roy Henry Vickers

HARBOUR PUBLISHING, 2020
ISBN: 9781550179040

The sounds of the Pacific Coast are shared in this board book with simple text accompanied by colorful illustrations from an Indigenous artist.

Sing with Me / Canta conmigo

by José-Luis Orozco, illustrated by Sara Palacios

SCHOLASTIC, 2020
ISBN: 9781338121186

Enjoy six classic children's songs in both English and Spanish, with charming illustrations.

The Solar System with Ellen / El sistema solar con Ellen

by Patty Rodríguez and Ariana Stein, illustrated by Citlali Reyes

LIL' LIBROS, 2020
ISBN: 9781947971400

Text in English and Spanish brings our youngest bookworms on a trip through outer space with Ellen Ochoa, the first Latina astronaut.

This Is a Book of Shapes

by Kenneth Kraegel

CANDLEWICK, 2020
ISBN: 9781536207019

This board book begins as a simple introduction to shapes and gets sillier and more complex as other shapes that might not be so simple get added!

Two Many Birds

by Cindy Derby

ROARING BROOK, 2020
ISBN: 9781250232540

A monitor shouts rules as birds line up to sit in a tree, but when the tree reaches capacity and two more birds hatch, things start to get a little wild.

We All Play

by Julie Flett

GREYSTONE KIDS, 2021
ISBN: 9781771646079

With a simple text in English and Cree and soft, beautiful illustrations, this book explores how both animals and humans play.

We Are Little Feminists: On-the-Go

by Brook Sitgraves and Archa Shrivastav

LITTLE FEMINIST, 2020
ISBN: 9781734182415

A board book celebration of how we move, featuring colorful photographs of a variety of people moving in many different ways, highlighting the diversity of people and abilities in our community.

What Sound Is Morning?

by Grant Snider

CHRONICLE BOOKS, 2020
ISBN: 9781452179933

This simple and beautiful book encourages its readers to consider their morning routines, paying special attention to the sounds and silences that accompany them.

Whose Bones? An Animal Guessing Game

by Gabrielle Balkan, illustrated by Sam Brewster

PHAIDON, 2020
ISBN: 9781838661519

An informative board book about animal bones and anatomy in the form of a fun guessing game.

You Matter

by Christian Robinson

ATHENEUM, 2020
ISBN: 9781534421691

An uplifting and inspiring book encourages readers to explore the many different people we encounter in our world and our connection to them, highlighting the important mantra of the title, "You matter."

DIGITAL EXPERIENCES

Children benefit from adult guidance while exploring digital content. For information about how children's librarians can be Media Mentors, visit ala.org/alsc/publications-resources/look-to-libraries. #LookToLibraries

Duolingo ABC— Learn to Read app

Available for iOS devices

This app teaches young children important literacy skills such as vocabulary and print awareness with the end goal of helping children become readers!

Funbrain website

funbrain.com

This website for children features cool science experiments, read-aloud videos, and fun games to explore.

The Imagine Neighborhood podcast

imagineneighborhood.org

Kids will learn about social-emotional skills through stories, songs, and activities, prompting conversations between children and caregivers about big feelings.

Molly of Denali podcast

pbskids.org/molly/podcast

Listen to the adventures of 10-year-old Molly, an Alaska Native girl who lives with her bush pilot mom, adventure-guide dad, and her dog, Suki, in a small village.

Monterey Bay Aquarium live cams webpage

montereybayaquarium.org/animals/live-cams

Jellyfish, sea otters, and sharks, oh my! Learn about and watch live videos with these sea animals and more.

Sesame Street Family Play: Caring for Each Other app

Available for Android and iOS devices

Maybe it takes a screen to help you unplug! In English and Spanish, this app just asks a few questions to guide its suggestions for screen-free games and activities families can do wherever they are.

Wow in the World podcast

tinkercast.com/shows/wow-in-the-world

A STEM-themed podcast with silly (but scientifically) accurate humor for curious young listeners.

For more top resources, visit the ALSC Book and Media Awards Shelf at alsc-awards-shelf.org.