



Moorestown Township Schools Summer Reading

Summer Reading Ideas from the MTPS Libraries: K-8th Grade

****Please note that UES and WAMS have summer reading programs.
See specific information on their websites.***

To get you started, these books are SUGGESTED by the Moorestown Township Public School librarians.

We do not have required summer reading lists.

Please feel free to help your student select titles that catch his or her interest.

Here are some tips for parents to help your elementary school reader:

- *Let your student read to you some nights or alternate pages: you read a page, they read a page.*
- *Please remember that even when your children read successfully on their own, they still like to curl up next to you and hear a great story.*
- *Make it a treat to read in bed. Go to bed early some nights and have a reading marathon. Break the 'rules' some nights and read after lights out. Provide a little reading light that can be snuggled under the covers.*
- *Pitch a tent in your living room on rainy days. Have a reading 'camp-in' complete with popcorn.*
- *Let your children see you reading. They will do as you do. Have books all over the house.*

- Limit summer TV viewing and "screen time" in general.
- Have rainy-day read-ins.
- Help your child create a library in his/her room.
- Join the summer reading program at the public library.
- Allow your child to subscribe to a magazine of interest.
- Read a chapter book together. Finish each evening at a cliff-hanging spot in the book. Read above your child's reading level; listening level is higher than reading level.
- Listen to books on CDs on long car trips.
- Read books to plan a vacation or summer excursion.
- Don't forget to read non-fiction. Choose books to satisfy your child's interests that include science and social studies connections.
- Make sure to mix in some fabulous picture books for your summer reading. You can have wonderful, meaningful conversations about picture books that aren't possible to have with beginning chapter books.

Find online opportunities to read, build skills, and share suggestions for further reading:

Startwithbooks.org	Goodreads.com	KQED.org
Storyline Online: stories to listen to	GuysRead.com	Adayinourshoes.com
Middleweb.com	ReadingRockets.org	Scholastic.com
WeAreTeachers.com	KidLit TV stories and crafts	Barnes and Noble
Summer Reading Lists for all grades	Education.com	MoorestownPublicLibrary
Barbara the Bookworm	Read with Ryan and Craig	The Book Boys

For more resources, see our schools' library web pages:

- [Baker](#)
- [Roberts](#)
- [South Valley](#)
- [UES](#)
- [WAMS](#)
- [MHS](#)

Rising Grades 1-3

SERIES

Wallace and Grace by Heather Alexander --Best friends work together to solve mysteries.

A Jack Book series by Mac Barnett--Enjoy the hilarious adventures of a mischievous rabbit.

Humphrey's Tiny Tales by Betty G. Birney — The adventures of Humphrey, the class pet hamster in Mrs. Brisbane's room

Bad Kitty by Nick Bruel --Sassy Kitty takes a bath, meets family, and causes all sorts of mischief.

Narwhal and Jelly by Ben Clanton—A graphic novel series for the early reader.

Heidi Heckelbeck by Wanda Coven--An eight-year-old with magical powers!

Mercy Watson by Kate DiCamillo--Fun with a pig and her human family.

BunBun & BonBon by Jess Keating

Captain Awesome by Stan Kirby--Second graders act as superheroes.

Teeny Houdini by Katrina Moore -- warm and funny early chapter books featuring a lovable protagonist and realistic community.

Little Shaq by Shaquille O'Neal--Early reader series by the basketball legend.

Mr. Putter and Tabby by Cynthia Rylant --A cat and his owner have many fun adventures with a neighbor and her dog Zeke.

Mr. Wolf's Class by Aron Nels Steinke

Black Lagoon by Mike Thaler--Laugh with creatures from the Black Lagoon.

Nikki and Deja by Karen English --The adventures of two best friends.

Katie Fry by Katherine Cox—Fun mysteries for beginning readers.

Zooey and Sassafras by Asia Citro -- A girl and her cat have adventures with magical animals and learn the scientific method.

FOR MORE TITLES, SEE THE [ACORN](#) (ages 4-7) and [BRANCHES](#) series by Scholastic.

FICTION BOOKS

Potato Pants by Laurie Keller --Will Potato miss the Fancy Pants sale? Read this hilarious book to find out.

Big Red Lollipop by Rhuksana Khan -- Siblings can be so annoying, yet the best friends we could wish for.

Goldilocks and Just One Bear by Leigh Hodgkinson--A sequel to the old favorite.

You Read to Me, I'll Read to You by Mary Ann Hoberman and Ed Emberley--Fairy Tales to read with a partner.

Bear Came Along by Richard T. Morris— Caldecott Honor book about a bear's wild river journey.

Interrupting Chicken by David Stein—Hilarious bedtime at the Chicken household.

After the Fall (How Humpty Dumpty Got Back Up Again) by Dan Santat—Can Humpty conquer his fears?

Jabari Jumps by Gaia Cornwall—Does Jabari have the courage to master the diving board?

Hot Dog by Doug Salati—A nearly wordless book that won the 2023 Caldecott gold medal.

Knight Owl by Christopher Denise—A little owl shows cleverness in this 2023 Caldecott Honor winner.

Fry Bread by Kevin Noble Maillard—A Native American family story told in verse.

The Proudest Blue by Ibtihaaj Muhammad— A story of hijab and family.

NONFICTION

Prehistoric Actual Size by Steve Jenkins--Prehistoric creatures are shown life-sized with many foldouts and facts.

Our Universe series by Stacy McAnulty -- excellent, witty, fun, fact-packed series

Becoming Babe Ruth By Matt Tavares--Picture book biography of "The Babe."

The Watcher: Jane Goodall's Life with the Chimps by Jeanette Winter--A picture book biography.

Flying Frogs and Walking Fish by Steve Jenkins--Surprising ways that animals move.

Jackie Robinson: American Hero by Sharon Robinson--author's biography of her dad.

Creature Feature by Steve Jenkins--Twenty-five animals explain their looks.

The Girl Who Thought in Pictures by Julia Mosca—The story of Temple Grandin.

Nic Bishop Snakes by Nic Bishop--Great pictures and facts galore.

Grand Canyon by Jason Chin—The story of this national park's geology told in Caldecott Honor-winning pictures.

We March By Shane W. Evans--The story of Dr. King's historic speech.

Fly Guy Presents... by Tedd Arnold—Nonfiction series for young readers featuring beloved Fly Guy.

Counting on Katherine by Helaine Becker--- How Katherine Johnson helped save the Apollo 13 mission.

Who Would Win? series by Jerry Pallotta----Fun facts and comparisons between animals.

Hey, Water by Antoinette Portis -- Explains the water cycle.

The Undefeated by Kwame Alexander --beautifully illustrated Caldecott Medal winner about the history and struggles of African Americans.

Read Books by these Favorite Authors:

Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen, Lisa Cline-Ransome, Kelly Starling Lyons, Katrina Moore, Kadir Nelson, Jerry Pinkney, Greg Pizzoli, Patricia Polacco, Peter H. Reynolds, Amy Krouse Rosenthal, Chrystal Swain-Bates, Steve Jenkins, Jory John, Mac Barnett

Race Relations Resources

Pre-K-Third Grade

- **Why Am I Me** by Paige Britt & Sean Qualls
- **The Day You Begin** by Jacqueline Woodson
- **Seeing Into Tomorrow** by Richard Wright
- **Hands Up** by Breanna McDaniel

- **Can I Touch Your Hair** by Irene Latham and Charles Waters
- **Separate is Never Equal** by Duncan Tonatiuh
- **My Daddy Rules the World** by Hope Anita Smith
- **Antiracist Baby** by Ibram X. Kendi
- **Thank You Omu** by Oge Mora
- **Saturday** by Oge Mora
- **The Oldest Student** by Rita Lorraine Hubbard
- **Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut** by Derrick Barnes
- **Timbaland: Nighttime Symphony** Featuring Christopher Myers
- **The Roots of Rap: 16 Bars on the 4 Pillars of Hip-Hop** by Carole Boston Weatherford
- **One Last Word: Wisdom From the Harlem Renaissance** by Nikki Grimes
- **The Remarkable Story of George Moses Horton: Poet-** by Don Tate
- **The Last Last-Day of Summer** by Lamar Giles (chapter book)
- **The King of Kindergarten** by Derrick Barnes
- **What is Given from the Heart** by Patricia McKissack
- **The Undefeated** by Kwame Alexander & Kadir Nelson
- **The Book Itch: Freedom, Truth & Harlem's Greatest Bookstore** by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson
- **Black is a Rainbow Color** by Angela Joy
- **A Girl Like Me** by Angela Johnson
- **Sometimes People March** by Tessa Allen
- **Anti-Racism Starts with Me: Kids Coloring Book** by Kadeesha Bryant
- **Seeing into Tomorrow: Haiku** by Richard Wright
- **Hammering for Freedom** by Rita Lorraine Hubbard
- **Your Name is a Song** by Jamilah Thomkins-Bigelow
- **The Colors of Us** by Karen Katz
- **Whoever You Are** by Mem Fox
- **You Matter** by Christian Robinson
- **All Are Welcome** by Alexandra Penfold
- **Teach Your Dragon About Diversity** by Steve Herman
- **Let's Talk About Race** by Julius Lester
- **Sulwe** by Lupita Nyong'O
- **Under My Hijab** by Hena Khan

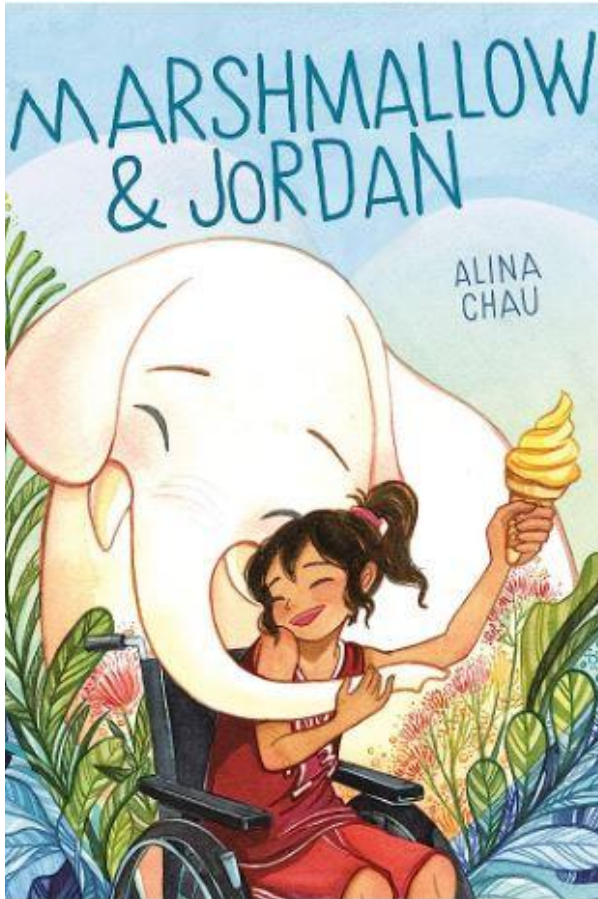
Social-Emotional Learning

Pre-K to Third Grade

- **Saturday by Oge Mora**
- **We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga by Traci Sorell**
- **We've Got the Whole World in Our Hands by Rafael Lopez**
- **Coming On Home Soon by Jacqueline Woodson**
- **You Hold Me Up by Monique Gray-Smith**
- **Last Stop on Market Street by Matt de la Pena**
- **I Can Do Hard Things by Gabi Garcia**
- **I Can Handle It by Laurie Wright**
- **Books by Peter Reynolds**
- [Toddlers to Teens: How to Help Kids Cope with Stress from COVID-19](#)
- [SEL Parent Resources](#)
- [#HealthyAtHome - Healthy parenting](#)
- [Artist Kadir Nelson's evocative response to the pandemic](#)

UES Read It Forward Selection for 2023–2024

Marshmallow and Jordan by Alina Chau



From the publisher...

★ *"Clever compositions and notable lack of motion lines give readers what only the pause button can: perfect suspensions of climactic sports action."* – Horn Book magazine

★ *"Beautifully illustrated panels with the delicate, luminous feeling of watercolors bring to life Jordan's multicultural school, her Balinese community, and the incredibly endearing Marshmallow. Indonesian Jordan plays on teams with girls of a range of ethnicities and exists in a world that subtly displays the diverse religious and cultural identities found in Indonesia and particularly in Bali. Full-page illustrations that set the scene or mark transitions in the story are especially rich in detail and serve to flesh out the narrative. A sweet story greatly enhanced by whimsical, heartfelt art. (author's note, concept art, glossary, Indonesian food and facts)"* – Kirkus Reviews

★ *"An enchanting graphic novel about a girl and her elephant with truly lovely artwork. Highly recommended."* – School Library Journal

This year, Read It Forward is exploring a new path with the selection of *Marshmallow and Jordan* by Alina Chau, our first Read It Forward graphic novel! Jordan is an all-star basketball player and captain of her team when an accident leaves her paralyzed. As she comes to terms with this drastic change in her life, she befriends a sweet elephant she names Marshmallow. A realistic fiction story that takes on a magical turn at the end, this lovely story of friendship and perseverance is set in Indonesia, and Chau weaves in the nuances of everyday life there seamlessly. She even includes recipes from the region in the afterword!

We are excited to enter the world of graphic novels in our Read It Forward program, as there are a variety of ways that they contribute to our students' growth and development. Synthesizing information from both text and images give students an opportunity to practice comprehension of multimodal content, an increasingly important skill given the means by which information is communicated in today's world. Research shows, too, that graphic novel reading can help students in learning vocabulary and enhancing their ability to infer information from text and images. Please [click here](#) for infographics with more information on how to effectively read a graphic novel as well as some of the benefits.

UES Tigers Summer Reading Suggestions

UES TIGERS SUMMER READING SUGGESTIONS

Summer is the *perfect* time for students to explore books and subjects that capture *their* interests. If they need ideas, please see the lists below. Remember, these are suggestions only; they are not required reading. Enjoy your summer!

Favorite Authors

Alexander, Kwame
Anderson, Laurie Halse
Applegate, Katherine
Avi
Baskin, Nora Raleigh
Choldenko, Gennifer
Cleary, Beverly
Clements, Andrew
Collins, Suzanne
Coville, Bruce
Creech, Sharon
DiCamillo, Kate
Dowell, Frances O'Roark

Draper, Sharon M.
Gaiman, Neil
George, Jean Craighead
Gibbs, Stuart
Grabenstein, Chris
Gratz, Alan
Green, Tim
Gutman, Dan
Haddix, Margaret Peterson
Hunter, Erin
Kinney, Jeff
Korman, Gordon
Lowry, Lois
Lupica, Mike

Magoon, Kekla
Mass, Wendy
Mull, Brandon
Patterson, James
Paulsen, Gary
Reynolds, Jason
Riordan, Rick
Rowling, J. K.
Ryan, Pam Muñoz
Saeed, Aisha
Spinelli, Jerry
Telgemeier, Raina
Weeks, Sarah
Woodson, Jacqueline

See the next page for some titles your child might enjoy!

UES Tigers Summer Reading Suggestions

UES TIGERS SUMMER READING SUGGESTIONS – Favorite Titles

Tuck Everlasting by Babbitt, Natalie
The Jumbies by Baptiste, Tracey
Peter And The Starcatchers by Barry, Dave
Drum Roll, Please by Bigelow, Lisa Jenn
The Name Of This Book Is Secret by Bosch, Pseudonymous
Insignificant Events In The Life Of A Cactus by Bowling, Dusti
The War That Saved My Life by Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker
Grooves: A Kind Of Mystery by Brockmeier, Kevin
Code Talker: A Novel About The Navajo Marines Of World War Two by Bruchac, Joseph
All The Broken Pieces: A Novel In Verse by Burg, Ann E
Hurricane Child by Callender, Kacen
King And The Dragonflies by Callender, Kacen
Floors by Carman, Patrick
The Only Black Girls In Town by Colbert, Brandy
The Land Of Stories: The Wishing Spell by Colfer, Chris
How I, Nicky Flynn, Finally Get A Life (And A Dog): A Novel by Corriveau, Art
Stella Díaz Has Something To Say by Dominguez, Angela
The London Eye Mystery by Dowd, Siobhan
The City Of Ember by DuPrau, Jeanne
The Ruins Of Gorlan / Ranger's Apprentice #1 by Flanagan, John
The Honest Truth by Gemeinhart, Dan
Braced by Gerber, Alyson
Pure Dead Magic by Giori, Debi
The Magic Misfits by Harris, Neil Patrick
Alex Rider: Stormbreaker / Bk 1 by Horowitz, Anthony
Everything On A Waffle by Horvath, Polly
One For The Murphys by Hunt, Lynda Mullaly
Juniper Berry by Kozlowsky, M. P.

Inside Out & Back Again by Lai, Thanhha
The Lions Of Little Rock by Levine, Kristin
For Black Girls Like Me by Lockington, Mariama
Tristan Strong Punches A Hole In The Sky by Mbalia, Kwame
Indian No More by McManis, Charlene Willing
Resistance by Nielsen, Jennifer A.
Radiance : A Novel by Noël, Alyson
The Best At It by Pancholy, Maulik
Eragon by Paolini, Christopher
A Long Walk To Water: A Novel: Based On A True Story by Park, Linda Sue
How High The Moon by Parsons, Karyn
Pax by Pennypacker, Sara
Freak The Mighty by Philbrick, W. R.
The Red Pencil by Pinkney, Andrea Davis
Gracefully Grayson by Polonsky, Ami
Bystander by Preller, James
Ruby's Slippers by Rayburn, Tricia
Bayou Magic by Rhodes, Jewell Parker
Come Juneteenth by Rinaldi, Ann
The Dollmaker Of Kraków by Romero, R. M.
Ben Franklin's Big Splash: The Mostly True Story Of His First Invention by Rosenstock, Barb
Riding Freedom by Ryan, Pam Muñoz
Magyk / Septimus Heap #1 by Sage, Angie
Ana On The Edge by Sass, A. J.
The Harlem Charade by Tarpley, Natasha
Nerd Camp by Weissman, Elissa Brent
Genesis Begins Again by Williams, Alicia
Stanford Wong Flunks Big-Time by Yee, Lisa

UES Tigers Summer Reading Suggestions

UES TIGERS SUMMER READING SUGGESTIONS

Conversations about Race Relations Resources and Book Lists

4th - 6th Grades

- *A Girl Like Me* by Angela Johnson
- *Seeing Into Tomorrow: Haiku* by Richard Wright
- *The Book Itch: Freedom, Truth, & Harlem's Greatest Bookstore* by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson
- *Ruth and the Green Book* by Calvin Alexander Ramsey
- *A Spy Called James: The True Story of James Lafayette, Revolutionary War Double Agent* by Anne Rockwell
- *Can I Touch your Hair? Poems of Race, Mistakes, and Friendship* by Irene Latham and Charles Waters
- *Strange Fruit: Billie Holiday and the Power of a Protest Song* by Gary Golio
- *Garvey's Choice* by Nikki Grimes
- *So Done* by Paula Chase
- *The Jumbies (series)* by Tracey Baptiste
- *The Magnificent Mya Tibbs: Mya in the Middle* by Crystal Allen
- *We Rise, We Resist, We Raise Our Voices*, Wade and Cheryl Hudson, editors
- *Let's Talk About Race* by Julius Lester
- *Ghost Boys* by Jewell Parker Rhodes
- *Harbor Me* by Jacqueline Woodson
- *This Book is Anti-Racist: 20 Lessons on How to Wake Up, Take Action and Do the Work* by Tiffany Jewell
- *Some Places More than Others* by Renee Watson
- *The Laura Line* by Crystal Allen
- *Just South of Home* by Karen Strong
- *My Life as an Ice Cream Sandwich* by Ibi Aanu Zobo
- *Love Like Sky* by Leslie C. Youngblood
- *Gaither Sisters Trilogy* by Rita Williams Garcia
- *How High the Moon* by Karyn Parsons
- *Finding Langston* by Lesa Cline-Ransome

- *Blended* by Sharon Draper
- *New Kid* by Jerry Craft
- *The Only Black Girls in Town* by Brandy Colbert
- *Black Brother, Black Brother* by Jewell Parker Rhodes
- *For Black Girls Like Me* by Mariama J. Lockington
- *Genesis Begins Again* by Alicia Williams
- *What Lane?* By Torrey Maldonado
- *We March* by Shane W. Evans
- *Sit-In: How Four Friends Stood Up by Sitting Down* by Andrea Davis Pinkney
- *This Promise of Change: One Girl's Story in the Fight for School Equality* by Jo Ann Allen Boyce and Debbie Levy
- *Memphis, Martin, and the Mountaintop: The Sanitation Strike of 1968* by Alice Faye Duncan
- *Glory Be* by Augusta Scattergood
- [The Brown Bookshelf](#)
- [20 Picture Books for 2020: Readings to Embrace Race, Provide Solace & Do Good](#)
- [Social Justice: 15 Titles to Address Inequity, Equality, and Organizing for Young Readers](#)
- [Black Lives Matter: Antiracist Books for Middle-Grade Readers from the Iowa City Public Library](#)
- [An Anti-Racist Children's and YA Reading List by Publishers Weekly](#)

MTPS Summer Reading for Rising 7-8

[WAMS Summer Reading Program](#)

Grade 7 and 8 English Language Arts teachers have prepared a small slide deck linked above with information regarding our required summer reading for parents and students to preview together. Grade 7 teachers have also prepared a set of guiding questions to be discussed at home and shared in September. Grade 6 ELA teachers will supply hard copies of the questions, and a link is also available on the corresponding slide for additional reference.

- Rising Grade 7: [New Kid](#) by Jerry Craft
- Rising Grade 8: [I Will Always Write Back](#) by Caitlin Alifirenka and Martin Ganda with Liz Welch

Additional Summer Reading Suggestions

<i>Piecing Me Together</i> Renee Watson	<i>The Fort</i> Gordon Korman
<i>Darius the Great is Not Okay</i> Adib Khorram	<i>Freewater</i> Amina Luqman-Dawson
<i>The Summer I Turned Pretty (Series)</i> Jenny Han	<i>Gone (Series)</i> Michael Grant
<i>Caravel</i> Stefanie Garber	<i>Bravely</i> Maggie Stiefvater
<i>Free Lunch</i> Rex Ogle	<i>Caraval</i> Stefanie Garber
<i>Genesis Begins Again</i> Alicia D. Williams	<i>The Last Map Maker</i> Christina Soontornvat
<i>Blended</i> Sharon M. Draper	<i>Tell Me THree Things</i> Julie Buxbaum
<i>Brooklyn Nine</i> Alan Gratz	<i>Wildoak</i> C.C. Harrington
<i>Internment</i> Samira Ahmed	<i>Aviva vs the Dybbuk</i> Mari Lowe

<i>When the Angels Left the Old Country</i> Sacha Lamb	<i>The Island</i> Natasha Preston
<i>Stepsister</i> Jennifer Donnelly	<i>School for Good and Evil (series)</i> Soman Chainani
<i>Michael Vey</i> Richard Paul Evans	<i>Renegades (Series)</i> Stephanie Meyer
<i>Code Talker</i> Joseph Bruchac	<i>The Stolen Heir (Cruel Prince Series)</i> Holly Black
<i>The Inheritance Games (Series)</i> Jennifer Barnes	<i>The Island</i> Natasha Preston
<i>Enemies (GN)</i> Svetlana Chmakova	<i>Posted</i> John David Anderson

WAMS Suggested Summer Reading, cont.

<i>Sunny Side Up (GN)</i> Alan Gratz	<i>Ground Zero</i> Alan Gratz
<i>Global, One Fragile World (GN)</i> Eoin Colfer	<i>Swim Team (GN)</i> Johnnie Christmas
<i>The Swifts: A Dictionary of Scoundrels</i> Beth Lincoln	<i>Merci Suarez Changes Gears</i> Merci Suarez
<i>5th Wave (series)</i> Rick Yancey	<i>Maizy Chen's Last Chance</i> Lisa Lee
<i>Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard</i> Rick Riordan	<i>Real Friends</i> and <i>Best Friends (graphic novel)</i> Shannon Hale
<i>Hummingbird</i> Natalie Lloyd	<i>Triple Threat</i> Mike Lupica
<i>Sisters</i> and <i>Guts (GN)</i> Raina Telgemeier	<i>One Handed Catch</i> MJ Auch
<i>Frazzled: Ordinary Mishaps and Inevitable Catastrophes (graphic novel)</i> Booki Vivat	<i>Two Degrees</i> Alan Gratz
<i>All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Tai Boy's Soccer Team</i> Christina Soontornvat	<i>Hey Kiddo (GN)</i> Jarrett Krosoczka
<i>Traitor</i> Amanda McCrina	<i>New Kid (GN)</i> Jenny Craft

Note to parents and guardians:

Please understand that the Young Adult umbrella covers a wide age range (12-18 years) and may deal with bullying, racism, addiction, sexuality and gender identification issues, and violence. Only titles that we believed to be appropriate for 7th and 8th-grade students were included. However, we still suggest that you preview any titles your student requests to read to be sure it is, in fact, content with which you are comfortable as well.

Titles from this list may be used for various activities in which the students can choose to participate during Teen Read Week in October as well as Reading Madness in March.