



Chattanooga  
Public Library

# SUMMER READING PICKS 2020 GRADES 6 » 8

## Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Chattanooga Public Library is proud to present its 2020 List of recommended Summer Reading Picks. Chosen by local expert librarians, these titles are great reads and are highly regarded in the book community, receiving many awards, excellent reviews and popular appeal. We hope that the 2020 List will help your family pick the best books for your child, grades K-12. All of the books on the List are available at your local library. Your local librarian can suggest additional titles.

Reading in the summer helps build on the skills obtained during the school year so that learning continues into the next grade year. We need the support and encouragement of families to ensure that all of our children become excellent readers.

*Happy Reading!*

*Corinne Hill*

Corinne Hill  
Executive Director  
Chattanooga Public Library

## CLASSICS

**A Wrinkle in Time**  
by Madeleine L'Engle  
Meg and her friends become involved with unearthly strangers after her father disappears.  
**W | Y LEn**

**Anne of Green Gables**  
by L.M. Montgomery  
An imaginative girl is adopted and grows up on Prince Edward Island.  
**Y | J Mon**

**Hatchet**  
by Gary Paulsen  
After a plane crash, a thirteen-year-old boy survives alone in the wilderness.  
**R | Y Pau**

**Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry**  
by Mildred Taylor  
A family's loyalty to one another helps during the hardships of the Depression.  
**W | Y Tay**

## CLASSICS

**The Hobbit: or, There and Back Again**  
by J.R.R. Tolkien  
Bilbo Baggins sets off on an adventure with dwarves and a wizard.  
**Z | Y Tol**

## FANTASY & SCI-FI

**The Assassination of Brangwain Spurge**  
by M.T. Anderson and Eugene Yelchin  
Illustrations and text combine for the fabulous journey of an elf into the land of goblins.  
**M | Y And**

**The Girl Who Drank the Moon**  
by Kelly Barnhill  
A misunderstood witch cares for a magical girl.  
**X | J Bar**

**Stepsister**  
by Jennifer Donnelly  
A continuation of the Cinderella story, but through the eyes of one of the stepsisters.  
**T | Y Don**

**The Last Last-Day-of-Summer**  
by Lamar Giles  
Cousins have the gift of ridding their town of troublesome out-of-this world problems.  
**T | J Gil**

**Sal & Gabi Break the Universe**  
by Carlos Hernandez  
A thirteen-year-old magician can open up holes in the space-time continuum.  
**T | J Her**

**The Mysterious Benedict Society**  
by Trenton Lee Stewart  
At a very special school, students are challenged by complex puzzles.  
**V | Y Ste**

## HISTORICAL FICTION

**The Line Tender**  
by Kate Allen  
Lucy and her father navigate as best they can after her mother tragically dies while collecting data on sharks.  
**O | J All**

**Refugee**  
by Alan Gratz  
Three children, each from a different historical time, must leave their homelands to seek shelter in other countries.  
**Y | J Gra**

**The Night Diary**  
by Veera Hiranandani  
In 1947, India splits into two countries and Nisha finds hope by writing letters to her deceased mother.  
**O | J Hir**

**The Parker Inheritance**  
by Varian Johnson  
Candice finds a letter that reveals a family secret and sets off to solve the connected mystery with the help of a new friend.  
**N | J Joh**

**Ahimsa**  
by Supriya Kelkar  
In 1942, Anjali and her family stand up to the British government in India by using non-violent resistance.  
**S | J Kel**

**How High the Moon**  
by Karyn Parsons  
An African American girl leaves South Carolina to visit her mother in Boston and returns with a better understanding of racial injustices.  
**N | J Par**

**Paperboy**  
by Vince Vawter  
In 1959 Memphis, a shy boy delivers papers and finds strength to help others.  
**X | J Vaw**

## HISTORICAL FICTION

### Beyond the Bright Sea

by Lauren Wolk

Abandoned as a newborn, now 12-year-old Crow seeks answers by sailing to an island that was home to a former leper colony.

R | J Wol

## MODERN REALISM

### Posted

by John David Anderson

When cell phones are banned, things get a little sticky when students start leaving sticky notes.

Q | J And

### The Thing About Jellyfish

by Ali Benjamin

Suzy is convinced her best friend died as a result of a jellyfish sting.

Y | J Ben

### Marcus Vega Doesn't Speak Spanish

by Pablo Cartaya

After fighting in school, Marcus's mother takes the family to Puerto Rico.

M | Y Car

### Knockout

by K.A. Holt

In this novel told in verse, a boy who conquered a life-threatening disease as a child takes up boxing.

N | Y Hol

### Nowhere Boy

by Katherine Marsh

A teen escapes Aleppo and hides in the cellar of a house where he is befriended by another boy.

N | J Mar

## MODERN REALISM

### Wonder

by R.J. Palacio

A remarkable boy with a rare condition starts attending middle school.

V | J Pal

### Look Both Ways

by Jason Reynolds

Award-winning short story collection from the view point of ten different kids going home from school.

Q | Y Rey

### Genesis Begins Again

by Alicia Williams

Forced to leave yet another house, Genesis's family moves in with her grandmother and she has to transfer schools.

P | Y Wil

## GRAPHIC NOVELS

### Amulet: The Stonekeeper

by Kazu Kibuishi

It is up to Emily and Navin to save their mother who was kidnapped by a horrible creature.

Q | J Graphic Amu

### Awkward

by Svetlana Chmakova

In the first book of the Berrybrook Middle School series, Peppi navigates fitting in at her new school.

U | J Graphic Awk

### Be Prepared

by Vera Brosgol

Vera is sent to Russian summer camp with hilarious consequences.

K | J Graphic Be

## GRAPHIC NOVELS

### Dear Justice League

by Michael Northrop

Familiar superheroes answer letters from kids.

K | J Graphic Dea

### New Kid

by Jerry Craft

A seventh-grader who loves drawing cartoons tries to fit in at a new private school.

L | J Graphic New

### Sanity & Tallulah

by Molly Brooks

Two friends living on a space station create a three-headed kitten.

M | J Graphic San

### Smile

by Raina Telgemeier

A sixth-grader copes with the insecurities that come with wearing dental headgear.

T | Y Graphic Smi

## NONFICTION

### This Promise of Change

by Jo Ann Allen Boyce

The story of, one of twelve African American students to integrate a high-school in Tennessee.

W | J 379.263 Boy

### Never Caught, the Story of Ona Judge

by Erica Armstrong Dunbar and Kathleen van Cleeve

A slave in the Washington's household grows up and escapes.

Y | J 306.362 Dun

### Rocket Boys: A Memoir

## NONFICTION

by Homer Hickam

A mining town helps a group of teen boys as they learn to build rockets.

Z | B Hic

### Crossing on Time: Steam Engines, Fast Ships, and a Journey to the New World

by David Macaulay

A look at ships and how technology changed their designs.

Y | J 623.8243 Mac

### Two Truths and a Lie: Histories and Mysteries

by Ammi-Joan Paquette and Laurie Ann Thompson

Test your knowledge about history to decipher which is the made-up story.

W | J 031.02 Paq

### Two Truths and a Lie: It's Alive!

by Ammi-Joan Paquette and Laurie Ann Thompson

Read three bizarre stories and try to figure out which one is false.

W | J 508 Paq

### Beyond Words

by Carl Safina

Study about the ways elephants and whales communicate with one another and with humans.

T | J 591.56 Saf

### Capsized! The Forgotten Story of the SS Eastland Disaster

by Patricia Sutton

On a lovely summer day in 1915, a ship filled with 2,500 passengers and crew sank in the Chicago River.

S | J 917.7311 Sut

*Because this list includes books for a range of grades, please be aware that some titles may contain advanced content that might not be appropriate for everyone. If you need help making selections, ask your librarian for guidance.*

Guided reading levels as determined by the Fountas & Pinnell Text Level Gradient used by Hamilton County Schools.  
Kindergarten: **A B C D** | 1st: **E F G H I J** | 2nd: **K L M** | 3rd: **N O P** | 4th: **Q R S** | 5th: **T U V** | 6th: **W X Y** | 7-8th: **Z** | 9th+: **Z+**