



# READING LIST

Grades  
3—5

## BOOKS

### BETWEEN MONSTERS AND MARVELS

BY ALYSA WISHINGRAD

HARPERCOLLINS, 2023  
ISBN: 9780063244870

Adventure, mystery, and fantasy combine perfectly as Dare Coates learns about her family's role in a much larger operation. Kids will love the monster lore, surprising twists, and ways the world Wishingrad has built is and isn't similar to ours.

### THE BOOK OF TURTLES

BY SY MONTGOMERY,  
ILLUSTRATED BY MATT PATTERSON

CLARION, 2023  
ISBN: 9780358458074

Intelligent and enduring, turtles have been around since the time of the dinosaurs. Learn what we know—and don't yet know—about these surprising reptiles. Illustrated with detailed, realistic paintings of more than thirty different turtle species.

### THE DO-OVER

BY JENNIFER TORRES

SCHOLASTIC, 2022  
ISBN: 9781338754193

Fans of realistic fiction will enjoy this tale that tackles the challenges of blending a family during the COVID-19 pandemic, while remaining light and fun. Also available in Spanish.

### A FEW BICYCLES MORE

BY CHRISTINA USS

MARGARET FERGUSON BOOKS, 2022  
ISBN: 9780823450879

In this sequel to *The Adventures of a Girl Called Bicycle*, adventure takes Bicycle and her bike, Fortune, to Harpers Ferry, where she meets her long-lost family and finds out she's a quintuplet! Her new family brings new adventures—first up is teaching the four sisters to ride their own bikes.

### GLITTER EVERYWHERE! WHERE IT CAME FROM, WHERE IT'S FOUND AND WHERE IT'S GOING

BY CHRIS BARTON,  
ILLUSTRATED BY CHAAYA PRABHAT

CHARLESBRIDGE, 2023  
ISBN: 9781623542528

A fascinating look at a controversial art supply, offering insights about the human love for sparkle, the science behind the creation of glitter, and ways to improve its environmental impact.

### THE HUMAN KABOOM

BY ADAM RUBIN, ILLUSTRATED BY DANIEL SALMIERI AND OTHERS

PUTNAM, 2023  
ISBN: 9780593462393

A hilarious collection of six short stories, all with the same title. Includes a popcorn recipe and a bonus chapter titled "The Human Kaboom: (the one that hasn't been written yet)," providing inspiration for kids to write their own story!

### INTO THE SHADOW MIST

BY CHRISTINA SOONTORNVAT,  
ILLUSTRATED BY KEVIN HONG

SCHOLASTIC, 2023  
ISBN: 9781338759174

Who doesn't love a book with a map? In book two of the Legends of Lotus Island series, the adventure continues with Plum and her friends, who must figure out what is putting the entire ecosystem at risk.

### JOVITA WORE PANTS: THE STORY OF A MEXICAN FREEDOM FIGHTER

BY AIDA SALAZAR,  
ILLUSTRATED BY MOLLY MENDOZA

SCHOLASTIC, 2023  
ISBN: 9781338283419

In Mexico during the Cristero War, Jovita Valdovinos felt helpless at home while her father and brother fought. This book tells the story of how she became one of the most famous revolutionaries and was finally able to wear pants.

### LEEVA AT LAST

BY SARA PENNYPACKER,  
ILLUSTRATED BY MATTHEW CORDELL

BALZER + BRAY, 2023  
ISBN: 9780063114425

Young Leeva learns that there is a whole world outside of the home that she has been trapped in. Funny and perfect for multigenerational reading, the book shows how to make friends in new environments and pokes fun at bureaucracy.

### LISTEN TO THE LANGUAGE OF THE TREES: A STORY OF HOW FORESTS COMMUNICATE UNDERGROUND

BY TERA KELLEY,  
ILLUSTRATED BY MARIE HERMANSSON

SOURCEBOOKS/DAWN, 2022  
ISBN: 9781728232164

An exploration of how trees, with the help of fungi, can connect and communicate with one another.

### MAKING MEMORIES: PRACTICE MINDFULNESS, LEARN TO JOURNAL AND SCRAPBOOK, FIND CALM EVERY DAY

BY AMY TANGERINE,  
ILLUSTRATED BY TRACEY ENGLISH

DK CHILDREN, 2022  
ISBN: 9780744026559

This book is a beautiful way to keep busy during the summer, providing ways to record and celebrate the good days and work through the hard ones. It includes activities like making mandalas with found objects or a feeling box made with origami.

## MARSHMALLOW CLOUDS: TWO POETS AT PLAY AMONG FIGURES OF SPEECH

BY TED KOOSER AND CONNIE WANER,  
ILLUSTRATED BY RICHARD JONES

CANDLEWICK, 2022  
ISBN: 9781536203035

Illustrated poems based on the four elements—fire, water, earth, and air—that take place during all seasons.

## MY HEAD HAS A BELLYACHE: AND MORE NONSENSE FOR MISCHIEVOUS KIDS AND IMMATURE GROWN-UPS

BY CHRIS HARRIS,  
ILLUSTRATED BY ANDREA TSURUMI

LITTLE, BROWN, 2023  
ISBN: 9780316592598

Even the glossary, subject indexes, and title get caught up in this goofy, laugh-out-loud book of poetry and rhymes. Hand this appealing and silly book to fans of Shel Silverstein and Jon Scieszka.

## THE REMARKABLE RESCUE AT MILKWEED MEADOW

BY ELAINE DIMOPOULOS,  
ILLUSTRATED BY DOUG SALATI

CHARLESBRIDGE, 2023  
ISBN: 9781623543334

Butternut, who is learning the art of storytelling, spins tales of adventure for her rabbit colony while also questioning the validity of the colony's rules, overcoming biases about egg-layers and other non-rabbit denizens of Milkweed Meadow, and orchestrating a remarkable rescue.

## SEARCH FOR A GIANT SQUID: PICK YOUR PATH

BY AMY SETO FORRESTER,  
ILLUSTRATED BY ANDY CHOU MUSSER

CHRONICLE, 2023  
ISBN: 9781797213934

Dive into the science of deep-sea research in this engaging choose-your-own-adventure-style informational book.



ALSC reading lists are created by children's librarians as a resource to share with patrons. These titles 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.

## SOMETHING LIKE HOME

BY ANDREA BEATRIZ ARANGO

RANDOM HOUSE, 2023  
ISBN: 9780593566183

Laura Rodríguez Colón moves in with her aunt and is forced to adjust to a new homelife and school, but she finds hope and companionship in the dog she adopts.

## THINGS IN THE BASEMENT

BY BEN HATKE

FIRST SECOND, 2023  
ISBN: 9781250836618

When Milo searches for a lost sock in the basement of his new home, he discovers a new world, strange creatures, and how to be brave when faced with the unknown.

## DIGITAL

### BRAINS ON!

<https://www.brainson.org/>

From American Public Media, each weekly episode of this podcast, cohosted by Molly Bloom and a kid guest host, explores a science question. Past episodes include: "What's inside a jellyfish?" "How heavy is the sky?" and "Can boredom be good for you?"

### THE FIRST CAT IN SPACE ATE PIZZA LIVE CARTOONS

BY SHAWN HARRIS AND MAC BARNETT

[https://www.youtube.com/  
@TheFirstCatInSpace](https://www.youtube.com/@TheFirstCatInSpace)

These YouTube videos were made during the COVID lockdown and led to the book by the same name. A nice inspiration to

make your own stories with friends over the summer.

## MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM LIVE CAMS

[https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/  
animals/live-cams](https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/animals/live-cams)

Check out the different sea creatures on live streams from the Monterey Bay Aquarium! Animals to observe include sharks, penguins, spider crabs, and more.

## NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/>

Fun trivia and video games for STEM-loving kids on this interactive website.

## SCISHOW KIDS

[https://www.youtube.com/@SciShowKids/  
videos](https://www.youtube.com/@SciShowKids/videos)

Discover the wonders of science and get answers to big questions in YouTube videos with Jessi, Squeaks the Robot Lab Rat, and all their friends.

## SPELLIE

<https://spelliegame.com>

Wordle website for kids! Figure out a different word daily, with three levels of difficulty to choose from and hints available to help figure out the correct answer.

## WONDEROPOLIS

<https://wonderopolis.org/>

Celebrate curiosity with the "Wonder of the Day," which provides answers to kids' most interesting questions, on this website hosted by the National Center for Families Learning.

[www.ala.org/alsc](http://www.ala.org/alsc)

The 2024 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](http://www.ala.org/alsc/booklists).

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