



Summer Reading Contest: Our Top Picks!

Children's

- *If You Made a Million* by David M. Schwartz
 - o Genre: Educational
 - o *Marvelosissimo the Mathematical Magician* shows how various combinations of coins and paper money add up, starting with a single penny and ending with a million dollars. He also introduces the concept of interest—both the kind that banks pay on deposits and the kind they charge borrowers on loans.
- *Last Stop on Market Street* by Matt de la Peña
 - o Genre: Contemporary
 - o A heartwarming story about a boy and his grandmother that highlights the beauty in everyday life and the importance of community.
- *Ada Twist, Scientist* by Andrea Beaty
 - o Genre: STEM
 - o This story follows a young girl with boundless curiosity and a knack for scientific discovery.
- *The Day You Begin* by Jacqueline Woodson
 - o Genre: Contemporary
 - o A beautifully illustrated book about finding the courage to share your unique story, even when you feel different.
- *Nell Plants a Tree* by Anne Wynter
 - o Genre: Contemporary
 - o The past and the present of a family are connected by the planting and growing of a tree.
- *Why Don't You Just Grow Some Fur?* By Nick Moreland
 - o Genre: Contemporary
 - o On a chilly day, Ellie's best of friends Louie the cat does the best he can to help her grow some fur, but Ellie knows that just won't work as fur can't grow on her. So, Ellie works to remove her chill so she can continue to play with her silly kitty Louie and enjoy the day!

Middle School

- *Project Startup* by Heather Alexander, Laura D'Asaro, and Rose Wang
 - o Genre: Educational
 - o Sixth-graders Hallie and Jay pair up for a business competition and get the idea to sell snacks made from bugs.
- *Front Desk* by Kelly Yang
 - o Genre: Contemporary
 - o Centers on a young Chinese-American girl who helps parents manage a motel while navigating life as an immigrant in America.
- *Ghost* by Jason Reynolds
 - o Genre: Sports/Contemporary
 - o Tells the story of a young boy with natural talent in track and field, grappling with past traumas and future dreams.
- *The Jumbies* by Tracey Baptiste
 - o Genre: Fantasy
 - o A thrilling story inspired by Caribbean folklore, where a brave girl faces off against mythical creatures to save her island.



- *Light and Air* by Mindy Nichols Wendell
 - o Genre: Contemporary
 - o In 1935 a mother and daughter contract tuberculosis and are confined to a hospital in upstate New York where Halle discovers joy, family, and the healing power of honey in the children's ward.
- *The Skeleton Flute* by Damara Allen
 - o Genre: Adventure/Thriller
 - o A boy's wish goes horribly wrong, throwing him into an adventure and fight to reunite with his real family.

Young Adult

- *I Want More Pizza* by Steve Buckholder
 - o Genre: Educational
 - o This finance book for teens is cut into four "slices": you (goals, priorities, etc.), saving (why and how to save), growing your savings (including investing), and debt (including credit cards and paying for college).
- *We Hunt the Flame* by Hafsah Faizal
 - o Genre: Fantasy
 - o Set in a richly woven world inspired by ancient Arabia, this book follows a huntress and a prince embarking on a dangerous mission together.
- *The Poet X* by Elizabeth Acevedo
 - o Genre: Contemporary/Poetry
 - o A novel-in-verse about an Afro-Latina heroine who tells her story with blazing words and powerful truth.
- *I Hope This Doesn't Find You* by Ann Liang
 - o Genre: Contemporary/Romance
 - o Sadie's life is turned upside down when the emails she's drafted (but never sent) venting all of her frustrations accidentally get out and she must face her peers who now know exactly what she thinks of them.
- *Under the Surface* by Diana Urban
 - o Genre: Thriller
 - o Four teens find themselves lost in the Paris catacombs for days as something sinister chases them, uncovering dark secrets about the catacombs and each other.
- *Divine Rivals* by Rebecca Ross
 - o Genre: Fantasy
 - o When two young rival journalists find love through a magical connection, they must face the depths of hell, in a war among gods, to seal their fate forever.