

Summer Reading Addendum: **Grades 6-8 Diverse Book List**

Below please find additional titles from which you can choose books to read for your summer reading. Special thanks to Ms. Pitino at the Forestdale School for leading the work to compile this list.

Note for families: You are encouraged to explore authors and titles together to determine which titles are most appropriate for their child to read this summer. The Malden Public Library has many of these titles available and they would also be able to help you determine which might be most appropriate for your child and your family.

Black Authors (includes characters in the US, Africa, and the Caribbean)

- *The Red Pencil* by Andrea Davis Pinkney (Sudanese refugee)
- The *Track* series by Jason Reynolds (African American, present day)
 - Four books in the series: *Ghost, Patina, Sunny, Lu*
- The *Jumbies* series by Tracey Baptiste (Caribbean)
 - Three books in the series: *The Jumbies, Rise of the Jumbies, and The Jumbie God's Revenge*
- *Finding Langston* by Lesa Cline-Ransome (African-American, history)
- *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson (African-American, history)
- *New Kid* by Jerry Craft (African American, present day)
- *When Stars are Scattered* by Omar Mohamed and Victoria Jamieson (Kenyan)
- *Miles Morales: Spider-Man* by Jason Reynolds
- *Miles Morales: The Ultimate Spider-Man Collection* by Brian Michael Bendis and Chris Samnee (African American, present day)
- *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander (African American, present day)
- *The Stars Beneath our Feet* by David Barclay Moore (African American, present day)
- *My Life as an Ice Cream Sandwich* by Ibi Zoboi (African American, history)
- *One Crazy Summer* by Rita Williams-Garcia (African American, history)

Muslim Authors

- *Amina's Voice* by Hena Khan
- *Amina's Song* by Hena Khan
- *Other Words for Home* by Jasmine Warga
- *The Weight of Our Sky* by Hanna Alkaf
- *The Battle* by Karuna Riazi
- *Unsettled* by Reem Faruqi
- *A Thousand Questions* by Saadia Faruqi
- *A Place at the Table* By Saadia Faruqi
- *Zayd Saleem, Chasing the Dream: Power Forward; On Point; Bounce Back* by Hena Khan

Neurodiverse Authors and Content (Autism, ADHD, Anxiety, OCD, Depression)

- *OCDaniel* by Wesley King (OCD)
- *A Boy Called Bat* by Elena K. Arnold (autism)

- *The Someday Birds* by Sally J. Pla (autism & OCD)
- *Percy Jackson and the Olympians* series by Rick Riordan (ADHD)
- *Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key* by Jack Gantos (ADHD)

South Asian/South Asian American Authors

- *Pashmina* by Nidhi Chanani
- *The Breadwinner* by Deborah Ellis

East Asian/East Asian American Authors

- *Stargazing* by Jen Wang
- *Green Lantern: Legacy* by Minh Le, illustrated by Andie Tong
- *Front Desk* by Kelly Yang
- *Unidentified Suburban Object* by Mike Jung

Latinx Authors

- *The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora* by Pablo Cartaya
- *Caravan to the North: Misael's Long Walk* Jorge Argueta
- *Stef Soto, Taco Queen* by Jennifer Torres
- *Lucky Broken Girl* by Ruth Behar
- *The First Rule of Punk* by Celia C Perez
- *Forest World* by Margarita Engle

Jewish Authors

- *Hereville: How Mirka Got her Sword* by Barry Deutsch (series)
- *Hidden: A Child's Story of the Holocaust* by Loïc Dauvillier
- *The Hidden Girl* by Lola Metzger and Lola Rein Kaufman

Native American Authors

- *Trickster: Native American Tales, A Graphic Collection* by Matt Dembicki
- *Indian No More* by Charlene Willing McManis with Traci Sorrell

Physical disability

- *El Deafo* by Cece Bell (deafness)
- *Hello, Universe* by Erin Entrada Kelly (deafness, also features Filipino characters)

LGBTQ+ and Gender Identity

- *You Don't Know Everything, Jilly P!* By Alex Gino (transgender)
- *George* by Alex Gino (transgender)
- *The Lumberjanes* series (graphic novels/comics) by Shannon Watters, Grace Ellis, Brooklyn A. Allen and Noelle Stevenson (gender & LGBTQ)
- *The Prince and the Dressmaker* by Jen Wang (gender)
- *The Cardboard Kingdom* by Chad Sell (gender)
- *Alexis vs. Summer Vacation* by Sarah Jamila Stevenson (LGBTQ)
- *Lily and Dunkin* by Donna Gephart (transgender)
- *Roller Girl* by Victoria Jamieson (gender)

Family Struggles (not specific identity)

- *Sunny Side Up* by Jennifer L. Holm & Matthew Holm

- *Swing it, Sunny!* by Jennifer L. Holm & Matthew Holm
- *Sunny Rolls the Dice* by Jennifer L. Holm & Matthew Holm