

## Summer Reading - elementary schools

Reading is a simple and enjoyable way for students to boost their brainpower, so Chesterfield County Public Schools encourages elementary school students to read during summer vacation.

Research shows that what students read is less important than how much they read. A study by Barbara Heyns found that children who read at least six books during the summer maintained or improved their reading skills, while kids who did not read saw their skills slip by as much as an entire grade level.

Summer reading is more about practicing the enjoyable habit of reading than it is about challenging students academically.

Many organizations compile lists to make it easy for students and their parents to self-select books for summer reading. Chesterfield County Public Schools does not endorse any specific titles on the lists. Not all parents may consider all of the books on these sites to be appropriate, so parents are encouraged to review the books to determine which books are appropriate for their children or visit a county library to speak with a librarian. Check out the links below for summer reading resources and lists.

## Association for Library Service to Children

### [Birth to Preschool](#)

- *All the Way to Havana* by Margarita Engle, illustrated by Mike Curato
- *Music Is...* by Brandon Stosuy, illustrated by Amy Martin

### [Kindergarten to Second Grade](#)

- *My Awesome Summer by P Mantis* written and illustrated by Paul Meisel
- *What Do You Do with a Problem* by Kobi Yamada, illustrated by Mae Besom

### [Third through fifth Grade](#)

- *Hello, Universe* by Erin Estrada Kelly, illustrated by Isabel Roxas
- *Out of Wonder* by Kwame Alexander, Chris Colderly, and Marjory Wentworth, illustrated by Ekua Holmes

## Scholastic

### [Scholastic Book Challenge](#); [Book Lists](#), ([Spanish](#))

#### Birth to 2 Years

- *Little Bitty Friends* by Elizabeth McPike, illustrated by Patrice Barton
- *Penguins Love Their ABC's* written and illustrated by Sarah Aspinall

#### Preschool

- *After the Fall: How Humpty Dumpty Got Back Up Again* written and illustrated by Dan Santat
- *Love* by Matt de La Peña, illustrated by Loren Long

First and second Grade

- *Before She Was Harriet* by Lesa Cline-Ransome, illustrated by James Ransome
- *What if You Had Animal Eyes?* by Sandra Markle, illustrated by Howard McWilliam

Third through fifth Grade

- *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle
- *The Journey of Little Charlie* by Christopher Paul Curtis

## Read Kiddo Read

[PreK- 1st Grade](#)

- *My Crocodile Does Not Bite* by Joe Kulka
- *Cat the Cat* series by Mo Willems

[First and second Grade](#)

- *Aggie and Ben* series by Lori Ries
- *The Buddy Files* series by Dori Hillestad Butler

[Third through fifth Grade](#)

- *Angel in My Pocket* by Ilene Cooper
- *Astronaut Academy: Zero Gravity* by Dave Roman

## Teachers First Book Lists

[Kindergarten through third grade](#)

[Fourth grade](#)

[Fifth grade](#)

To learn more about summer reading and book choices, check out the links below:

- [Reviews — School Library Journal](#)
- [ReadWriteThink After-School Resources](#)
- [Summer Reading Tips From Librarians](#)
- [Get Ready for Summer Reading](#)
- [Consejos Para Padres: Programas de Lectura de Verano](#)
- [Parent Tips: Summer Reading | En Español](#)
- [13 Ideas for how Parents can Encourage Summer Reading](#)
- [Key Facts about Summer Reading](#)
- [Summer Learning Loss Study: Can 'Summer Slide' Be Prevented?](#)
- [Summer Reading and the Rich/Poor Achievement Gap: An Educator Responds to Questions](#)
- [How to Plan for Summer Reading Success](#)