

# Just Read, Florida! 2012 Summer Recommended Reading List

## Grades K-3

**Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears: A West African Tale**, Aardema, Verna  
**Benny and Penny in the Big No-No!** Hayes, Geoffrey  
**Our Generous Garden**, Nagro, Anne  
**Gracias \* Thanks**. Mora, Pat  
**Big Wolf and Little Wolf**, Brun-Cosme, Nadine  
**Jitterbug Jam**, Hicks, Barbara Jean  
**What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?**, Jenkins, Steve and Page, Robin  
**The Storm Book**, Zolotow, Charlotte  
**Pancakes for Breakfast**, DePaola, Tommie  
**Hi! Fly Guy**, Arnold, Tedd  
**Twas the Day Before Zoo Day**, Ipcizade, Catherine  
**A Day in the Life of Murphy**, Provensen, Alice  
**Actual Size**, Jenkins, Steve  
**Frog and Toad Together**, Lobel, Arnold  
**Aunt Flossie's Hats**, Howard, Elizabeth Fitzgerald  
**Buffy the Burrowing Owl**, Gilbert, Betty  
**How People Learned to Fly**, Hodgkins, Fran and Kelley, True  
**Buster**, Fleming, Denise  
**Daddy & I**, Greenfield, Elosie  
**Deep in the Swamp**, Bateman, Donna  
**Diary of a Worm**, Cronin, Doreen  
**Poppleton in Winter**, Rylant, Cynthia  
**Dino-Dinners**, Manning, Mick and Granstrom, Brita  
**Henry the Impatient Heron**, Love, Donna  
**Hot City**, Joosse, Barbara  
**Leaf Jumpers**, Gerber, Carole  
**Little Skink's Tail**, Halfmann, Janet  
**Miss Nelson Is Missing!**, Allard, Harry  
**My Name is Yoon**, Recorvits, Helen  
**No, David!**, Shannon, David  
**Ocean Hide and Seek**, Kramer, Jennifer Evans  
**Polar Slumber**, Rockhill, Dennis  
**Charlotte's Web**, White, E.B.  
**The Story of Ruby Bridges**, Coles, Robert  
**A Drop of Water: A Book of Science and Wonder**, Wick, Walter  
**Count Down to Fall**, Hawk, Fran  
**Moose and Magpie**, Restrepo, Bettina  
**She Sang Promise: The Story of Betty Mae Jumper, Seminole Tribal Leader**, Annino, J.G.  
**Camille Saint-Saens's The Carnival of the Animals**, Prelutsky, Jack and GrandPre, Mary  
**The Napping House**, Wood, Audrey and Dan  
**The Secret Olivia Told Me**, Joy, N.  
**Fly Danny, Fly**, Gilbertson, Chip, Restivo, Gina, and Kendrich, Michelle  
**River of Dreams: The Story of the Hudson River**, Talbott, Hudson  
**Christian, the Hugging Lion**, Richardson, Justine and Parnell, Peter  
**I Always, Always Get My Way**, Krasnesky, Thad  
**Wonder Horse**, McCully, Emily Arnold

## **Grades 4-5**

**The Underneath**, Appelt, Kathi

**Elijah of Buxton**, Curtis, Christopher Paul

**Criss Cross**, Perkins, Lynne Rae

**Whittington**, Armstrong, Alan

**Princess Academy**, Hale, Shannon

**A Faraway Island**, Thor, Annika

**Eidi**, Bredsdorff, Bodil

**Animals in the House: A History of Pets and People**, Keenan, Sheila

**Bud, Not Buddy**, Curtis, Christopher Paul

**Crazy Cars**, Doeden, Matt

**Crossing Jordan**, Fogelin, Adrian

**Dare to Dream!** Sommer, Carl

**Do Not Open: An Encyclopedia of the World's Best-Kept Secrets**, Farndon, John

**Dog Diaries: Secret Writings of the WOOF Society**, Byars, Betsy, Duffey, Betsy, and Myers, Laurie

**Every Minute on Earth: Fun Facts That Happen Every 60 Seconds**, Murrie, Steve and Murrie, Matthew

**Extreme Pets!** Harrington, Jane

**Life Under Ice**, Cerullo, Mary M.

**Riddle-iculous Math**, Holub, Joan

**Sarah, Plain and Tall**, MacLachlan, Patricia

**See What You Can Be: Explore Careers That Could Be for You!** Heiman, Diane and Suneby, Liz

**Alice's Adventures in Wonderland**, Carroll, Lewis

**The Black Stallion**, Farley, Walter

**The Birchbark House**, Erdrich, Louise

**Where the Mountain Meets the Moon**, Lin, Grace

**Hurricanes: Earth's Mightiest Storms**, Lauber, Patricia

**Horses**, Simon, Seymour

**A History of US**, Hakim, Joy

**Discovering Mars**, Berger, Melvin

**Quest for the Tree Kangaroo**, Montgomery, Sy

**AQUIFERious**, Tolbert, Margaret Ross

**A Nest for Celeste: A Story About Art, Inspiration, and the Meaning of Home**, Cole, Henry

**Heroes for My Son**, Meltzer, Brad

**The Last Egret: The Adventures of Charlie Pierce**, Oyer III, Harvey E.

**Jason and Elihu**, Mickle, Shelley Frazer

**Just Being Audrey**, Cardillo, Margaret

**Bad News for Outlaws: The Remarkable Life of Bass Reeves, Deputy U.S. Marshal**, Nelson, Vaunda Micheaux

**Inside Out & Back Again**, Lai, Thanhha

## **Grades 6-8**

**Wangari's Tree of Peace**, Winter, Jeanette

**A Life in the Wild: George Schaller's Struggle to Save the Last Great Beasts**, Turner, Pamela S.

**When the Wolves Returned: Restoring Nature's Balance in Yellowstone**, Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw

**The Trumpet of the Swan**, White, E.B.

**Treasure Island**, Stevenson, Robert Louis

**Old Yeller**, Gipson, Fred  
**Bridge to Terabithia**, Paterson, Katherine  
**Esperanza Rising**, Ryan, Pam Munoz  
**Hattie, Big Sky**, Larson, Kirby  
**The Young Man and the Sea**, Philbrick, Rodman  
**Peter and the Starcatchers**, Barry, Dave & Pearson, Ridley  
**Artemis Fowl: the Arctic Incident**, Colfer, Eoin  
**Where the Red Fern Grows**, Rawls, Wilson  
**The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle**, Avi  
**The Wright Sister: Katharine Wright and Her Famous Brothers**, Maurer, Richard  
**Carver, a Life in Poems**, Nelson, Marilyn  
**Magnificent Voyage: An American Adventurer on Captain James Cook's Final Expedition**, Lawlor, Laurie  
**The Man Who Went to the Far Side of the Moon: The Story of Apollo 11 Astronaut Michael Collins**, Schyffert, Bea Uusma  
**Twelve Rounds to Glory: The Story of Muhammed Ali**, Smith, Charles R.  
**Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices from a Medieval Village**, Schlitz, Laura Amy  
**The Wednesday Wars**, Schmidt, Gary D.  
**The Anybodies**, Bode, N.E.  
**The Lightning Thief**, Riordan, Rick  
**Fire From the Rock**, Sharon, Draper  
**The Surrender Tree: Poem's of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom**, Engle, Margarita  
**Newt's World: Beginnings**, Womble, Susan  
**The Lion and the Mouse** (Picture Book), Pinkney, Jerry  
**A Single Shard**, Park, Linda Sue  
**A Long Way from Chicago**, Peck, Richard  
**The View from Saturday**, Konigsburg, E.L.  
**Any Which Wall**, Snyder, Laurel  
**Moon over Manifest**, Vanderpool, Clare  
**Heart of a Samurai**, Preus, Margi  
**One Crazy Summer**, Williams-Garcia, Rita  
**Lockdown**, Myers, Walter Dean  
**Flush**, Hiaasen, Carl  
**Hugo Cabret**, Schnick, Brian  
**Trouble**, Schmidt, Gary  
**The Arrival**, Tan, Shawn  
**Dead End in Norvelt**, Gantos, Jack  
**Breaking Stalin's Nose**, Yelchin, Eugene  
**Out of My Mind**, Draper, Sharon M.  
**Scat**, Hiaasen, Carl  
**Crispin, the Cross of Lead**, Avi  
**Wild Things**, Carmichael, Clay  
**A Long Walk to Water : Based on a True Story**, Park, Linda Sue  
**Lost in the River of Grass**, Rorby, Ginny  
**Tasting the Sky: A Palestinian Childhood** Barakat, Ibtisam  
**Saving the Ghost of the Mountain: An Expedition Among Snow Leopards in Mongolia**, Montgomery, Sy and Bishop, Nic  
**Freedom Walkers: The Story of the Montgomery Bus Boycott**, Freedman, Russell

## **Grades 9-12**

**The Real Question**, Fogelin, Adrian  
**Solomon**, Shaw, Marilyn B.  
**The Yearling**, Rawlings, Marjorie K.  
**We Beat the Street: How a Friendship Pact Led to Success**, Davis, Sampson, Jenkins, George, Hunt, Rameck, and Draper, Sharon  
**The House on Mango Street**, Cisneros, Sandra  
**Money Hungry**, Flake, Sharon  
**The Book Thief**, Zusak, Markus  
**The Old Man and the Sea**, Hemingway, Ernest  
**Kon-Tiki: Across the Pacific by Raft**, Heyerdahl, Thor  
**Monster**, Myers, Walter Dean  
**Taken**, Bloor, Edward  
**Mirage: Florida and the Vanishing Water of the Eastern U.S.**, Barnett, Cynthia  
**Southern Comforts: Rooted in a Florida Place**, Cauthen, Sudye  
**Looking for the New Deal**, Green, Elna C.  
**Breaking Point**, Flinn, Alex  
**Night**, Wiesel, Elie  
**Fahrenheit 451**, Bradbury, Ray  
**All Quiet on the Western Front**, Remarque, Erich Maria  
**A Separate Peace**, Knowles, John  
**Whispers from the Bay**, Tkac, John  
**Imaginary Enemy**, Gonzalez, Julie  
**The First Hollywood Florida and the Golden Age of Silent Filmmaking**, Bean, Shawn  
**The New Deal in South Florida**, Stuart John & Stack, Eds., John  
**Pilgrim in the Land of Alligators: More Stories about Real Florida**, Klinkenberg, Jeff  
**Silent Spring**, Carson, Rachel  
**The Everglades, River of Grass**, Douglas, Marjorie Stoneman  
**A Land Remembered**, Smith, Patrick D.  
**In the Time of the Butterflies**, Álvarez, Julia  
**Florida Cowboys**, Ward Jr., Carlton  
**The Great Wide Sea**, Herlong, M. H.  
**When You Reach Me**, Stead, Rebecca  
**November Blues**, Draper, Sharon  
**Replacing Dad**, Mickle, Shelley Frazer  
**Alligator Bayou**, Napoli, Donna Jo  
**Marcelo in the Real World**, Stork, Francisco  
**Written in Bone: Buried Lives of Jamestown and Colonial Maryland**, Walker, Sally M.  
**The Trouble With Panthers**, Hall, William Culyer  
**Cookie & Me**, Ryals, Mary Jane  
**The Shakespeare Stealer**, Blackwood, Gary  
**Reubin O'D. Askew and the Golden Age of Florida Politics**, Dyckman, Martin A.  
**Cloaked**, Flinn, Alex  
**The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism, & Treachery**, Sheinkin, Steve  
**Sugar Changed the World: A Story of Magic, Spice, Slavery, Freedom and Science**, Aronson, Marc and Budhos, Marina  
**Wheels of Change: How Women Rode the Bicycle to Freedom (With a Few Flat Tires Along the Way)**, Macy, Sue  
**Music Was It: Young Leonard Bernstein**, Rubin, Susan Goldman  
**Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story**, Carson, Ben

**You may also find more selections for Middle and High School readers at [www.justreadflorida.com](http://www.justreadflorida.com) under the Student Section – For Teens, by Teens recommended reading.**

**The Department's Just Read, Florida! Office offers a variety of tips to consider when helping readers choose books:**

Below are a few websites that will provide reading levels for many of the books listed above. Please feel free to use one of these to find a reading level or use any similar tool that may be available to you. Librarians and teachers are also experts in helping pair students with appropriate books.

- AR BookFinder: <http://www.arbookfind.com/default.aspx>
- Lexile Find a Book: <http://www.lexile.com/search/filters/results/>
- Scholastic Book Wizard: <http://www.scholastic.com/bookwizard/>
- If a reader tackles a book above his or her reading level, consider what additional instruction or lower-level reading resources might help.
- Ask the reader to keep track of unknown words within the book, and look them up together.
- Take turns reading aloud to each other to help process the information into smaller portions.