

JUNIOR SUMMER BOOKLIST 2023

The tricky thing about making a booklist is that there are just so many books! It's a struggle to make a booklist that is concise enough that it is not too unwieldy but any attempt to do so quickly feels arbitrary and full of omissions. And they keep making new books! Almost as soon as a booklist is published, it feels obsolete with the next arrival of books.

Perhaps most important for summer reading is to build a regular and enthusiastic library habit. Your children will delight in having their own library card, an early and forgiving practice in responsibility. We recommend visiting your local branch often, allowing your children to make their own choices, exploring a broad selection of books that they may happily stumble upon on their own accord. Allow your child to make their own choices—even bad choices—as the stakes are low at the library and with experience, your child will learn their own tastes and preferences. And they will have experienced the delicious freedom of the library.

So with all those disclaimers in mind, we have here assembled some favorite books at Arbor. The Junior-aged reader is often drawn to books in a series—anyone who has visited the Magic Treehouse or the Rainbow Fairy section of the library knows this! Indeed, these books provide mountains of material to practice reading. We also know that the Junior-aged child is an adventurer. The idea of an adventure, preferably without adults, is really appealing to this age. We have assembled some adventure stories, some with human characters and many with animals, some that are mysteries and some that are fantastical, that tell tales of exploration, survival, and childhood heroics. Many of these chapter books that would serve well as family read alouds. As your child makes reading choices over the summer, we would like to put in a word in defense of graphic novels. It can be tempting to discourage your child away from graphic novels, urging them instead to choose a “real book.” However, we know that graphic novels can serve as a useful bridge between early reading books and longer chapter books. Indeed, the graphic novel is an opportunity for a reader to learn to engage in a book, to empathize, and to intuit meaning—all habits of strong readers no matter the genre.

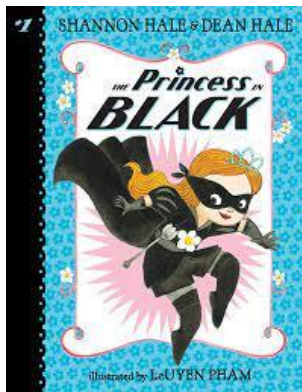
We have attached links to the Multnomah County Library system so that you can easily make selections to put on hold at your local library. Apologies to those living outside Multnomah County. In addition, there are all kinds of booklists available online that are expert in recommending books to young readers. We have come to know a few and encourage you to explore the plentiful lists [here](#).

Adventure



[*The Wild Robot*](#), Peter Brown
[*The Penderwicks*](#), Jeanne Birdsall
[*The Saturdays*](#), Elizabeth Enright
[*Oskar and the Things*](#), Andrus Kivirahk
[*Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*](#), Grace Lin
[*Wishtree*](#), Katherine Applegate
[*Tumtum and Nutmeg*](#), Emily Bears
[*Heartwood Hotel*](#), Kallie George
[*Our Friend Hedgehog*](#), Lauren Castillo
[*Toys Go Out*](#), Emily Jenkins and Paul O. Zelinsky

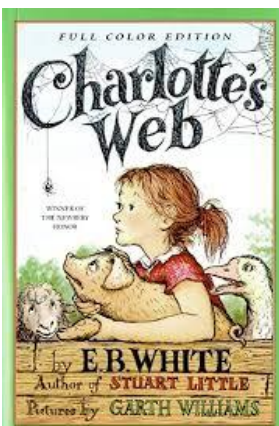
Popular Series



[*The Fabled Stables*](#) series, Jonathan Auxier
[*Clubhouse Mysteries*](#) series, Sharon Draper
[*Rainbow Magic*](#) series, Daisy Meadows
[*Sophie Mouse*](#) series, Poppy Green
[*Dr. Kitty Cat*](#) series, Jane Clarke
[*The Sisters 8*](#) series, Lauren Baratheon-Logsted
[*Dragon Masters*](#) series, Tracey West
[*Kingdom of Wrenly*](#), Jordan Quinn
[*Mercy Watson*](#) series, Kate DiCamillo
[*Princess in Black*](#), LeUyen Pham

[*13-Story Treehouse*](#) series, Andy Griffith
[*Kitty and the Moonlight Rescue*](#) series, Paula Harrison
[*The Flying Beaver Brothers*](#) series, Maxwell Eaton III
[*Make Way for Dymonde Daniel*](#) series, Nikki Grimes
[*Calpurnia Tate*](#), [*Girl Vet*](#) series, Jacqueline Kelly
[*Anna Hibiscus*](#) series, Atinuke
[*Isadora Moon*](#) series, Harriet Muncaster

Classics



[*My Father's Dragon*](#), Ruth Stiles Gannett
[*The Secret Garden*](#), Frances Hodgkin Burnett
[*Ramona the Brave*](#), Beverly Cleary
[*Matilda*](#), Roald Dahl
[*The Littles*](#), John Peterson

Charlotte's Web, E.B. White

Comet in Moominland, Tove Jansson

Half Magic, Edward Eager

Catwings, Ursula LeGuin