

the small town with her family for the blueberry-picking season. Salma's new friendship transforms Lily's summer. But when Salma decides to run in the upcoming Blueberry Queen pageant, they'll have to face some tough truths about friendship and belonging. Should an outsider like Salma really participate in the pageant-and possibly win?

◆ ***We are All Made of Molecules*** by Susin Nielsen-Fernlund. 13-year-old Stewart is academically brilliant but socially clueless. 14-year-old Ashley is the undisputed "It" girl in her class, but her grades stink. Their worlds are about to collide when Stewart and his dad move in with Ashley and her mom. Stewart is trying to be 89.9 percent happy about it, but Ashley is 110 percent horrified. She already has to hide the real reason her dad moved out; "Stewart" could further threaten her position at the top of the social ladder. They are complete opposites. And yet, they have one thing in common: they--like everyone else--are made of molecules. The Tapper Twins Go to War (With Each Other) by Geoff Rodkey. Little, Brown and Company. 12-year-old fraternal twins, Claudia and Reese, couldn't be more different...except in their determination to come out on top in a vicious prank war! But when the competition escalates into an all-out battle, the twins have to decide if their efforts to destroy each other are worth the price. Told as a colorful "oral history" including photos, screenshots, game chat logs, online gaming art, and text messages, by the twins and their friends.

◆ ***The Fog Diver*** by Joel N. Ross. HarperCollins. Once the Fog started rising, the earth was covered with a deadly white mist until nothing remained but the mountaintops. Now humanity clings to its highest peaks, where the wealthy Five Families rule. Chess and his friends sail their rickety air raft scavenging the ruins for anything they can sell to survive. But now survival isn't enough... Chess has a precious secret and must face danger to protect his friends, even if it means confronting what he fears the most.

◆ ***Lumberjanes Vol. 1: Beware The Kitten Holy*** by Noelle Stevenson. Boom! Box. Five best friends spending the summer at Lumberjane scout camp...defeating yetis, three-eyed wolves, and giant falcons. Jo, April, Mal, Molly and Ripley are five best pals ("Friendship to the max!") determined to have an awesome summer together...and they're not gonna let any insane quest or an array of supernatural critters get in their way! A graphic novel perfect for summer reading.

◆ ***The Marvels*** by Brian Selznick. Scholastic. The journey begins at sea in 1766, with a boy named Billy Marvel. After surviving a shipwreck, he finds work in a London theatre. There, his family flourishes for generations as brilliant actors until 1900, when young Leontes Marvel is banished from the stage. Nearly a century later, runaway Joseph Jervis seeks refuge with an uncle in London. Albert Nightingale's strange, beautiful house, with its mysterious portraits and ghostly presences, captivates Joseph and leads him on a search for clues about the house, his family, and the past. A gripping adventure and an intriguing mystery.

◆ ***Voice of Freedom: Fannie Lou Hamer, Spirit of the Civil Rights Movement*** by Carole Boston Weatherford. Candlewick Press. "I am sick and tired of being sick and tired." Despite fierce prejudice and abuse, Fannie Lou Hamer was a champion of civil rights. Featuring vibrant mixed-media art full of intricate detail, Voice of Freedom celebrates Fannie Lou Hamer's life and legacy with a message of hope, determination, and strength.

### Grades 9-12

◆ ***Six of Crows*** by Leigh Bardugo. Henry Holt and Company. Ketterdam: a bustling hub of international trade where anything can be had for the right price--and no one knows that better than criminal prodigy Kaz Brekker. Kaz is offered a chance at a deadly heist that could make him rich beyond his wildest dreams. But he can't pull it off alone... Six dangerous outcasts. One impossible heist. Kaz's crew is the only thing that might stand between the world and destruction - if they don't kill each other first. Sequel is due out Fall 2016.

◆ ***The Terrorist's Son : a Story of Choice*** by Zak Ebrahim. TED Books. The intimate, behind-the-scenes life of an American boy raised by his terrorist father--the man who planned the 1993 World Trade Center bombing. Zak Ebrahim was only seven years old when his father El-Sayyid Nosair shot and killed the leader of the Jewish Defense League. While in prison, Nosair helped plan the bombing of the World Trade Center in 1993. What is it like to grow up with a terrorist in your home?

◆ ***We Were Liars*** by E. Lockhart. Delacorte Press. Brilliant, damaged Cadence Sinclair comes from a beautiful and distinguished family. Though home is Vermont, she spends most summers on her family's private island off the coast of New England. But she can't remember much from her fifteenth summer at Beechwood Island. Now she must return to uncover deep secrets and dark lies.

◆ ***Shadowshaper*** by Daniel José Older. Arthur A. Levine Books. Sierra Santiago planned an easy summer of making art and hanging out with her friends. But then a corpse crashes the first party of the season. And the murals in her neighborhood begin to weep real tears... Something more sinister than the usual Brooklyn ruckus is going on. With the help of a fellow artist Robbie, Sierra discovers shadowshaping, a thrilling magic that infuses ancestral spirits into paintings, music, and stories. But someone is killing the shadowshapers one by one -- and the killer believes Sierra is hiding their greatest secret.

◆ ***The Boy in the Black Suit*** by Jason Reynolds. Atheneum Books. "Matt wears a black suit every day. No, not because his mom died--although she did, and it sucks. But he wears the suit for his gig at the local funeral home, which pays way better than the Cluck Bucket, and he needs the income since his dad can't handle the bills (or anything, really) on his own." Just when seventeen-year-old Matt thinks he can't handle one more piece of terrible news, he meets a girl who's dealt with a lot more--and who just might

be able to clue him in on how to rise up when life keeps knocking him down.

◆ ***Most Dangerous: Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War*** by Steve Sheinkin. Roaring Brook Press. A tense, narrative nonfiction account of what the Times deemed "the greatest story of the century": how whistleblower Daniel Ellsberg transformed from obscure government analyst into "the most dangerous man in America," and risked everything to expose years of government lies during the Nixon / Cold War era. The investigation that resulted has timely relevance to Edward Snowden's more recent conspiracy leaks.

◆ ***Humans of New York: Stories*** by Brandon Stanton. St. Martin's Press. Based on the blog with more than four million loyal fans, a beautiful, heartfelt, funny, and inspiring collection of photographs and stories capturing the spirit of a city. In pictures and interviews that captivate, puzzle and reveal, photojournalist Brandon Stanton collects an immeasurable range of human emotions and perspectives. The photos draw us in and their subjects' words leave us wondering and cheering at the variety of humanity.

◆ ***Trouble is a Friend of Mine*** by Stephanie Tromly. Kathy Dawson Books. When Philip Digby first shows up on her doorstep, Zoe is not impressed. But before she knows it, Digby--annoying, brilliant and somehow...attractive? Digby--has dragged her into a series of hilarious and dangerous situations all related to an investigation into the kidnapping of a local teenage girl. A kidnapping that may be connected to the tragic disappearance of his own sister eight years ago. Razor-sharp dialogue, ridiculously funny action, and the most charismatic dynamic duo you've ever met.

◆ ***The Shadow Hero*** by Gene Luen Yang. First Second. In the comics boom of the 1940s, a legend was born: the Green Turtle. He solved crimes and fought injustice just like the other comics characters. But this mysterious masked crusader was hiding something more than your run-of-the-mill secret identity. Award-winning author Yang (American Born Chinese) delivers yet again.



## Summer Reading for Kids 2016

These books have been selected by VSLA (Vermont School Library Association) Teacher Librarians, and are recommended for summer reading for children and young adults. For more recommendations, see your school or public librarian.

### 2016 Award Winners

Caldecott Medal—for most distinguished American picture book: ***Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear*** written by Lindsay Mattick; illustrated by Sophie Blackall. Little, Brown and Company.

Newbery Medal—for most outstanding contribution to children's literature: ***Last Stop on Market Street*** by Matt de la Peña. G. P. Putnam's Sons.

Robert F. Sibert Award—for most distinguished informational book: ***Funny Bones: Posada and His Day of the Dead Calaveras*** by Duncan Tonatiuh. Abrams Books.

Coretta Scott King Author Award—recognizing an African American author of outstanding books: ***Gone Crazy in Alabama*** by Rita Williams-Garcia. Amistad.

Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award—recognizing an African American illustrator of outstanding books: ***Trombone Shorty*** by Troy Andrews and Bill Taylor; illustrated by Bryan Collier. Abrams Books.

Theodor Seuss Geisel Award—for most distinguished beginning reader: ***Don't Throw It to Mo!*** by David A. Adler. Penguin.

Michael L. Printz Award—for excellence in literature written for young adults: ***Bone Gap*** by Laura Ruby. Balzer + Bray.

**Vermont Red Clover Award Books:** The Red Clover Award promotes the reading and discussion of the best of contemporary picture books. 2016-2017 Master list available at: <http://tinyurl.com/redcloverbooks2016>

**Vermont Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award:** The Dorothy Canfield Children's Book Award, first given in 1957, honors excellence in children's literature targeted for readers grades 4-8. 2016-2017 Master list available at: <http://tinyurl.com/dfaward2016>

**Green Mountain Book Award:** A Vermont reader's choice award for students in grades 9-12. 2016-2017 Master list available at: <http://tinyurl.com/gmbaward2016>



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## Kindergarten - 4th Grade Picture Books and Emergent Readers

- ◆ ***Don't Throw It to Mo!*** By David Adler. Penguin Young Readers. Mo Jackson is a little boy with a big passion for sports. He may not be the biggest, the strongest, or the fastest player, but he won't let that stop him from playing football! Mo's coach has a plan to turn Mo's little size into a big win for the Robins!
- ◆ ***The Skunk*** by Mac Barnett. Roaring Brook Press. A skunk appears on a man's doorstep. The man leaves his house. The skunk pursues him. What does the skunk want? Where can the man hide? Where will it all lead...? A clever, slyly hilarious tale that will appeal to children and adults alike.
- ◆ ***Building Our House*** by Jonathan Bean. Farrar Straus Giroux. In this unique construction book for kids who love tools and trucks, readers join a girl and her family as they pack up their old house in town and set out to build a new one in the country. From weedy lot to finished home, every stage of their year-and-a-half-long building project is here. And at every step their lucky kids are watching and getting their hands dirty, in page after page brimming with machines, vehicles, and all kinds of house-making activities!
- ◆ ***A Pig, a Fox, and a Box*** by Jonathan Fenske. Penguin Young Readers. Three humorous stories of two friends, Pig and Fox, and their shenanigans with a cardboard box (all of which involved Pig accidentally crushing Fox in the box). With comic art and simple language, this reader is sure to have kids rolling with laughter.
- ◆ ***Waiting*** by Kevin Henkes. Greenwillow Books. "There were five of them. And they were waiting..." Five friends sit happily on a windowsill, waiting for something amazing to happen. The owl is waiting for the moon. The pig is waiting for the rain. The bear is waiting for the wind. The puppy is waiting for the snow. And the rabbit is just looking out the window because he likes to wait! What will happen? Will patience win in the end? Or someday will the friends stop waiting and do something unexpected?
- ◆ ***Written and Drawn*** by Henrietta by Liniers. Toon. When Henrietta's mother gives her a box of colored pencils, she sets out to draw a terrifying and fantastic adventure. A brave young girl, a three-headed monster and more await in this charming graphic novel. Pair with some art supplies for a celebration of imagination and creativity of your own.
- ◆ ***Up In the Garden and Down in the Dirt*** by Kate Messner. Chronicle Books. Up in the garden, the world is full of green--leaves and sprouts, growing vegetables, ripening fruit. But down in the dirt there is a busy world of earthworms digging, snakes hunting, skunks burrowing, and all the other animals that make a garden their home. In this exuberant book, discover the wonder and activity that lie hidden between the stalks, under the shade of leaves and down in the dirt. A perfect companion to time in the garden.

◆ ***If You Plant a Seed*** by Kadir Nelson. Balzer and Bray. If you plant a carrot seed . . . a carrot will grow. If you plant a lettuce seed . . . lettuce will grow. But what happens if you plant a seed of kindness? Beloved award-winning author-illustrator Kadir Nelson presents a resonant, gently humorous story about the power of even the smallest acts.

◆ ***Float*** by Daniel Miyares. Simon and Schuster. A boy's small paper boat—and his large imagination—fill the pages of this wordless picture book. A little boy takes a boat made of newspaper out for a rainy-day adventure. The boy and his boat dance in the downpour and play in the puddles, but when the boy's boat gets away from him, he must go on the hunt. When the rain lets up, he finds himself on a new adventure altogether! Includes endpaper instructions for building a boat of your own.

◆ ***A Chicken Followed Me Home! Questions and Answers about a Familiar Fowl*** by Robin Page. Beach Lane Books. A nonfiction picture book exploration of chickens, and all the fascinating things about them -- how they fly, what they eat, what the different breeds are, how to distinguish a hen from a rooster, and more. A well-designed guide to this familiar fowl for young scientists and informational text fans.

◆ ***Water Is Water: A Book About the Water Cycle*** by Miranda Paul. Roaring Brook Press. "Drip. Sip. Pour me a cup. Water is water unless...it heats up. Whirl. Swirl. Watch it curl by. Steam is steam unless...it cools high." Follow a group of kids as they move through all the different phases of the water cycle. From rain to fog to snow to mist, Miranda Paul and Vermont illustrator Jason Chin combine to create an innovative nonfiction picture book that will leave you "thirsty for more."

◆ ***Lailah's Lunchbox: A Ramadan Story*** by Reem Faruqi. Tilbury House. Lailah is in a new school in a new country, thousands of miles from her old home, and missing her old friends. When Ramadan begins, she is excited that she is finally old enough to participate in the fasting, but worried that her classmates won't understand why she doesn't join them in the lunchroom.

◆ ***Woodpecker Wham!*** By April Pulley Sayre. Holt. "Swoop and land. Hitch and hop. Shred a tree stump. Chop, chip, chop!" Enter woodpecker world and get a bird's eye view of everyday life: hiding from hawks, feeding hungry chicks, and drilling holes to build homes. A variety of woodpecker species fly through these pages—perhaps some that live near you!

◆ ***Beep! Beep! Go To Sleep!*** By Todd Tarpley. Little, Brown Books. "Quiet at last. Not a peep. Three little robots are...BEEP! BEEP!" When his three rambunctious robots give every possible excuse not to go to sleep, what's a little boy to do? With a fun refrain that will have readers of all ages chanting along, here's a book that kids will be begging to read every night before bed.

## Middle Grades:

◆ ***Welcome to Mars: Making a Home on the Red Planet*** by Buzz Aldrin. National Geographic Society. Space is still the final frontier. In this fascinating book, hero-astronaut Buzz Aldrin challenges curious kids to think about Mars as not just a faraway red planet but as a possible future home for Earthlings. What will your new home be like? How will you get there? What will you eat for breakfast? Find out what life might be like far, far from Earth as you navigate your way through this fun and fascinating book.

◆ ***The Rat with the Human Face*** by Tom Angleberger. Amulet Books. Lyle, Marilla and Dave are the Qwickpick Adventure Society. On the hunt for their next big adventure--something to top the Fountain of Poop--the kids overhear a construction worker telling about a rat with a human face in an old research facility. The decision is unanimous: the next adventure is on! But when things don't go quite as expected, the trio gets in big trouble. Will the second adventure for the Qwickpick Society also be their last?

◆ ***Hamster Princess: Harriet the Invincible*** by Ursula Vernon. Penguin/Dial. Sleeping Beauty gets a feisty, furry twist in this hilarious new comic series. Harriet Hamsterbone is not your typical princess. Cursed at birth, she is doomed to prick her finger when she's twelve and fall into a deep sleep. For Harriet, this is wonderful news: it means she's invincible until she's twelve! After all, no good curse goes to waste. And so begins a grand life of adventure...until her twelfth birthday arrives and the curse manifests in a most unexpected way.

◆ ***You Never Heard of Casey Stengel?!*** by Jonah Winter. Schwartz & Wade Books. Legendary baseball manager Casey Stengel worked with such greats as Joe DiMaggio and Mickey Mantle; he led the New York Yankees to a record-breaking ten pennants and seven World Series. The brains behind any baseball team is its manager . . . and here's a picture-book biography about the best, most beloved and entertaining manager in history!

## Grades 5-8

◆ ***Took: A Ghost Story*** by Mary Downing Hahn. Clarion Books. "Folks say Old Auntie takes a girl and keeps her fifty years--then lets her go and takes another one." Daniel doesn't believe Brody Mason's crazy stories about the ghost witch who lives up on Brewster's Hill with Bloody Bones, her man-eating razorback hog. But Daniel's sister Erica has become withdrawn, talking to her lookalike doll. When she disappears into the woods, he knows something is terribly wrong. Did the witch strike? Has Erica been "took"?

◆ ***Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales: The Underground Abductor*** by Nathan Hale. Amulet Books. This graphic novel chronicles the true life story of Araminta Ross, born a slave in Delaware in the early 19th century. But north of the Mason-Dixon line, slavery was illegal. If she could run away and make it north without being caught or

killed, she'd be free. Facing enormous danger, Araminta made it, and once free, she changed her name to Harriet Tubman. Tubman spent the rest of her life helping slaves run away like she did, every time taking her life in her hands.

◆ ***Terrible Typhoid Mary: A True Story of the Deadliest Cook*** in America by Susan Campbell Bartoletti. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. The true story of Mary Mallon, the legend of "Typhoid Mary", the early days of epidemiology and microbiology, the conflict between public health and individual freedom, and the ethical implications for a present beset with AIDS and Ebola.

◆ ***Moving Target*** by Christina Diaz Gonzalez. Scholastic Press. Cassie learns that she is a member of an ancient bloodline that enables her to use the Spear of Destiny, a legendary object that can alter the future. Now running from a secret organization intent on killing those from her bloodline, Cassie must, with the help of some friends, decipher the clues that will lead her to the Spear. A fast-paced thrill-ride of a book, rich with riddles and myth, that readers will not want to put down.

◆ ***Sunny Side Up*** by Jennifer L. Holm. Graphix. Sunny Lewin is shipped off last minute to Florida to spend the summer with her grandfather. Sunny makes a friend, discovers comics and dodges alligators, all the while wrestling with the knowledge that her older brother's delinquent behavior has thrown their family into chaos. This humorous graphic novel memoir is perfect for fans of Baby Mouse and Raina Telgemeier's work.

◆ ***House Arrest*** by K. A. Holt. Chronicle Books. Poetic narrative/Realistic. Timothy is on probation. It's a strange word--something that happens to other kids, to delinquents, not to kids like him. And yet, he is under house arrest for the next year for trying to use a stolen credit card to pay for his little brother's medical expenses. He must check in weekly with a probation officer and a therapist, and keep a journal for an entire year. And mostly, he has to stay out of trouble. But that's not proving to be an easy task.

◆ ***Fish in a Tree*** by Lynda Mullaly Hunt. Nancy Paulsen Books. Ally has been smart enough to fool a lot of smart people. Every time she lands in a new school, she is able to hide her inability to read by creating clever yet disruptive distractions. However, her newest teacher sees the bright, creative kid underneath the trouble maker. Can she discover that there's a lot more to her--and to everyone--than a label, and that great minds don't always think alike?

◆ ***Moon Bear*** by Gill Lewis. Atheneum. In Laos, 12-year-old Tam must work at a bear farm where bears are cruelly caged and milked for their bile, but when a familiar cub is brought to the farm, Tam will do anything to free both the cub, and himself.

◆ ***A Handful of Stars*** by Cynthia Lord. Scholastic Press. When Lily's blind dog, Lucky, runs away across the blueberry barrens, it's Salma Santiago who manages to catch him. Salma, the daughter of migrant workers, is in