



Summer Reading



Image courtesy Leslie Science and Nature Center

Our summer reading suggestions offer adventures of many different kinds. Make your list and check them out!

• In “**Short**” by Holly Goldberg Sloan, tiny Julia stretches herself — not literally, but by trying out for a part in a summer production of “The Wizard of Oz.”

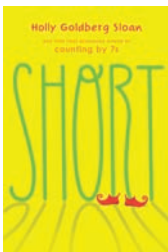


Image courtesy PenguinRandom House

• An old man shares his story of a hot summer’s day run with his young neighbor, Liam, in “**Harry Miller’s Run**” by David Almond and illustrated by Salvatore Rubbino.

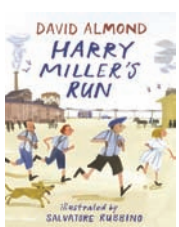


Image courtesy Candlewick Press

• “**Creatures Close Up**,” with photography by Philippe Martin and text by Gillian Watts, invites readers to experience exotic and familiar animals and insects through super close-up pictures.

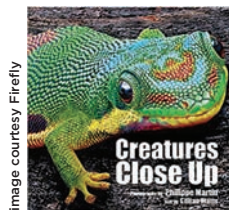


Image courtesy Firefly

• “**The Bicycle Spy**” by Yona Zeldis McDonough introduces Marcel, who lives in France during World War II. He dreams of riding in the Tour de France, but instead he ends up riding with the future of a friend and her family in his hands.



Image courtesy Scholastic Press

• In “**The Matchstick Castle**” by Keir Graff, Brian’s summer is looking boring. But then he and his cousin discover a weird old house in the forest and the even weirder people who live inside it.



Image courtesy Penguin Random House

• “**Lighter Than Air**” by Matthew Clark Smith and illustrated by Matt Tavares tells the true story of Sophie Blanchard, the first woman pilot. Sophie first piloted a hot-air balloon in 1805 and went on to be called the “bird woman.”



Image courtesy Candlewick Press

• “**Jack & Louisa: Act 3**” by Andrew Keenan-Bolger and Kate Wetherhead is the third book about two kids who dream of making it to Broadway. Louisa wants to audition for “The Sound of Music,” but Jack has other ideas in mind.

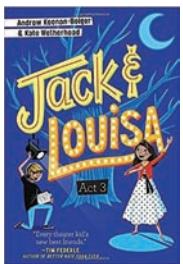


Image courtesy Penguin Random House

• “**Ranger Rick’s Travels: National Parks!**” by Stacy Tornio and Ken Keffer is a colorful resource about our 59 national parks. Each section includes information about animals in the park, top five things to do and fun facts about the park.

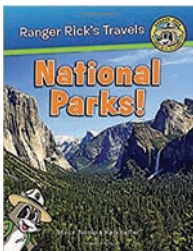


Image courtesy Muddy Boots

Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of summer reading are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward. See if you can find:

ADVENTURE, AUTHORS, BOOKS, CREATURES, DISCOVERY, DREAMS, FLY, FRIENDS, HOT, ILLUSTRATORS, JOURNEY, MAGIC, PARKS, PIRATES, READING, SHIPWRECK, STORY, SUMMER, TALE.

O J K R E M M U S W C A T G D
M A G I C S R O H T U A A N R
U D I S C O V E R Y F Q L I E
F R I E N D S T O H L Y E D A
P S E T A R I P P I Y R J A M
P S E R U T A E R C A O I E S
A V Z I L L U S T R A T O R S
R S H I P W R E C K T S G B Z
K Y E N R U O J S K O O B C K
S Y A D V E N T U R E W F O S



Cook's Corner

Bacon-Cheese Biscuits

You'll need:

- 2 cups baking mix
- 2/3 cup low-fat milk
- 6 strips precooked bacon
- 1/4 cup shredded reduced-fat cheddar cheese

- 1/4 cup shredded reduced-fat mozzarella cheese

What to do:

1. Combine baking mix and milk.
2. Heat bacon in microwave according to package directions. Allow bacon to cool and crumble into small pieces.
3. Stir both cheeses and crumbled bacon into biscuit mixture.
4. Divide dough by 12 spoonfuls onto an ungreased cookie sheet or muffin tins.
5. Bake in 450-degree oven for 10 minutes until golden brown. Serves 6.



* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

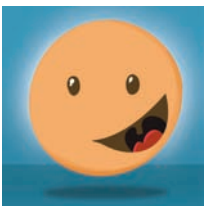
7 Little Words for Kids

Use the letters in the boxes to make a word with the same meaning as the clue. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in the solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

1. space rock (6) _____
2. what windows are made of (5) _____
3. sports judge (7) _____
4. mechanical worker (5) _____
5. where you find birds' eggs (4) _____
6. emergency rescue vehicle (9) _____
7. one of the four seasons (6) _____

| | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|------|
| SS | BOT | OR | UMN |
| REF | TE | ST | ANCE |
| AUT | NE | RO | EREE |
| ME | UL | GLA | AMB |

Answers: meteor, glass, referee, robot, nest, ambulance, autumn.



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Mini Fact:

Find a summer reading log here: bit.ly/BNsummer and win books!

• In “**The Silver Gate**” by Kristin Bailey, magic and adventure pave a path for Elric and his sister, Wynn. When their mother dies, the siblings have to depend on each other as they escape their tiny village.



Image courtesy HarperCollins Childrens

• “**The Whydah: A Pirate Ship Feared, Wrecked and Found**” by Martin W. Sandler is the true tale of a cargo ship built in 1715 to carry goods and people between Europe, West Africa and the Caribbean. After being taken over by a famous pirate, the Whydah sank off the shore of Cape Cod. It wasn’t until 1984 that marine archaeologists found the ship and much of its treasure.



Image courtesy Candlewick Press

• Rydr’s adventure in “**Train I Ride**” by Paul Mosier takes place traveling the country from California to Chicago on an Amtrak train. Along the way, she makes new friends who help her accept her past.



Image courtesy HarperCollins Childrens

Resources



On the Web:

- readingrockets.org/books/summer
- bit.ly/MPreading

At the library:

- “Who Is J.K. Rowling?” by Pam Pollack and Meg Belviso
- “Some Writer! The Story of E.B. White” by Melissa Sweet

Mini Jokes



Berkley: What did the computer have for lunch?

Brittany: Just a quick byte!

Eco Note



Do you play with battery-operated toys? What do you do with the worn-out batteries? Batteries can be recycled. This is much better for the Earth because batteries contain dangerous chemicals that can leak into the ground in a landfill. Go to bit.ly/MPrecycle to find a recycling center that will take batteries in your area.

adapted with permission from “The New 50 Simple Things Kids Can Do to Save the Earth” by The Earthworks Group, Andrews McMeel Publishing (andrewsmcmeel.com)

For later:

Will you read any of these books this summer? Which one is at the top of your list? Compare your choice with a classmate’s.

Teachers:

For standards-based activities to accompany this feature, visit: bbs.amuniversal.com/teaching_guides.html

The **Mini Spy Booklets** (Volumes 1, 2 and 3) feature 48 of your favorite puzzles from The Mini Page!

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