

2020 Summer Reading Lists

Entering 4th Grade

Do you want to star in a commercial about your favorite summer reading book?

Ask about our exciting Video Booktalk After School Activity!

See Mrs. Phethean or Amy Kaplan (B.M.P.L.) for details.

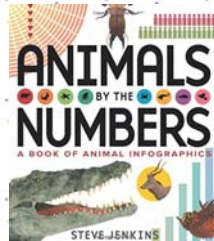
Go to www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/ to see the videos!

Prepared by Todd School Library Media Center and Briarcliff Manor Public Library librarians

It is important to note that the titles on this list span a range of reading levels for students entering fourth grade. The Briarcliff Public Library and Todd Library Media Center librarians have selected these books to help you and your child develop a lifetime habit and enjoyment of reading.

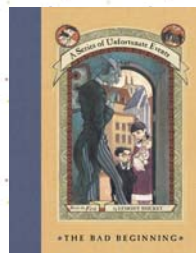
EBOOK INFORMATION:

The APPS Hoopla and Libby (app for Overdrive) are accessible and free to use with your public library card. The icon next to the title shows which APP has that title or series. Amy Kaplan is available throughout the summer at abgkaplan@gmail.com with any questions relating to getting a library card or accessing the library APPS.



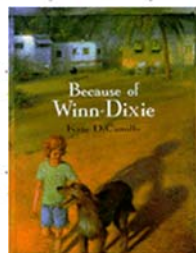
Animals by the Numbers by Steve Jenkins

How many species are there across the globe? How much do all of the insects in the world collectively weigh? How far can animals travel? Steve Jenkins answers these questions and many more with numbers, images, innovation, and authoritative science in his latest work of illustrated non-fiction. The level of scientific research paired with Jenkins creativity and accessible infographics is unmatched and sure to wow fans old and new.



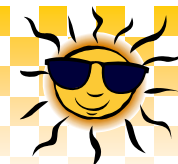
The Bad Beginning [A Series of Unfortunate Events series] Lemony Snickett

After the sudden death of their parents, the three Baudelaire children must depend on each other and their wits when it turns out that their guardian is determined to use any means necessary to get their fortune.



Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo

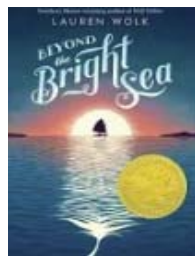
Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog Winn-Dixie.



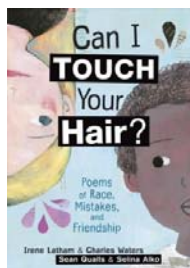
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Beyond the Bright Sea by Lauren Wolk
Crow has lived her entire life on a tiny island...abandoned and set adrift in a small boat when she was just hours old, Crow's only companions are Osh, the man who rescued and raised her, and Miss Maggie, their fierce and affectionate neighbor...One night a mysterious fire appears across the water and an unstoppable chain of events is triggered, leading Crow down a path of discovery and danger.



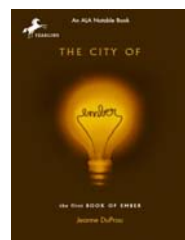
Can I Touch Your Hair?: Poems of Race, Mistakes, and Friendship by Irene Latham and Charles Waters, illustrated by Sean Qualls and Selina Alko
Irene Latham, who is white, and Charles Waters, who is black, present paired poems about topics including family dinners, sports, recess, and much more. This relatable collection explores different experiences of race in America.



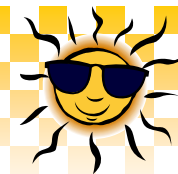
The Castle Corona by Sharon Creech
Newbery Medalist Sharon Creech spins an imaginative tale about a glittering castle and the royal — and very spoiled — family who lives there, and of two peasants who are in possession of a stolen pouch that has the power to unlock secrets and transform lives.



Charlotte's Web by E.B. White
An affectionate, sometimes bashful pig named Wilbur befriends a spider named Charlotte who lives in the rafters above his pen. Wilbur is desolate when he discovers that he's destined to be the farmer's Christmas dinner, until Charlotte helps him.

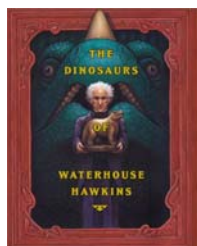


City of Ember [Book of Ember series] by Jeanne DuPrau
It is the year 241 and the great lamps that light the city are beginning to flicker. When Lina finds part of an ancient message, she's sure it holds a secret that will save the city.



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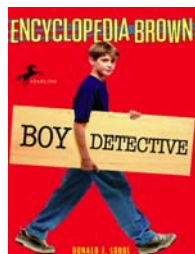
The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins by Barbara Kerley
This is a true and inspirational story of the man who built the world's first life sized models of dinosaurs. The text is complemented by amazing illustrations from Caldecott medalist Brian Selznick.



Dragon Rider by Cornelia Funke
Firedrake is a dragon on an adventurous journey to find the hidden city at the Rim of Heaven so that he might be able to live happily ever after and out of danger. Ben, an orphaned boy, and Sorrell, a wise-cracking fairy, join him on his quest.



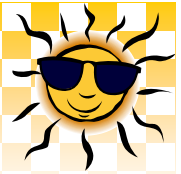
Eleven Birthdays [Willow Falls series] by Wendy Mass
After celebrating their first nine same-day birthdays together, Amanda and Leo, having fallen out on their tenth and not speaking to each other for the last year, prepare to celebrate their eleventh birthday separately. Peculiar things begin to happen as the day of their birthday begins to repeat itself over and over again.



Encyclopedia Brown, Boy Detective [series] by Donald J. Sobol
America's "Sherlock Holmes in sneakers" fights crimes by solving mysteries.

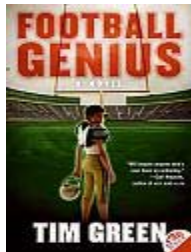


Extra Credit by Andrew Clements
Three young middle school aged children, Abby, Amira and Sadeed, exchange letters back and forth between Illinois and Afghanistan, bridging the gaps in their culture along the way.



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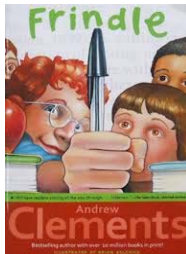
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Football Genius [series] by Tim Green
Troy White can predict any football play before it happens. And when his single mom gets a job with the Atlanta Falcons, Troy knows it's his big chance to help them out of their slump—and finally prove his football genius.



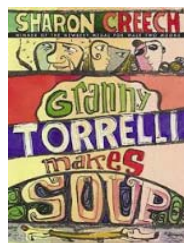
Fort by Cynthia DeFelice
A middle-grade summer adventure about two boys who build an awesome fort and tangle with two older bullies.



Frindle by Andrew Clements

Watch 2 video booktalks! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

When he decides to turn his fifth-grade teacher's love of the dictionary around on her, clever Nick Allen invents a new word and begins a chain of events that quickly moves beyond his control.



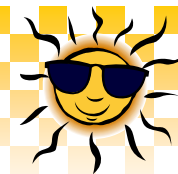
Granny Torrelli Makes Soup by Sharon Creech

With the help of her wise grandmother, twelve-year-old Rosie manages to work out some problems in her relationship with her best friend, the boy next door.



The Homework Machine by Dan Gutman

Four kids share a secret — a homework machine. Everything is great for a while, but soon the machine becomes more powerful than they ever imagined, and not even its inventor can stop it.



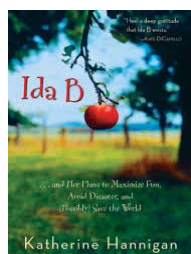
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I Survived the Japanese Tsunami, 2011 [*I Survived* series] by Lauren Tarshish

When Ben is visiting his dad's hometown in Japan disaster strikes. First, a massive earthquake rocks his uncle's house and then the ocean waters rise and Ben is pulled apart from his family by a terrible tsunami. How will Ben survive?



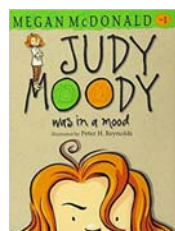
Ida B. by Katherine Hannigan

Life is perfect for Ida B., playing and planning on her farm and being home-schooled by her parents, until her mother gets sick and everything changes. Ida B. is determined to hate every minute of everything new, but her heart just can't help but soften in spite of herself.



Jackie and Me [*Baseball Card Adventure* series] by Dan Gutman

With their ability to travel through time using vintage baseball cards, Joe and his father have the opportunity to meet Jackie Robinson. In the process, Joe turns from a white boy into a black boy.

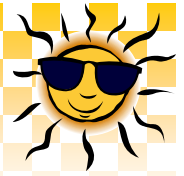


Judy Moody Was in a Mood [*Judy Moody* series] by Megan McDonald
Judy starts the school year in a bad mood but her mood improves with her "Me Collage" assignment. Each *Judy Moody* book offers a different hilarious episode in the life and adventures of Judy.



Just My Luck by Cammie McGovern

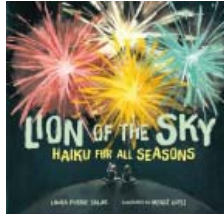
Since entering fourth grade, Benny Barrows worries that he is responsible for an accident that sent his father to the hospital. Meanwhile, he is working on his LEGO movies and wondering if he'll ever be acknowledged in his school's "kindness" challenge.



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Lion of the Sky: Haiku for All Seasons by Laura Pura Salas
Haiku riddles that celebrate the seasons with beautiful illustrations may inspire you to write a haiku of your own.



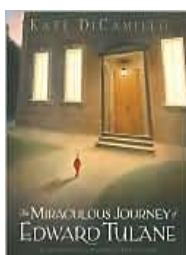
The Lincoln Project [Flashback Four series] by Dan Gutman
Miss Z, a mysterious billionaire and a collector of rare photographs, is sending her four recruits back in time on a mission to capture, for the first time, one of the most important moments in American history-- Abraham Lincoln giving his famous Gettysburg address.



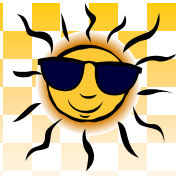
The Maze of Bones by Rick Riordan [39 Clues series, by Various Authors]
The Cahills are the most powerful family in history—but the source of their power is lost. Young teens Dan and Amy must risk their lives time and again to follow the clues and get it back.



Minn and Jake by Janet S. Wong
Fifth-grader Minn, the tallest girl in school, begins a rocky friendship with Jake, a new student who is afraid of the worms and lizards that Minn likes to collect.



The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate DiCamillo, illus. by Bagram Ibatoulline
Edward Tulane, a cold-hearted and proud toy rabbit, loves only himself until he is separated from the little girl who adores him. He travels across the country, acquiring new owners and listening to their hopes, dreams, and histories.



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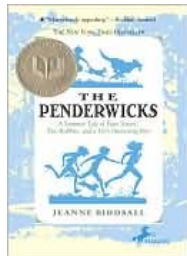


Momotaro: Xander and the Lost Island of Monsters by Margaret Dilloway
Twelve-year-old Xander suddenly discovers he has fantastical powers that he must learn to use immediately when he and his best friend set out on an epic adventure in order to save his father. Based on Japanese mythology.



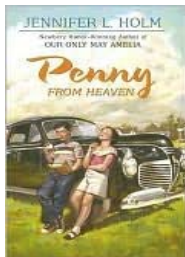
The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate

Ivan, a gorilla who has lived in a cage in a mall for most of his life as part of an "act," meets Ruby, a baby elephant who has been added to the show, and decides that she deserves a better life and aims to make it happen.



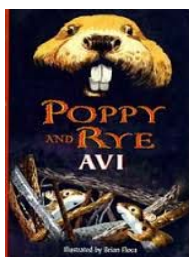
The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy [series] by Jeanne Birdsall

Follow the adventure of four sisters and their widowed father when they rent a house for the summer on a beautiful estate that is owned by a rich lady who terrifies them in this humorous story.



Penny from Heaven by Jennifer L. Holm

As she turns twelve during the summer of 1953, Penny gains new insights into herself and her family while also learning a secret about her father's death.



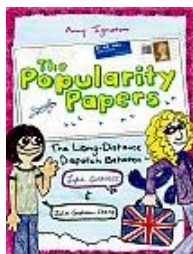
Poppy and Rye [Poppy series] by Avi

When their home next to a brook is destroyed by beavers, a large family of golden mice is aided by Poppy the deer mouse and her grumpy porcupine friend, who in the process forges a relationship with the son he had abandoned.



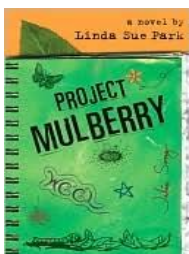
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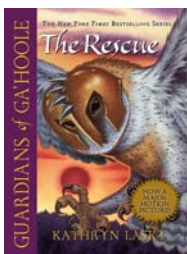
The Popularity Papers: Research for the Social Improvement and General Betterment of Lydia Goldblatt and Julia Graham-Chang [series] by Amy Ignatow

Read the “scrap book” of two best friends who are recording their findings as they embark on a project to study the behavior and taste of the popular girls so that by the time they get to middle school they too will be in the “right” crowd.



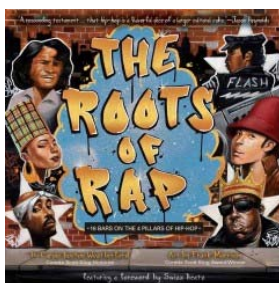
Project Mulberry by Linda Sue Park

Julia doesn't want to raise silkworms like her mother suggested, but Patrick does. When she doesn't say anything it all snowballs. Best friends Julia and Patrick learn a lot about prejudice, patience, and silkworms throughout the project, and Julia changes her attitude.



The Rescue [Guardians of Ga'Hoole series] by Kathryn Lasky

Soren, a barn owl, and his owl friend Gylfie, must work together to figure out how to save the entire owl world from the evil owls of St. Aegolius Academy.



The Roots of Rap by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Frank Morrison

Presents the history of hip-hop including how it evolved from folktales, spirituals, and poetry, to the showmanship of James Brown, to the culture of graffiti art and breakdancing that formed around the art form.



Sanity and Tallulah by Molly Brooks

Sanity and Tallulah are best friends living at a space station that they call home in this graphic novel. When Sanity creates a completely illegal but ridiculously cute three headed kitten in a lab with her super science skills, she and Tallulah must keep it hidden. But when the space station starts to malfunction at the same time that the kitten goes missing the race is on to find the kitten and save the station—hopefully without getting grounded forever!

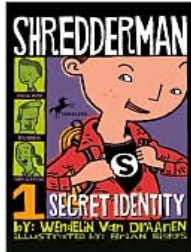


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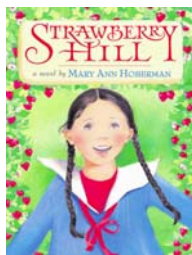
Sherlock Files: The 100 Year old Secret [series] by Tracy Barrett
Xena and Xander Holmes, an American brother and sister living in London, discover that Sherlock Holmes is their great-great-great-grandfather and are given his unsolved case book. In this first book they attempt to solve the case of a missing painting.



Shredderman [series] by Wendelin van Draanen
Fifth-grader Nolan Byrd has had enough of suffering at the hands of Bubby Bixby the bully. He creates a super cyberhero, Shredderman, who hosts a top-secret web page that exposes the truth...and then a truth-exposing hero is born!



The Strange Case of Origami Yoda [Origami Yoda series] by Tom Angleberger
Dwight is a weird kid who talks through an origami yoda on his finger. What's even stranger is how wise this yoda-Dwight seems to be when real-Dwight isn't wise at all. Tommy chronicles all of the events surrounding this mysterious phenomenon in his humorous account of the school year.



Strawberry Hill by Mary Ann Hoberman

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

Ten-year-old Allie's family moves from a city to a country town, and a street called Strawberry Hill, in the midst of the Great Depression. She meets two neighbor girls, and learns about loyalty, jealousy, friendship and rejection.



Swindle [series] by Gordon Korman

After unscrupulous collector S. Wendell Palamino cons him out of a valuable baseball card, sixth-grader Griffin Bing puts together a band of misfits to break into Palamino's heavily guarded store and steal the card back, planning to use the money to finance his father's failing invention, the SmartPick fruit picker.



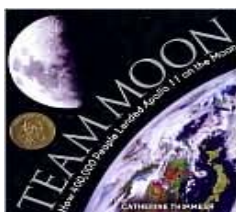
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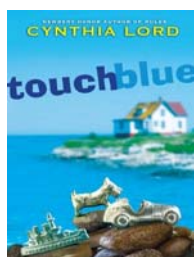
A Tangle of Knots by Lisa Graff

All of the characters in this book fit together like a puzzle in a slightly magical world where everyone has a Talent, and an orphan with a cake-baking Talent finds her way home.



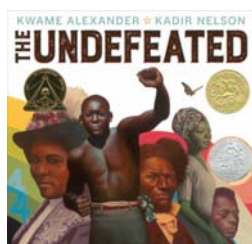
Team Moon by Catherine Thimmesh

Chronicles the Apollo 11 mission, the spaceflight that landed the first man on the Earth's moon on July 20, 1969, emphasizing the contributions and reactions of the thousands of people who made the mission successful.



Touch Blue by Cynthia Lord

When the state of Maine threatens to shut down their island's one-room schoolhouse because of dwindling enrollment, eleven-year-old Tess, a strong believer in luck, and her family take in a trumpet-playing foster child to increase the school's population.



The Undeclared by Kwame Alexander, illustrated by Kadir Nelson

An ode to black American triumph and tribulation, with extraordinary art. Winner of the 2020 Caldecott Medal and Newbery Honor.



Where the Sidewalk Ends by Shel Silverstein

A boy who turns into a TV set and a girl who eats a whale are only two of the characters in a collection of humorous poetry illustrated with the author's own drawings.



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The Wild Robot by Peter Brown

Roz is a very special robot who finds herself alone on a remote island with no memory of where she is or why she is there. She learns from the animals how to survive, adopts a small gosling, and tries to survive the challenges each season brings.



Wish by Barbara O'Connor

A story about a girl who, with the help of the dog of her dreams, discovers that family doesn't always have to be related--they are simply people who love you for who you are.



Zeus: King of the Gods [Olympians series] by George O'Connor

A fictionalized retelling, in graphic novel format, of the Greek myth that details the story of Zeus, describing his boyhood through the beginning of his reign as the ruler of the Olympian Pantheon.

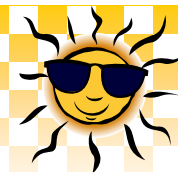
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Go to the next page to find the
peer recommended video book talk titles.

These are NOT a part of the official summer reading list.

However, students at Todd School enjoyed them and created book talks to recommend them to their peers!

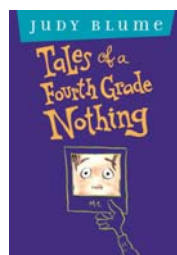
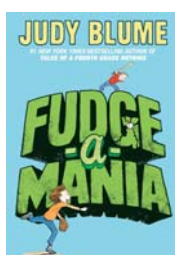


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Peer Recommended Video Booktalk Titles

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***Bob* by Wendy Mass and Rebecca Stead**

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

A mysterious, friendly creature named Bob really wants to go back home. The problem is he has no idea where that is. He is counting on Livy to help him. Will Livy and Bob unravel the magic and mystery and get Bob where he belongs?



***Fudge-a-Mania* by Judy Blume**

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

As if dealing with his annoying little brother Fudge isn't enough, now Peter has to share his vacation with his arch enemy Sheila!



***Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* by Judy Blume**

Watch 2 video booktalks! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

Peter has had it with his terror of a little brother who gets all of the attention and gets away with everything. How can Peter get his parents to pay attention to *him* for a change?