THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2017

BUILD A BETTER WORLD THROUGH READING

Braille & Talking Books for Kids & Teens

NYPL.ORG/SUMMERREADING
Build a better world through reading! Reading is about growing your mind while discovering a great story. It’s also about sharing ideas and understanding different perspectives. Books are the tools you need to learn new things, get inspired, and find ways to help our communities.

This list contains a sampling of the diverse selection of the braille and talking books available at NYPL’s Andrew Heiskell Braille and Talking Book Library. Flip to the back for a calendar and book log to keep you reading throughout the summer.

Summer reading is only the beginning! For more recommendations or information about programs and activities at the Library, email anthonymurisco@nypl.org or call 212-621-0622.

Andrew Heiskell Braille and Talking Book Library
40 West 20th Street
Manhattan
nypl.org/talkingbooks
Are We There Yet?
by Dan Santat
A boy goes on a long car ride to visit his grandmother and discovers time moves faster or slower depending on how bored he is.
DB 84614

Dragon Was Terrible
by Kelly DiPucchio
When a kingdom is tormented by the antics of a mischievous dragon, the king offers a special reward to any brave knight who can tame it.
BR 21100

Eloise
by Kay Thompson
Six books, written between 2006 and 2009, starring Kay Thompson’s precocious Eloise.
BR 21702, DB 85490

Good Night, Baddies
by Deborah Underwood
After a full day of evil schemes, fairy-tale baddies return home to spend time with their friends and get ready for bed.
DB 84745
How to Find a Fox
by Nilah Magruder
A determined and adventurous little girl tries to track down an elusive red fox, which proves to be more difficult than she thought it would be.
BR 22004

I Yam a Donkey!
by Cece Bell
Confusion abounds when a poorly spoken donkey speaks to a yam.
BR 21097

Lady Liberty’s Holiday
by Jen Arena
When the Statue of Liberty decides she wants to see more of America, she leaves her post in New York to explore the country.
DB 84650

Mango, Abuela, and Me
by Meg Medina
When Mia’s abuela comes to live with her and her parents in the city, Mia discovers that her grandmother can’t read the words inside her favorite book.
DB 85338

Nanette’s Baguette
by Mo Willems
Today is the day young Nanette finally gets to fetch the baguette for her mother. But the warm bread’s freshly baked aroma causes an unexpected problem for Nanette.
BR 22005
Nobody Likes a Goblin by Ben Hatke
Goblin and his best friend, Skeleton, live with the treasure in their dungeon home. But when a gang of adventurers swoops in and steals the loot and kidnaps Skeleton, Goblin finally ventures outside to save his friend.
BR 21099

You Nest Here with Me by Jane Yolen and Heidi E.Y. Stemple
A mother helps her little one go to bed with descriptions of the many types of birds and where they nest when they fall asleep.
DB 84854

There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Shell! by Lucille Colandro
An old woman delightfully swallows a shell, a crab, a fish, a gull, a pail, some sand, and a wave.
DB 84728

BR braille book
DB/DBC special-format digital book
Ada Twist, Scientist
by Andrea Beaty
Ada Twist, a very curious girl, constantly asks questions and performs all sorts of experiments to learn things and understand the world.
BR 22001

Elephant and Piggie
Like Reading!
by Laurie Keller, Dan Santat, and Mo Willems
Elephant and Piggie help present two books they love, “The Cookie Fiasco” and “We Are Growing!”
BR 21754
Interrupting Chicken by David Ezra Stein
Little Red Chicken wants Papa to read her a bedtime story, but interrupts him almost as soon as he begins each tale.
DBC 05419

Just a Minute: A Trickster Tale and Counting Book by Yuyi Morales
In this version of a traditional tale, Señor Calavera, a skeleton, arrives at Grandma Beetle’s door, ready to take her to the next life.
BR 16006

Mac and Cheese Books 1–2 by Sarah Weeks
Two books featuring two mismatched alley cats who are best friends.
BR 21738

Miss Rumphius by Barbara Cooney
Young Alice recounts the life of the Lupine Lady—her great-aunt Alice Rumphius—who, as a little girl, loved the sea, longed to visit faraway places, and wished to make the world more beautiful.
BR 16046, DB 52738
Mo Jackson
by David A. Adler
In *Don’t Throw It to Mo!*, Mo Jackson loves football and is the youngest on the team. When their opponents don’t take little Mo seriously during a game, an opportunity presents itself. In *Get a Hit, Mo!*, Mo struggles with playing right field and batting last.
BR 21737

Mr. Putter and Tabby
Feed the Fish
by Cynthia Rylant
After Mr. Putter buys three goldfish and takes them home, he discovers that his cat, Tabby, has a serious problem with them.
DB 54595

Pete the Cat:
Pete at the Beach
by James Dean
Pete has fun collecting shells and building sandcastles—but can he overcome his fear of the water?
DBC 06856

The Princess and the Warrior: A Tale of Two Volcanoes
by Duncan Tonatiuh
A princess falls in love with a mere warrior, who vows always to be by her side. The emperor promises they can marry only if the warrior defeats a tricky enemy.
BR 21753, DB 86754

School’s First Day of School
by Adam Rex
When Frederick Douglass Elementary opens, the school is nervous that students may not like it.
BR 22003

Vincent Paints His House
by Tedd Arnold
Vincent’s animal friends disagree on how he should paint his house, so Vincent comes up with a colorful solution.
DBC 06509

BR braille book
DB/DBC special-format digital book
GRADES 2-3

The Adventures of Arnie the Doughnut
by Laurie Keller
Books one through three starring a talking doughnut on humorous adventures.
DB 83680

The Bolds
by Julian Clary
After two hyenas in Africa find discarded passports beside a crocodile pond, they decide to take on the identities of the humans, the Bolds, and move to Teddington, England, to raise a family.
DB 86122

Inspector Flytrap
by Tom Angleberger
Two cases involving a Venus flytrap and his trusty assistant, Nina the Goat.
DB 85898

Marty McGuire Digs Worms!
by Kate Messner
With help from her Grandma Barb, Marty builds a habitat for worms in her school cafeteria as part of the Save the Earth Project.
DB 82837

Six Dots: A Story of Young Louis Braille
by Jen Bryant
A narrative biography of Louis Braille, who lost his sight as a young child while playing in his father’s workshop and later invented his own alphabet—a system for writing using six dots.
BR 21722, DB 86519
Sky Boys: How They Built the Empire State Building by Deborah Hopkinson
In 1931, a boy and his father watch as the world's tallest building, the Empire State Building, is constructed, step by step, near their Manhattan home.
DB 78118

Space Taxi by Wendy Mass
When eight-year-old Archie finally gets to ride along in his dad's taxi, he discovers it is actually an intergalactic spaceship.
DB 78730

This Day in June by Gayle E. Pitman
A rhyming Pride parade experience.
DB 85949

Trombone Shorty by Troy Andrews
An autobiography of music prodigy Troy “Trombone Shorty” Andrews, who was leading his own band by age six.
BR 21098, DB 85566

Violet the Pilot by Steve Breen
Violet, a floatplane pilot in the Lake of the Woods area of Canada, flies a trio of passengers to a perfect fishing spot.
DBC 05708

Why the Sky Is Far Away by Mary-Joan Gerson
This Nigerian folktale explains how the sky came to be.
BR 08992

Writing with Rosie: You Can Write a Story Too by Patricia Reilly Giff
An author provides entertaining tips and advice on how to write fiction. Her dog Rosie attempts to distract her, but ultimately provides creative inspiration!
BR 21676
As Brave as You
by Jason Reynolds
When 11-year-old Genie and his older brother, Ernie, spend part of their summer vacation in the Virginia countryside with their grandparents, he learns a secret about his grandfather and what it means to be brave.
BR 21728, DB 84720

The Best Man
by Richard Peck
Archer’s sixth-grade year is about to become one he’ll never forget.
DB 85808

Finding Wonders:
Three Girls Who Changed Science
by Jeannine Atkins
A biographical novel in verse featuring three notable women scientists from three different time periods.
DB 86255
**Left Out**  
by Tim Green  
Determination and an unlikely friendship help get Landon off the bench and onto the field.  
**DB 86352**

**The Luck Uglies**  
by Paul Durham  
As Rye O’Chanter and her friends delve into the secret lore of their village, mysterious creatures reappear and lead them to a notorious secret society.  
**BR 20926**

**Moo**  
by Sharon Creech  
When her parents find themselves unemployed, 12-year-old city girl Reena and her family relocate to a coastal Maine town.  
**DB 86221**

**Poop Happened! A History of the World from the Bottom Up**  
by Sarah Albee  
Examine the history of a basic human function—eliminating bodily wastes—from the dawn of western civilization to the 21st century.  
**DB 71657**

**Masterminds**  
by Gordon Korman  
When a group of kids discovers they were cloned from the DNA of some of the greatest criminal masterminds in history, they realize they can’t trust anyone.  
**DB 80852**

**Six Kids and a Stuffed Cat**  
by Gary Paulsen  
When a severe storm hits, six misfit classmates hunker down in a restroom and discover an odd friendship.  
**DB 86350**
Soar
by Joan Bauer
As a heart transplant recipient, he can’t play, but Jeremiah doesn’t let that slow him down in pursuing his coaching dreams.
BR 21759, DB 83449

Time Traveling with a Hamster
by Ross Welford
Al discovers his late father’s time machine and travels back to 1984 with his pet hamster to prevent the go-kart accident that took his father’s life.
DB 86245

Zombie Makers: True Stories of Nature’s Undead
by Rebecca L. Johnson
Discover the life cycles of fungi, diseases, and parasites that infect creatures and take over their bodies and braaaains!
BR 20094
All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook
by Leslie Connor
Resident of the Blue River Co-ed Correctional Facility in Surprise, Nebraska, 11-year-old Perry grew up inside the facility with his mom, who is serving a 15-year sentence. When the new district attorney discovers their unusual situation, he causes problems for the family and residents.
DB 84537

Be a Changemaker
by Laurie Ann Thompson
Learn how to turn your passions into action.
DB 80001

Being Jazz: My Life as a (Transgender) Teen
by Jazz Jennings
Teen activist Jazz Jennings discusses her very public transgender journey in an effort to inspire people to accept the differences in others while they embrace their own truths.
DB 84789
Bright Lights, Dark Nights
by Stephen Emond
Star-crossed, interracial love in a time when Black Lives Matter.
DB 83079

Brown Girl Dreaming
by Jacqueline Woodson
A lyrical memoir in verse about growing up in the racially charged 1960s.
BR 20541, DB 80026

Girls Against Girls:
Why We Are Mean to Each Other and How We Can Change
by Bonnie Burton
Discusses why girls may hurt each other.
BR 18738

Greenglass House
by Kate Milford
Milo’s plans for the winter are thwarted when strange guests arrive at his family’s inn.
DB 80154

The Hunger Games
by Suzanne Colins
In a future North America, Panem’s rulers maintain control through a televised survival competition pitting teens from 12 districts in a fight to the death.
BR 18488, DB 68384

Jackaby
by William Ritter
Abigail Rook joins Jackaby, an investigator of the unexplained, to work on a serial killer case in New England in 1892.
DB 83832

The Maze Runner
by James Dashner
A teenage boy wakes up in an elevator remembering nothing but his name.
BR 20726, DB 72392
Superman Versus the Ku Klux Klan: The True Story of How the Iconic Superhero Battled the Men of Hate by Rick Bowers
Discusses creators Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster's Jewish upbringing during the Great Depression and its influence on the development of their superhero.
BR 19518, DB 74918

Surviving Middle School by Luke Reynolds
Get the lowdown on bullying, peer pressure, grades, parents, and love.
DB 85927

The Thief by Meghan Whalen Turner
Gen, a talented thief, joins a rival kingdom’s hunt for a mythical stone in exchange for his release from prison.
BR 11285

HIGH SCHOOL

Beyond Magenta by Susan Kuklin
Six candid glimpses into the lives of transgender and gender-nonconforming teens.
DB 78523

Bronxwood by Coe Booth
Life for 16-year-old Tyrell isn’t easy. His drug-dealing roommates pressure him to do more, his dad just got out of jail, his brother is in foster care and wants Tyrell’s help, and his relationships with girls are complicated.
BR 19620, DB 82087

Burn Baby Burn by Meg Medina
As terror in New York City builds with the Son of Sam murders, 17-year-old Nora López struggles to figure out her plans for after she graduates.
DB 84157
Chocolate: Sweet Science & Dark Secrets of the World’s Favorite Treat
by Kay Frydenborg
An account that captures the history and science, as well as economic and cultural implications, of the harvesting of cacao and creation of chocolate.
DB 81462

The Demon King: A Seven Realms Novel
by Cinda Williams Chima
The fates of former street gang leader Han Alister and headstrong Princess Raisa entwine.
DB 85907

Fatal Fever: Tracking Down Typhoid Mary
by Gail Jarrow
Chronicles the story of the early 1900s typhoid fever epidemic in New York City.
BR 20803, DB 81476

Grasshopper Jungle
by Andrew Smith
Austin Szerba and his best friend Robby accidentally unleash an army of unstoppable giant bugs and uncover the secrets of a decades-old experiment gone terribly wrong.
BR 20682, DB 80786
Killer of Enemies
by Joseph Bruchac
Lozen hunts monsters in hopes of freeing her family in a post-apocalyptic world.
BR 20462, DB 78176

Laughing at My Nightmare
by Shane Burcaw
Burcaw describes the challenges he faces as a 20-year-old with spinal muscular atrophy—from awkward handshakes to trying to find a girlfriend, and everything in between.
BR 20816, DB 81567

Otherbound
by Corinne Duyvis
When Nolan closes his eyes, he is drawn into Amara’s mind and her dangerous world.
DB 79482
Spontaneous
by Aaron Starmer
When teens begin to spontaneously combust in a suburban New Jersey high school, no one knows who will be next.
DB 85366

X: A Novel
by Ilyasah Shabazz and Kekla Magoon
The story of how Malcolm Little became Malcolm X.
DB 81938
READ for 20 minutes a day, then contact your children’s librarian to get a prize!

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# MY SUMMER READING BOOK LOG

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Tell us about what you’re reading!

What do you like about your book?

Title: 

Author: 

What ideas in your book could help build a better world?

Title: 

Author: 

Your thoughts can help inspire others!
Talk to your librarian about how you can share your ideas.

nypl.org/summerreading

The New York Public Library’s Summer Reading Program is generously funded by HSBC Bank USA; New York Yankees Foundation; The Rona Jaffe Foundation; HBO®; Pine Tree Foundation of New York, Inc.; May and Samuel Rudin Family Foundation, Inc.; anonymous donors, and the continuing major support of the Andreas C. Dracopoulos Family Endowment for Young Audiences.