

# Summer Reading

June 2020

Dear Families,

It is that time again when we start thinking about the wonderful summer ahead and planning how to spend our time during those hot sunny days. It is our hope that our children will want to curl up with their favorite book or magazine or explore other options for books to read. Attached is a list of suggested book titles. (This list is also available on the Springhurst website.) We hope you will find this list helpful when visiting the public library or local bookstore. Please remember that these books are suggestions and are not required reading.

Our readers have strong opinions about themselves as readers. Some will say, "I like reading fantasy" or "I like to read a whole series in order", or "I am more of a nonfiction reader". We hope that these lists will offer plenty of opportunities for your child to find the right books for themselves this summer. There is a book out there for everyone, for sure! Please note that the books on the list represent a range of difficulty levels. The children know what a "just right" book is for them and should be able to choose a book that they will be able to read comfortably.

Springhurst School also has a subscription to a fun, reading program that you and your child can access from home this summer anywhere there is an internet connection. Scholastic BookFlix is an online literacy resource that pairs classic video storybooks with related non-fiction eBooks from Scholastic. This interactive resource also includes Spanish versions for many of their paired texts, a read aloud component in which children can hear a narrated story and definitions of key words, and educational games and activities. To access our school's subscription, follow these easy instructions:

- Go to: <http://auth.grolier.com/login/bookflix/login.php>
- User Name: springsch
- Password: bookflix

If your child had a RAZ Kids account throughout the year, they will still have access to it through the summer. Also, CommonLit.org is running a summer reading challenge for children in grades 3-12. Click on the link (<https://blog.commonlit.org/sign-up-your-child-for-commonlits-free-summer-reading-challenge-bbe5440a07d7>) and you will find all of the information needed to participate in this challenge.

As part of *Summer reading at New York Libraries* (<http://www.summerreadingnys.org/>), the State Education Department has a site with many resources families can utilize.

We hope that you have a fun-filled, story-filled summer!

Happy Reading!

Ms. Allison Fabrizio  
Springhurst Librarian

Mrs. Michelle Yang-Kaczmarek  
K - 8 Literacy Coordinator

**2020 Summer Reading Suggestions**  
**Entering 5th Grade**

**Other Words for Home** by Jasmine Warga

Jude never thought she'd be leaving her beloved older brother and father behind, but when things in her hometown start becoming volatile, Jude and her mother are sent to live in Cincinnati with relatives. At first, everything in America seems too fast and too loud. But this life also brings unexpected surprises.

**Greystone Secrets: The Strangers** by Margaret Peterson Haddix

The Greystone kids have been a happy family, just the three of them and their mom. But everything changes when reports of three kidnapped children reach the Greystone kids, and they're shocked by the startling similarities between themselves and these complete strangers. Before the kids can question their mom about it, she takes off on a sudden work trip. But puzzling clues left behind lead to complex codes, hidden rooms, and a secret that will turn their world upside down.

**The Bridge Home** by Padma Venkatraman

Life is harsh in Chennai's teeming streets, so when runaway sisters Viji and Rukku arrive, their prospects look grim. Fortunately, the girls find shelter--and friendship--on an abandoned bridge.

**Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky** by Kwame Mbalia

Tristan is dreading the month he's going to spend on his grandparent's farm in Alabama, where he's being sent to heal from the tragedy of losing his friend Eddie. On his first night there, a creature steals Eddie's journal. Tristan struggles with the creature and accidentally creates a hole into the Midpass, a world where ancient African gods clash with gods of African-American legend.

**Stargazing** by Jen Wang

Moon is everything Christine isn't. She's confident, impulsive, artistic . . . and though they both grew up in the same Chinese-American suburb, Moon is somehow unlike anyone Christine has ever known. But after Moon moves in next door, these unlikely friends are soon *best* friends. Moon even tells Christine her deepest secret: that she has visions of celestial beings who speak to her from the stars.

**Born to Fly: The First Women's Air Race Across America** by Steve Sheinkin

Just nine years after American women finally got the right to vote, a group of trailblazers soared to new heights in the 1929 Air Derby, the first women's air race across the U.S. Follow the incredible lives of legend Amelia Earhart, Marvel Crosson, Louise Thaden, and Elinor Smith.

**This Was Our Pact** by Ryan Andrews

It's the night of the annual Autumn Equinox Festival, when the town gathers to float paper lanterns down the river. Legend has it that after drifting out of sight, they'll soar off to the Milky Way and turn into brilliant stars, but could that actually be true? This year, Ben and his classmates are determined to find out where those lanterns really go.

**Becoming RBG: Ruth Bader Ginsburg's Journey to Justice** by Debbie Levy

A graphic novel biography of Supreme Court justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg: a modern feminist icon—a leader in the fight for equal treatment of girls and women in society and the workplace.