

We hope you read one, some, or many of the books on this [suggested list](#). Reading and rereading is fun and helps improve fluency and comprehension! These titles tie into part of the year's Driving Question: **What are the things we care about?** Parents and guardians – please help your child choose a book that is appropriate for their interest/reading level. We encourage you to read and discuss the books with your children. You are not limited to this list - **feel free to explore other books, genres, and authors.**

You can purchase books from our favorite local bookstore, **The Book Oasis**, on Main Street (in-store and curbside pickup available). Click [here](#) for their website.

You can also check books out from the **Stoneham Public Library**. Click the title of each book to go to the library catalog where you can place a hold. Click [here](#) to see a video introducing Rachel, the librarian at the SPL.

Use the * indicators to help you find an appropriate level

***Easy **Medium ***Challenging**

*[Number the Stars](#) by Lois Lowry. As the German troops begin their campaign to “relocate” all the Jews of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie’s family hides her best friend, Ellen, and helps smuggle her family to safety. The heroism of an entire nation reminds us that there was pride and human decency in the world even during a time of terror and war. Newbery Medal. Historical fiction.

*[Finding Langston](#) by Lesa Cline-Ransome. In 1946 Langston and his father move to the city, but Langston misses Grandma's Sunday suppers and the magnolia trees his mother loved. But Langston's new home has one fantastic thing. Unlike the whites-only library in Alabama, the Chicago Public Library welcomes everyone. There, hiding out after school, Langston discovers another Langston--a poet whom he learns inspired his mother enough to name her only son after him. Historical Fiction/Poetry

*[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, and to ensure success in their mission, they've made a pact with two simple rules: No one turns for home. No one looks back. Fantasy/Graphic Novel

*[Lucky Broken Girl](#) by Ruth Behar. Ruthie Mizrahi and her family recently emigrated from Castro’s Cuba to New York City. Just when she’s finally beginning to gain confidence in her mastery of English –and enjoying her reign as her neighborhood’s hopscotch queen – a horrific car accident leaves her in a body cast and confined to her bed for a long recovery. Fiction.

**[I Can Make This Promise](#) by Christine Day. Edie has always known that her mom was adopted by a white couple but she starts to have questions about her Native American heritage when she and her friends discover a box hidden in the attic full of letters and photos of a woman who looks just like her. Could she belong to a Native family, and why have her parents kept this secret her whole life? Fiction. Mystery.

****Dragons in a Bag** by Zetta Elliott. When Jaxon is sent to spend the day with a mean old lady his mother calls Ma, he finds out she's not his grandmother--but she is a witch! She needs his help delivering baby dragons to a magical world where they'll be safe. Will Jax get the baby dragons delivered safe and sound? Or will they be lost in Brooklyn forever? Fantasy

***In the Footsteps of Crazy Horse** by Joseph Marshall III (Author), Jim Yellowhawk (Illustrator). Over summer break, Jimmy embarks on a journey with his grandfather, Nyles High Eagle. While on the road, his grandfather tells him the story of Crazy Horse, one of the most important figures in Lakota, and American, history. Fiction and nonfiction.

***Mr. Terupt Falls Again** by Rob Buyea. Fifth-grade was full of unforgettable events for Mr. Terupt and his class at Snow Hill School. Seven students are back, and they've been granted the rare opportunity to spend one more year with their beloved teacher before they graduate from elementary school. Mr. Terupt helps his students be the best they can be—and enlists their help to pull off an extra-special project. But will there be a happy ending for all? Fiction.

****The Great Wall of Lucy Wu** by Wendy Wan-Long Shang. Lucy, aspiring basketball star and interior designer, is excited to rule the school as a sixth grader and take over the bedroom she has always shared with her sister. Her plans are shattered when she finds out that Yi Po, her great-aunt, is coming to visit for several months -- and is staying in Lucy's room. Funny. Fiction.

****Out of My Mind** by Sharon Draper. Ten-year-old Melody has cerebral palsy; because she cannot communicate, no one knows how she feels, what she sees, what she wants, or what she dreams. A new communication device changes that, but some things, such as being accepted by her peers, don't change as easily. Fiction

****First Team** by Tim Green. With his strong left arm, Brock knows he can be a great quarterback with the help of his new friend, Mak, but the coaches have plans of their own, especially for the kids from the wrong side of the tracks, which is exactly where Brock now lives. As Brock is trying to fit in, his father's past is catching up to him. Will Brock finally be able to navigate his new life, or will his past force him back on the run? Fiction. Sports.

****Inside Out and Back Again** by Thanhha Lai. When the Vietnam War reaches her home in Saigon, ten-year-old Hà and her family are forced to flee on a ship headed for America. Hà discovers the foreign world of Alabama: the coldness of its strangers, the dullness of its food, the strange shape of its landscape . . . and the strength of her very own family. Historical fiction.

****Scat** by Carl Hiaasen. The most feared biology teacher ever is missing after a school field trip to Black Vine Swamp. Two students figure the class delinquent, Smoke, has something to do with her disappearance. And he does! But not in the way they think. There's a lot more going on in Black Vine Swamp than any one player in this twisted tale can see. Lots of action! Mystery.

****Blackthorn Key** by Kevin Sands. Christopher was learning how to solve complex codes and creating powerful potions and weapons as an apprentice to Master Blackthorn—with maybe an explosion or two along the way. But when a mysterious cult begins to prey on London's apothecaries, the trail of murders grows closer to Blackthorn's shop. Christopher must use every skill he's learned to discover the key to a terrible secret with the power to tear the world apart. Fiction.