

**Paper Son: The Inspiring Story of Tyrus Wong, Immigrant and Artist**

by Julie Leung

J OLDER LEUNG

Eventually recognized for his innovative design work in the Disney movie, *Bambi*, animator Tyrus Wong's story as a Chinese-American immigrant who attended art school while working as a janitor is full of artistic inspiration and social revelations.



**Pug Pals series by Flora Ahn**

J AHN

When new little pug sister, Rosy, upsets the comfortable life of Sunny (also a pug), Sunny has to adjust. But things get desperate when Rosy takes—and loses—Sunny's favorite toy.



**Sarai series by Sarai Gonzalez & Monica Brown**

J GONZALEZ

Fourth grader Sarai Gonzalez has lots of confidence, but life can be challenging. From changes in her family, to losing friendships at school, Sarai learns valuable lessons in each realistic story in this popular series.

**Saving Winslow by Sharon Creech**

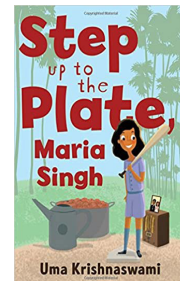
J CREECH

A newborn miniature donkey may not make it through the night, but ten-year-old Louie is determined to save the little creature while facing his fears and building new friendships.

**Scary Stories for Young Foxes by Christian McKay Heidicker**

J HEIDICKER

Filled with spooky animal tales, this collection of connected stories follows a group of fox kits as they try to survive in an unforgiving wilderness.



**Step Up to the Plate, Maria Singh by Uma Krishnaswami**

J KRISHNASWAMI

In World War II California, nine-year-old Maria learns to play softball just like her heroes in the All-American Girls' League, while her sharecropping parents and neighbors struggle to stay on the land they farm.

**Two Dogs in a Trench Coat series by Julie Falatko**

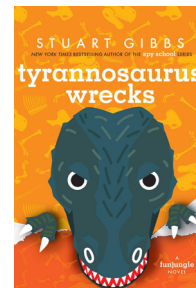
J FALATKO

Sassy and Waldo are good dogs who stay at home every day, until they decide to put on a trench coat and go in disguise to protect their boy while he's at elementary school.

**Tyrannosaurus Wrecks by Stuart Gibbs**

J GIBBS

When a 500-pound dinosaur skull disappears from a friend's family ranch, Teddy and his friends (from the FunJungle series) decide to conduct their own investigation to solve the mystery—and have lots of fun.



This summer, let's **take care** to read **books** with our families.

These diverse books are highly recommended by librarians, educators, and professional reviewers because they offer compelling stories, complex and appealing characters, and expressive language and vocabulary. Books enable older children to personally connect with the inner lives of characters, consider decision making strategies, and learn more about the world and how we live in it.

When Simsbury readers of all ages take care to read books and participate in our 2020 Summer Reading program, we are making community connections by sharing stories, information, and finding joy when we read during tough times and hopeful ones.



**Raising Readers at the Simsbury Public Library**

For more book lists, visit [simsburylibrary.info/children/raising-readers/](https://simsburylibrary.info/children/raising-readers/)

725 Hopmeadow Street  
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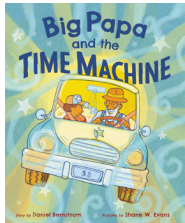
- SimsburyPublicLibrary
- SimsburyPublicLibrary
- SimsburyPublicLibrary: Children's Room

**Recommended Summer Reading Grades 3-4**



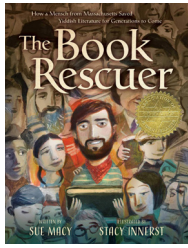
***Aster and the Accidental Magic***  
by Thom Pico

J GRAPHIC PICO  
After moving from the city to a small town in the mountains, Aster prepares to be bored only to meet a mysterious old woman (who gives her a dog) and a trickster spirit (who gives her three wishes). This is the first in a new graphic novel series.



***Big Papa and the Time Machine***  
by Daniel Bernstrom

J OLDER BERNSTROM  
An African-American grandson and grandfather travel back in time in a 1952 Ford to discover their own cultural and family history, and learn how to face real fears when life gets hard.



***The Book Rescuer***  
by Sue Macy

J OLDER MACY  
To preserve Jewish culture and history, Aaron Lansky rescued any book he could find written in Yiddish. His amazing quest led to his founding the Yiddish Book Center in Amherst, Massachusetts, a current hub for Yiddish studies that features 1.5 million rescued books.

***Danny the Champion of the World***  
by Roald Dahl

J DAHL  
Life is great for nine-year-old Danny and his auto mechanic (and storyteller) dad until Danny discovers a shocking secret and must help his father pull off an incredible plot against a local villain in the dead of night.

***The Dog Who Lost His Bark***  
by Eoin Colfer

J COLFER  
This rescue dog story is full of tough reality, heartfelt emotion, and inspirational moments of hope, as readers enjoy both the dog's and a boy's perspective throughout the book.



***Doodleville***  
by Chad Sell

J GRAPHIC SELL  
Nine-year-old Drew loves to draw, and in a world where her doodles come to life (called Doodleville) there is plenty of imagined excitement. Drew finally makes friends through an art club, but their dangerous doodles come to life, and Drew has to rely on new friends to help her erase the threat.

***Dragonfell***  
by Sarah Prineas

J PRINEAS  
When villagers believe that young Rafi Bywater is dangerous and “dragon-touched,” Rafi must go on a quest to discover the truth about the dragons in his land. Through his wild adventures Rafi finally makes a friend, learns to trust, and finds out where the dragons have gone.

***Everybody Counts: A Counting Story from 0 to 7.5 Billion***  
by Kristin Roskifte

J OLDER ROSKIFTE  
An award-winning combination of advanced counting exercises and elaborate seek-and-find puzzles, this fun-filled picture book engages curious readers with questions, visual cues, and an exploration of their imagination.

***Finding Langston***  
by Lesa Cline-Ransome

J CLINE-RANSOME  
In 1946 Langston moves to Chicago from Alabama with his father, after the death of Langston's mother. Eleven-year-old Langston is bullied, hungry, and lonely, until he finds his way into a library which connects him to a community, his namesake, and a better understanding of who he wants to be.

***King of the Mole People***  
by Paul Gilligan

J GILLIGAN  
Doug Underbelly wants to be an “average kid” and blend in at school, but that's hard to do since he's King of the Mole People and must resolve issues between the Stone Goons and Mushroom Folk.



***Knights vs. Dinosaurs, Knights vs. Monsters and Knights vs. the End (of Everything)***  
by Matt Phelan

J PHELAN  
This highly illustrated chapter book trilogy features four boastful knights and one underappreciated squire who travel through time (with the magical help of Merlin) to confront dinosaurs, monsters, and warlocks in different adventure-filled fantasy lands.

***Leave it to Abigail!: The Revolutionary Life of Abigail Adams***  
by Barb Rosenstock

JB ADAMS, ABIGAIL  
This is an entertaining and informative picture book biography of the trailblazing life of the second First Lady of the United States.



***Max and the Midknights***  
by Lincoln Peirce

J PEIRCE  
In a 14th-century fantasy kingdom, Max wants to blaze his own trail and become a knight. When his Uncle Budrick is captured, it's up to Max and his friends (called the Midknights) to fight against zombies, flying rats, and an evil sorceress to save his uncle—and the kingdom.

***Mr. Tiger, Betsy, and the Blue Moon***  
by Sally Gardner

J GARDNER  
Eight-year-old Betsy lives with her ice-cream-making dad and mermaid mom on a small island. To transform a princess (who is currently a toad), Betsy needs the help of Mr. Tiger and his circus of Gongalongs, a mountaintop giant, and a moon that isn't yet blue.

***My Father's Dragon, Elmer and the Dragon, and The Dragons of Blueand***  
by Ruth Stile Gannett

J GANNETT  
This classic trilogy follows the unexpected adventures of Elmer Elevator on Wild Island where dragons live and wild animals can talk.

***Operation Frog Effect***  
by Sarah Scheerger

J SCHEERGER  
When eight diverse students in Ms. Graham's fifth-grade class take an assignment too far, they have to deal with tough realities and come to understand each other with fresh, compassionate perspectives.

