



Shirley & Jamila series by Gillian Goerz

J GRAPHIC GOERZ

It's summer, and ten-year-old Jamila Waheed is dreading making friends in her new town. When mothers force a "friendship" between Jamila and Shirley Bones, things are definitely awkward until Shirley is "hired" to solve the mystery of a missing lizard, creating excitement in the neighborhood.



The Silver Arrow and The Golden Swift by Lev Grossman

NUTMEG J GROSSMAN and J GROSSMAN

Kate's daily life is pretty boring until her eccentric Uncle Herbert sends her a magical train for her 11th birthday. With her younger brother, Kate greets and cares for exotic talking animals who come aboard at stops around the world. These fantasy tales are perfect for animal lovers.

Stella Diaz series by Angela Dominguez

J DOMINGUEZ

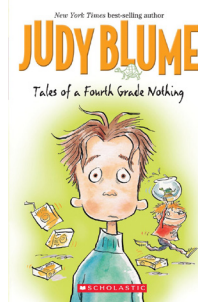
As Mexican-American Stella Diaz navigates 3rd and 4th grades in her Chicago elementary school, she shows her passion for art and ocean conservation, but is shy when speaking up in Spanish and English. Stella's day-to-day life is upbeat and relatable, and features real-world cross-cultural experiences.



Ways to Make Sunshine and Ways to Grow Love by Renee Watson

J WATSON

When 4th grader Ryan Hart's family moves to another neighborhood, times are tough, but Ryan's positive energy helps her renew friendships and bring sunshine to her new community. This heartwarming series is from an award-winning #OwnVoices author.



Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing by Judy Blume

J BLUME

Peter's two-year-old brother, Fudge, is such a troublemaker that Peter feels like a fourth grade nothing, totally overlooked by his parents. Fudge's temper tantrums

are over the top, messy, (and pretty funny) but when Peter's pet turtle goes missing, Peter just can't take it anymore.

Celebrate Simsbury Summers.

Welcome to our in-person summer reading program, full of special outdoor Simsbury events and wonderful summer reads.

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 participate in our **2022 Summer Reading program**, we are reminded that reading books we enjoy has always been a celebrated part of summertime in Simsbury.



Raising Readers at the Simsbury Public Library

For more book lists, visit simsburylibrary.info/children/raising-readers/

725 Hopmeadow Street
Simsbury, CT 06070
(860) 658-7663 option 4

-  SimsburyPublicLibrary
-  SimsburyPublicLibrary
-  SimsburyPublicLibrary: Children's Room

Recommended Summer Reading Grades 3-4





Aster and the Accidental Magic and Aster and the Mixed Up 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 magic wishes).

The Beatryce Prophecy
by Kate DiCamillo

J DICAMILLO

Discovered in a monastery barn, orphaned Beatryce learns she must fulfill a secret prophecy that sends her on a quest to find a castle, survive the king's death sentence, and stay true to her newfound friends

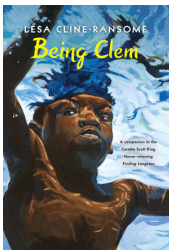
(including her pet goat). This medieval fairy tale from an award-winning author is full of adventure, humor, and friendship.



Fart Quest series
by Aaron Reynolds

J REYNOLDS

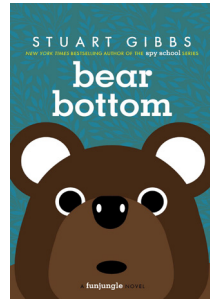
This wacky fantasy series presents three apprentices who must discover the quest they think they were destined for. Full of illustrations, potty humor, and magical friendships.



Finding Langston series
by Lesa Cline-Ransome

NUTMEG J CLINE-RANSOME and J CLINE-RANSOME

This trilogy of short, award-winning books features three boys whose paths intersect in Chicago in 1946. When 11-year-old Langston arrives from rural Alabama, he is bullied, hungry, and lonely, until he finds a library which connects him to a community, his namesake, and a better understanding of who he wants to be.



FunJungle series
by Stuart Gibbs

J GIBBS

The 7th book in the popular bestselling FunJungle mystery series features 12-year-old Teddy Fitzroy's family trip to a ranch near Yellowstone National Park where he tries to track down missing bison and a stolen necklace after a grizzly bear makes a surprising appearance.

The Ickabog
by J.K. Rowling

J ROWLING

In the peaceful kingdom of Cornucopia, best friends Daisy and Bert try to overcome personal losses while the legendary Ickabog appears to threaten their community. This fantasy adventure presents a serious battle of good vs. evil, with strong friendships and inspiring family loyalty.



The Last Kids on Earth series
by Max Brallier

J BRALLIER

When Jack Sullivan's hometown is hit with a monster apocalypse, he can't survive on his own, and recruits a team of surviving friends and enemies to help fight the freaky Zombies and the Blarg. This illustrated novel is

action-packed with lots of gross-out moments.



The Lion of Mars
by Jennifer Holm

J HOLM

11-year-old Bell has spent his whole life in the U.S. colony—on Mars. His chores involve space dust, and his food is mostly algae-based, but Bell has lots of questions about why the adults in the space colony have certain rules, and some serious secrets.

Locker 37 series
by Aaron Starmer

J STARMER

This page-turning illustrated school adventure series focuses on the 4th graders at Hopewell Elementary who have access to the problem-solving magic of Locker 37.

Max & the Midnight series
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 Midnighters) to fight against zombies, flying rats, and an evil sorceress to save his uncle—and the kingdom.



Measuring Up and Unhappy Camper
by Lily LaMotte

J GRAPHIC LAMOTTE

12-year-old Cici immigrates from Taiwan to Seattle, leaving behind her beloved grandmother, A-ma. Cici decides to enter a cooking competition to win the money she

needs for A-ma's plane ticket. This emotional graphic novel is full of hope and grit.

Mr. Tiger and Betsy series
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, his circus of Gongalongs, and a mountaintop giant.



My Father's Dragon trilogy
by Ruth Stiles Gannett

J GANNETT

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



Our Universe series
by Stacy McAnulty

E NATURE MCANULTY

These humorous but very informative picture books are a great way to introduce readers to planetary science without overwhelming them. This popular series includes the titles Mars!, Ocean!, Sun!, Moon!, and Earth!

Planet Omar series
by Zanib Mian

J MIAN

10-year-old Omar is the middle child in his British Muslim family and is nervous about his first day at a new school. With journal-like drawings that highlight Omar's imagination and humor, this series is full of Omar's energy and curiosity, giving readers a fast-paced story full of accessible cultural information.