Soddy-Daisy Community Library
2020 Summer Reading Recommendations

9 - 12

The Soddy-Daisy Community Library is proud to present our 2020 Summer Reading Recommendations. These books were chosen by a panel of librarians, educators and book industry professionals, and represent a diverse cross-section of interests so there is something appealing here for every reader.

We hope that during this challenging time, these recommendations will not only build on your child’s education and reading abilities, but will also provide pleasure, relaxation and fun.

Happy Reading!

These recommendations cover a wide range of grades, ages and subjects. The content may not be appropriate for everyone. If you need help making choices or would like additional recommendations, we’re happy to help.

Classics

Watership Down
by Richard Adams
A group of wild rabbits struggles to find their place in the world.

Little Women
by Louisa May Alcott
Four sisters grow into adulthood.

The Scarlet Letter
by Nathaniel Hawthorne
Hester Prynne conceives a daughter through an affair and is shunned for it.

The Pearl
by John Steinbeck
A diver changes his and his family’s fortune by finding a large pearl.

The Invisible Man
by H. G. Wells
A scientist discovers a way to make himself invisible, but it drives him crazy.

** Volunteer State Book Award Nominee 2020-21

Fantasy / SciFi

Children of Blood and Bone*
by Toni Adeyemi
Orphan works to bring back magic and get revenge against the monarchy.

The Wrath and the Dawn
by Renee Ahdieh
Retelling of Scheherazade and the Arabian Nights

The Hazel Wood
by Melissa Albert
Dark fairy tales come to life.

The Belles
by Dhonielle Clayton
Girls with the power to sculpt people beautiful, but at what cost?

Revolution
by Jennifer Donnelly
Angry girl finds diary that transports her back to the French Revolution.

Tiger’s Curse series
by Colleen Houck
Two Indian princes, turned into tigers by an evil sorcerer, journey through myths to reclaim their humanity.

Grave Mercy
by Robin Lefevres
Girls are sent to a nunnery in 1400’s France to train as assassins.

Night Circus
by Erin Morgenstern
Two starcrossed magicians engage in a deadly game.

This Savage Song
by Victoria Schwab
A young woman and man must choose to become heroes or villains - or monsters.

Scythe (Arc of the Scythe series)
by Neal Shusterman
When illness and death are wiped out on Earth, it is up to Scythes to choose who lives and who dies.

Growing Up Dead
by Greg Willkey
A boy discovers he is the child of a mortal woman and a vampire, and enters a centuries old war of the Undead.
## Historical Fiction

- **The Lovely War**  
  by Jullie Berry  
  Set in WWI & WWII, gods hold the fates and hearts of mortals in their hands.

- **Once**  
  by Morris Gleitzman  
  Jewish boy sets out to save his parents during WWII.

- **Girl in the Blue Coat**  
  by Monica Hesse  
  Dutch girl joins the resistance in 1943.

- **Dread Nation**  
  by Justina Ireland  
  What happens when the Civil War is stopped by a zombie invasion?

- **Love Is the Higher Law**  
  by David Levithan  
  Three teens deal with the world after 9/11.

- **Stalking Jack the Ripper**  
  by Kerri Maniscalco  
  A girl leading a secret life studying forensic medicine investigates the original serial killer.

- **The Poe Shadow**  
  by Matthew Pearl  
  Young lawyer seeks the truth about the questionable death of Edgar Allen Poe.

- **The Fountains of Silence**  
  by Ruta Sepetys  
  Love, silence and secrets during the postwar struggles of 1957 Spain.

- **Code Name Verity**  
  by Elizabeth Wein  
  A pilot and her best friend, a spy, are shot down in Nazi occupied France and must save each other.

## Realistic Fiction

- **With the Fire On High**  
  by Elizabeth Acevedo  
  A teenage mom pursues her dream of becoming a chef.

- **Simon vs The Homo Sapien Agenda**  
  by Becky Albertelli  
  Closeted high school junior must come out before being pushed out.

- **Truly Devious**  
  by Maureen Johnson  
  Young detective at private boarding school hunts a murderer who has returned.

- **More Than We Can Tell**  
  by Brigid Kemmerer  
  Two teens share secrets in the face of trauma.

- **When Dimple Met Rishi**  
  by Sandhya Menon  
  Parents try to play matchmaker during a web developer summer camp.

- **The Astonishing Color of After**  
  by Emily Pan  
  Girl discovers family, love and art after mother’s death.

- **Aristotle & Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe**  
  by Benjamin Alire Saenz  
  Two loners discover a special friendship.

- **Dry**  
  by Neal & Jarod Shusterman  
  Catastrophic drought forces teen to help her family survive.

- **On the Come Up**  
  by Angie Thomas  
  Young rapper fights for her dreams against the odds.

- **Rayne & Delilah’s Midnight Matinee**  
  by Jeff Zentner  
  TV show hosts and best friends face graduation and the future.
**Biography**

*I'll Always Write Back*
by Caitlin Alifrenka
Penpal assignment creates two best friends worlds apart.

**Shout**
by Laurie Halse Anderson
Biography of an advocate for survivors of sexual assault.

**Episodes**
by Blaze Ginsberg
Highly functioning autistic teen views life in a collection of "episodes".

**The Faithful Spy**
by John Hendrix
Graphic Novel bio of Dietrich Bonhoefer and the plot to kill Hitler.

**Strong Inside (Young Reader's Edition)**
by Andrew Maraniss
Perry Wallace, the first African American in the desegregated Southeastern Conference.

---

**Non-Fiction**

*We Should All Be Feminists*
by Chimamanda Adichie
Unique essay on 21st century feminism derived from her Ted talk.

*6 Most Important Decisions You'll Ever Make: Updated for the Digital Age*
by Sean Covey
Learn to face 6 major challenges of being a teen in the digital age.

**The Glass Castle**
by Jeannette Walls
Woman escapes abusive, transient family life in West Virginia.

**Educated**
by Tara Westover
Daughter of survivalists escapes to better herself.

---

*The Perfect Horse*
by Elizabeth Letts
U.S. mission to rescue a priceless horse stolen by the Nazis.

*The Red Bandana*
by Tom Rinaldi
Heroic story of 9/11.

*Just Mercy***
by Bryan Stevenson
Glimpse into the life of the wrongfully imprisoned and fight for freedom.

*The Warrior’s Heart: Becoming a Man of Compassion and Courage*
by Eric Greitens
Inspiring stories of friendship, struggle and hard-earned wisdom.

**Nevertheless, We Persisted**
by In This Together Media
48 stories of defiance, strength and courage.
**Graphic Novels**

*Speak*
by Laurie Halse Anderson
A high school student comes to grips with her sexual assault through art.

*The Scarlet Letter: Manga Classic*
by Nathaniel Hawthorne / Adapted by Crystal S. Chin
Hester Prynne conceives a daughter through an affair and is shunned for it.

**Hey Kiddo**
by Jarrett Krosoczka
Memoir about growing up in a family grappling with addiction, and finding the art that helps you survive.

*The Prince and the Dressmaker*
by Jen Wang
A prince with a secret life and his best friend find identity, art and love.

**Novels in Verse**

*The Poet X*
by Elizabeth Acevedo
Slam poet finds her voice.

*The Crossover*
by Kwame Alexander
Basketball and beat come together.

*Audacity*
by Melanie Crowder
Clara Lemlich fights for equal rights in the largest strike by women in American history.

*Nimona*
by Noelle Stevenson
Young shapeshifter’s mischief escalates to dangerous levels.

*Long Way Down*
by Jason Reynolds
60 seconds - the time it takes to decide whether to murder your brother’s killer or not.

Get ready for the SDCL Magical Summer of Reading! When you read this summer, you can earn this great T-Shirt - FREE! Details coming in May!

Soddy-Daisy Community Library
9619 Dayton Pike * Soddy-Daisy, TN 37379
423.800.2367
KELCURT Foundation.org
Foundation@KELCURTFoundation.org

@TheSDCL
This summer, earn an EXCLUSIVE Summer Reading T-Shirt through the SDCL Summer Reading Program! You can’t buy it, you can’t magic it up, you can only get it by READING!

1. Read 4 adult books of your choice.
2. Fill out the back of the journal with title, author, give the book a star rating and write a 3 sentence review for each book. Reviews may be used to promote books available at the SDCL.
3. Bring your completed journal to the Soddy-Daisy Community Library between July 1 - 16, 2020 and pick up your t-shirt during the Magical Summer of Reading Celebration on Friday, July 31, 2020!
4. Final deadline for journals is Wed, August 5, 2020

I solemnly SWEAR that I have READ these books!

Name:

T-Shirt Size: Adult S, M, L, XL Other:____
Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Chattanooga Public Library is proud to present its 2020 List of recommended Summer Reading Picks. Chosen by local expert librarians, these titles are great reads and are highly regarded in the book community, receiving many awards, excellent reviews and popular appeal. We hope that the 2020 List will help your family pick the best books for your child, grades K-12. All of the books on the List are available at your local library. Your local librarian can suggest additional titles.

Reading in the summer helps build on the skills obtained during the school year so that learning continues into the next grade year. We need the support and encouragement of families to ensure that all of our children become excellent readers.

Happy Reading!

Corinne Hill
Executive Director
Chattanooga Public Library
### MODERN REALISM

**The Nickel Boys**
by Colson Whitehead
In the Jim Crow South of the early 1960s, Elwood Curtis is sent to a horrific juvenile reformatory.

**The Book Thief**
by Markus Zusak
Recognizing the power of words, a girl learns to read from books she steals from the Nazis.

**With the Fire on High**
by Elizabeth Acevedo
Becoming a mother while in high school has not stopped Emoni's dream of becoming a chef.

**Sorry For Your Loss**
by Jessie Ann Foley
Pup Flanagan, the youngest of 8 siblings, uses photography to help him through the grieving process after the sudden death of his older brother.

**Darius the Great is Not Okay**
by Adib Khorram
A teen visiting his family in Iran comes to terms with his identity while building his self-confidence.

**Slay**
by Britnney Morris
A high-schooler doubles as an honor student and online role-playing gamer.

**Forward Me Back to You**
by Mitali Perkins
Two teens from different backgrounds come together after one of them suffers a great trauma.

**Patron Saints of Nothing**
by Randy Ribay
Jay travels to the Philippines to find out how and why his cousin was murdered.

**On the Come Up**
by Angie Thomas
Bri aspires to follow in the footsteps of her famous father's rap career.

**Frankly In Love**
by David Yoon
Frank's first love will upset his Korean parents, so he and a friend devise a complicated plan to keep them from disappointment.

**Black Panther Part One: Avengers of the New World**
by Ta-Nehisi Coates
T'Challa searches for the gods of Wakanda.

**I am Alfonso Jones**
by Tony Medina
After being killed, Alfonso wakes up on a ghost train filled with other victims of police shootings.

---

### GRAPHIC NOVELS

**One Punch Man**
by Yusuke Murata
Saitama, a different kind of superhero, has no problem punching out his opponents.

**The Prince and the Dressmaker**
by Jen Wang
A seamstress makes dresses for a Prince whose secret identity is Lady Crystallia.

**Pumpkinheads**
by Rainbow Rowell
Two friends spend their last shift at the pumpkin patch together before graduating high school and having to say goodbye.

**They Called Us Enemy**
by George Takei
Takei recalls his childhood experience living in an American concentration camp.

**Shout: A Poetry Memoir**
by Laurie Halse Anderson
An honest and raw look at women's rights and the real-life struggles women are facing.

**The Grand Escape: The Greatest Prison Breakout of the 20th Century**
by Neal Bascomb
During WWI, a group of POWs plan their incredible escape from Holzminden.

---

### NONFICTION

**The Nickel Boys**
by Colson Whitehead
In the Jim Crow South of the early 1960s, Elwood Curtis is sent to a horrific juvenile reformatory.

**Parkland: Birth of a Movement**
by David Cullen
High school students outraged by the mass shooting that killed their classmates start a worldwide movement.

**The Boys Who Challenged Hitler**
by Phillip Hoose
Young adults in Denmark sabotage Nazis occupying their country.

**Steal Like an Artist**
by Austin Kleon
Observe, study and transform the world around you while learning to be your creative self.

**What If?: Serious Scientific Answers to Absurd Hypothetical Questions**
by Randall Munroe
Laugh-out-loud, but accurate, answers to odd scientific questions.

**The 57 Bus**
by Dashka Slater
The true story about both the victim and offender of a violent hate crime.

**The Girl Who Smiled Beads**
by Clemantine Wamariya
Two young sisters flee the Rwandan genocide and journey together across Africa looking for safety.

---

*Because this list includes books for a range of grades, please be aware that some titles may contain advanced content that might not be appropriate for everyone. If you need help making selections, ask your librarian for guidance.*
Make. Play. Read. Learn. 2020

Since closing to the public on March 14, the Chattanooga Public Library has been offering daily programming for babies, toddlers, preschoolers, school-aged kids and adults on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. With many followers and much success over the past two months, we have decided to take our MPRL Summer Learning Program virtual as well!

We will be using a platform called the Great Reading Adventure, where kids and adults can earn virtual badges for attending programs and for completing challenges, similar to those in our passports last year.

MPRL will consist of 11 weekly themes:

- May 18- 22 - Active Gaming
- May 25-29 - Cooking
- June 1- 5 - DIY
- June 8-12 - Hoopla Week
- June 15-19 - Art
- June 22 - 26 - STEM
- June 29 - July 3 - Trades
- July 6-10 - Travel
- July 13- 17 - Music
- July 20- 24 - Chattanooga
- July 27- 31 - Brain Games

Each weekday, our challenges and programs will be based on the following daily themes:

- Monday - STEM
- Tuesday - Nature
- Wednesday - Art
- Thursday - History/Civics
- Friday - Creative Play

MPRL programming will take place on our YouTube Channel: youtube.com/c/chattlibrary. Our virtual programs will include 15-30 minute tutorial videos, 1-5 minute fun info-videos, social media challenges, and digital Escape Rooms for the kids to explore. In fact, we have the following two digital Escape Rooms available to access right now:

- What would happen if you were LOCKED IN THE LIBRARY? Test your knowledge of children's literature and solve puzzles to unlock the doors. Start your escape room adventure at tiny.cc/escapeCPL
- What would happen if you were LOCKED IN A CASTLE? Test your knowledge of children's literature and solve puzzles to unlock the doors. Start your escape room adventure at https://buff.ly/2S7zvui
We will also throw in some pop-ups that feature fun projects such as sewing, Spanish language acquisition and LARPing!

We realize there are kids who may not have internet access or a device, so we’re hoping to address digital inequity by creating make-and-take craft/experiment options, as well as a printed poster of the badges that they can color in as they earn them. Distribution of physical items like these can take place when staff are able to go back to our libraries and when we are able to offer curbside service.

We want to support any HCDE efforts, so we will adapt our plans to include any initiatives or ideas in the same way we did to support your STEAM Day that took place on April 2. Please let us know how we can help you over the summer!