

BOOK TALK

Summer Reading Program 2026



Unearth a story!

JULY 2026

BOOK TALK

PICTURE BOOKS

Aspinall, Joan K. **Dog biscuits for fish.** Devonshire, Bermuda : Some Child Books, 2019. **P ASP**

Ausenda, Becky. **A Bermudaful day for the King.** King Charles III joins in a child's birthday celebrations during his visit to St. George's Bermuda. [Bermuda] : [Becky Ausenda], [2026] **P AUS**

Avant-garde, Zaila. **Weird and wonderful you.** Nonconforming individuals celebrate their unique interests and embrace what makes them wonderfully weird. New York : Doubleday Books for Young Readers, 2025. **P AVA**

Avant-garde, Zaila. **Words of wonder from Z to A.** "Twenty-six inspirational words and thoughts from the 2021 Scripps National Spelling Bee champion"-- Provided by publisher. New York : Doubleday Books for Young Readers, 2023. **P AVA**

Bridwell, Norman. **Clifford goes to kindergarten.** "Clifford joins Emily Elizabeth for her first day of kindergarten! Emily Elizabeth is nervous about making new friends and missing home. But with Clifford by her side in class to sing songs and play games, Emily Elizabeth learns how much fun kindergarten can be!"--Page 4 of cover. New York, New York : Scholastic Inc., 2020. **P BRI**

Chen, Eva. **I am golden.** This moving ode to the immigrant experience, as well as a manifesto of self-love for Chinese American children, is a jubilant celebration of accepting who you are. New York : Feiwel and Friends, 2022. **P CHE**

EASY READER

Avant-garde, Zaila. **Words are magic!** Zaila Avante-garde, winner of the Scripps National Spelling Bee, invites readers to come along with her and sing about the magic and joy of words. Readers are encouraged to shout, rap, mix, and match words in a celebration of sounds, spelling, and reading. New York : Random House, 2024. **E AVA**

JUNIOR

KPop Demon Hunters : the official deluxe junior novelization. Rumi, Mira, and Zoey are the world-famous girl group HUNTR/X. When they aren't selling out stadiums, they protect the world from a force of powerful demons that have threatened the world for centuries. But have they met their match with the arrival of Saja Boys, an infuriatingly cute boy band who happen to be demons in disguise? New York : Random House, 2026. **J KPO**

INTERMEDIATE

Birdsall, Jeanne. **The library of unruly treasures.** "Gwen MacKinnon's parents are dreadful. Truly, deeply, almost impressively dreadful. So Gwen's not upset at all when she's foisted onto her never-before-seen Uncle Matthew for two weeks. Especially when it turns out he has a very opinionated dog named Pumpkin. Things take a turn for the weird when Gwen makes a

discovery in the local library. A discovery that involves tiny creatures with wings. And no, they're not birds. They're called Lahdukan. But why can only Gwen and the youngest children, gathered for storytime, see them? The Lahdukan insist that Gwen is destined to help them find a new home. But how can a girl as unwanted, uncourageous, and generally unheroic as Gwen possibly come to the rescue? Pumpkin has a few ideas..."-- Provided by publisher. New York : Alfred A. Knopf, [2025] **I BIR**

Ferry, Beth. **Growing home.** "A motley crew of talkative plants, a curious spider, and a grumpy goldfish use their newfound magical abilities to defend their family from a greedy human"-- Provided by publisher. New York : Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2025. **I FER**

Rundell, Katherine. **Impossible creatures.** One day a boy named Christopher rescued a baby griffin from drowning in a hidden lake, and his life changed forever. Learning about the Archipelago--a range of unmapped islands where creatures of legend have lived for thousands of years away from the human world--Christopher meets Mal, a girl on the run in need of help to discover why magical creatures--including sphinxes, dragons, griffins, and kraken--have started mysteriously dying. New York : Alfred A. Knopf, 2024. **I RUN**

Rundell, Katherine. **Impossible creatures.** Christopher Forrester is summoned back to the Archipelago by Jacques the dragon because dragons are dying and no one knows why. There he meets Princess Anya and her father who have fled the island of Dousha because her father is accused of murdering his father and Anya's grandfather, King Halam. They soon learn their quests are intertwined, and they begin working on discovering an antidote and looking for a way to stop the usurper to the throne. New York : Alfred A. Knopf, 2025. **I RUN**

NON-FICTION

Avant-garde, Zaila. **It's not bragging if it's true.** "Kids will be inspired to embrace their inner weirdness and persevere through obstacles after reading this empowering collection of true stories from teenage Scripps National Spelling Bee champ and Guinness World Record holder Zaila Avant-garde!"-- Provided by publisher. Buffalo, NY : Rosen Publishing, 2025. **158.1 A**

Cobb, Allan B. **The basics of chemistry.** This comprehensive yet approachable title allows students to learn about the important role chemistry plays in our daily lives, including its use in extracting valuable metals and fossil fuels in addition to creating renewable energy and life-saving pharmaceuticals. Students are guided in their understanding of technical language, in addition to other curriculum-aligned concepts, with engaging sidebars in addition to eye-catching images and diagrams. This title also provides inspiring biographical information about Linus Pauling, winner of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1954 for his research of chemical bonds. New York: Franklin Watts, 2015. **540 C**

Foley, Erin. **Costa Rica.** Surveys the geography, history, government, and culture of the oldest democracy in Latin America. New York : Cavendish Square, 2026. **972.86 F**

Hassig, Susan M. **Somalia.** Discusses the geography, history, government, economy, people, and culture of this peninsular African nation on the Indian Ocean. New York : Cavendish Square, 2026. **967.73 H**

Levy, Patricia. **Sudan**. Readers explore the many factors that contribute to Sudan's cultural identity as they examine focused chapters detailing the country's history, economy, geography, arts, and more. Each chapter is enhanced with photographs, sidebars, and fact boxes that foster a deeper appreciation of one of the many cultures of the world. In addition, recipes invite readers to get creative, and maps support the development of important curricular skills. New York : Cavendish Square, 2026. **962.4 L**

Marsh, Laura F. **Whales**. Details the migration patterns of sperm whales, revealing where they travel and what types of food they eat along the way. Discusses how humans are harming sperm whales' natural environment and examines what the reader can do to help. Includes full-color photographs and a glossary. Washington, D.C. : National Geographic, 2010. **599.5 M**

Sheehan, Sean. **Lebanon**. From isolated mountain peaks to the busy capital of Beirut, readers explore the many faces of life in Lebanon through this detailed guide to a fascinating nation. Focused chapters highlight Lebanon's history, government, environment, arts scene, and more, and each chapter is updated to include the most recent events in this nation. Fact boxes and sidebars provide additional information, and recipes add a creative twist to this reference resource. New York : Cavendish Square, 2026. **956.92 S**

South, Coleman. **Jordan**. Examines the geography, history, government, economy, and culture of Jordan. New York : Cavendish Square, 2026. **956.95 S**

Stavreva, Kirilka. **Bulgaria**. Bulgaria's location on the Black Sea has influenced its people's way of life for centuries. Readers explore the connection between this nation's geography, history, and culture through focused chapters that have been updated to include the most recent events in this Balkan nation. The comprehensive main text provides a detailed overview of life in this country, and colourful photographs highlight Bulgaria's land, cities, and people. New York : Cavendish Square, 2026. **949.9 S**

GRAPHIC NOVELS

Amini, Sara. **Mixed feelings**. While sixth-grader Sara Amini cannot find anyone who shares her Iranian-Colombian-American heritage, her best friend is abandoning her for another girl, making her feel more alone as a mixed-race, first-generation person with a desire to belong. [New York, N.Y.] : Graphix, an imprint of Scholastic, [2026] **GN AMI**

Cameron, Neill. **Carnival crisis**. Alex and Freddy face their greatest danger yet! The return of their most terrifying enemy, a robotic malware virus causing robots to rebel against humanity, and a growing anti-robot protest movement - it's a lot for two robot brothers to cope with. But when the robot malware strikes during the carnival, the danger dial shoots up to the max! Oxford : David Fickling Books, 2023. **GN CAM**

Cameron, Neill. **Double threat.** Alex and Freddy are super-powered robots, juggling school with saving the day. But being robot superheroes isn't easy, especially when there's a new enemy in town. Team Robotix, genius inventors, are determined to take down the Mega Robo Bros with one of their terrifying giant robots! Oxford : David Fickling Books, 2021. **GN CAM**

Cameron, Neill. **Final form.** After nearly causing a devastating catastrophe under the influence of the evil Robot 23, Freddy and Alex's lives will never be the same again. Evil plans are coming to fruition, and the grand schemes of the Mega Robo Bros' nemesis are finally revealed. The brothers will have to face their ultimate test - and their success or failure will decide the fate of all humans and robots, everywhere! Oxford : The Phoenix Comic Books, 2025. **GN CAM**

Cameron, Neill. **Meltdown.** The stakes have never been higher for the Mega Robo Bros! The evil robot Wolfram is back with a new scheme: to wipe out all human life on Earth! Only Alex and Freddy's mum knows the secrets of Wolfram's past, but will uncovering the truth be enough to stop his apocalyptic plans? Oxford : David Fickling Books, 2022. **GN CAM**

Cameron, Neill. **Nemesis.** The REVOLUTION malware is causing robots across London to attack humans, and Alex and Freddy are caught between their human friends and family, and the desire to help robots like themselves! Then an old enemy, long-since believed dead, suddenly reappears, and uses his evil powers to take over Freddy's robotic systems - and sends him to destroy London! Can Alex stop his brother - and save him from the corrupting evil power of the villainous Robot 23? Oxford : David Fickling Books, 2024. **GN CAM**

Cameron, Neill. **Next level.** Alex and Freddy's powers are growing, as is their fame. But with fame comes danger, intrigue and evil robot doppelgangers! Can Alex and Freddy save London - and themselves - from disaster? Oxford : David Fickling Books, 2023. **GN CAM**

Cameron, Neill. **Power up.** Alex and Freddy are two normal bickering brothers who also happen to be super powered robots. They're off on school trips, going to the theme park, and annoying each other in the playground. But when robot attacks take place over London, it's time for the boys to step up! Oxford : David Fickling Books, 2021. **GN CAM**

Cameron, Neill. **Robot revenge.** The Mega Robo Bros have a new and deadly threat to deal with - a half-destroyed robot called Wolfram, who is out for revenge! He's lured Alex and Freddy into a trap - so he can attack London! Will they be able to escape and save the day? Oxford : David Fickling Books, 2022. **GN CAM**

Pilkey, Dav. **Big Jim believes.** "The celebration comes to a halt for our heroes when the mischievous Space Cuties From Space return. Our caped crusaders--Dog Man (aka Scarlet Shedder), Commander Cupcake, and Sprinkles--along with Mecha Molly discover that the city has changed, and nothing is how it should be. Can Big Jim's positivity and innocence help our heroes? Will Dog Man, Big Jim, Grampa, and Molly have the courage to trust each other and save the day? How does the past help shape the future? And who is the chosen one?"-- Provided by publisher. New York : Graphix, an imprint of Scholastic, 2025. **GN PIL**

VOX BOOKS

Bailey, Linda. **If you happen to have a dinosaur.** A humorous survey of the practical things dinosaurs can do explains how otherwise unused dinosaurs can offer a perfect excuse for forgetting homework while also making good nutcrackers, kites, and burglar alarms. Toronto, Ontario : Tundra Books, [2025] **V P BAI**

John, Jory. **The humble pie.** The Humble Pie likes to give others the spotlight. Aw, shucks!-- they deserve it! But when he's paired with his best friend, Jake the Cake, for a school project, he soon realizes that staying in the shadows isn't always as sweet as pie. New York, NY : HarperCollins Children's Books, 2025. **V P JOH**

Mahoney, Kristin. **A pocket full of rocks.** Beginning with a pocketful of rocks found in the winter months, a young child finds interesting things to collect throughout the seasons: petals in the spring, seashells in the summer, and acorns in the fall. Though family members discourage the child from keeping his finds, the youngster finds a way to keep them all and make room for new things. New York : Alfred A. Knopf, [2025] **V P MAH**

McClellan, Ray. **The Loch Ness monster.** The legend of the Loch Ness monster goes back hundreds of years. Believers say that sightings and blurry photographs prove the existence of what appears to be a surviving dinosaur, while skeptics argue that it's a hoax. Beginning readers will be introduced to the elusive Nessie in this intriguing title. [Fairfax, Virginia] : [Library Ideas, LLC], 2021. **V E MCC**

Tuma, Refe. **What the dinosaurs did at school.** Photographs and simple text reveal the mischief that toy dinosaurs get into during school. [Fairfax, Virginia] : [Library Ideas, LLC], 2017. **V P TUM**