

SPN Summer Reading Project

For grades K-2: Choose *at least one* of the books listed in your grade band and complete one of the book report options.

For grades 3-5: Choose *at least two* of the books listed in your grade band and complete one of the book report options for each of your books. Do not repeat any options.

For grades 6-8: Choose *at least three* of the books listed in your grade band and complete one of the book report options for each of your books. Do not repeat any options

Book Report Options:

1. Write a letter to the main character and the character's reply. This could also be done as an email.
2. Book reports in a bag. Read a book and write a summary. Then decorate a paper grocery bag with a scene from the book, place five items that represent something from the book inside the bag, and “unpack” your bag on video.
3. Clothes hanger book report. Use a clothes hanger, strings, and paper to make a mobile with all the key elements of the book.
4. Write a different ending for the book.
5. Pretend you are a talk show host and interview the main character.
6. Create a travel brochure for the setting of the story or [scrapbook pages](#) about key characters.
7. Be a character therapist. Identify a character’s fear and find 8-10 scenes that prove this fear exists. Then write about ways the character overcame the fear in the story. What might the character have done differently?
8. Create a book jacket, including illustrations, an enticing synopsis, author bio, and favorable reviews.
9. Summarize the book into a comic or story aimed for younger students or your classmates.
10. Write a news article about an important event from the book.
11. Write about the decisions you would make if you were the main character in the book.
12. Post a [book review](#) on [Share What You're Reading](#).

13. Choose two characters from the story and write a conversation they might have.
14. Write a letter or email to a close friend recommending the book you have just read.
15. Prepare a television commercial about your book. Act out the commercial and record it on video.
16. Explain why you think this book will or will not be read 100 years from now. Support your opinion by stating specific events in the story.
17. Discuss one particular episode in the story that you remember most. Describe why you think it remains so clear to you.
18. Write a letter/email to the author of your book. Address it to the publisher and mail it. Or, see if the author has a website and email it.
19. Write a ballad or song about the characters and events in your story. Set the words to the music of a popular song and sing it on video.
20. Describe in detail three characters from the story. List reasons why you would or wouldn't want to get to know these people.
21. Design a poster or new book cover depicting the climax of the story.
22. Write an acrostic poem about the book using the letters in the title of the book or the name of a character or author.
23. Draw a poster depicting a major scene(s) from the book.
24. Create a yearbook based on the characters and setting in the book. What do they look like? Cut out magazine pictures to give a good visual image for their school picture. What kind of superlative might they get?
25. Current events comparison. Locate 3-5 current event articles a character in the book might be interested in. Then explain why the character would find them interesting and how they relate to the book.

Grades K-2

All Are Welcome

by Alexandra Penfold, Illustrated by Suzanne Kaufman
KNOPF, 2018
ISBN: 9780525579649

A group of diverse students is shown throughout the school day having fun together, with an emphasis on how all are welcome. The story ends at a neighborhood gathering where all are welcome!

All the Animals Where I Live

by Phillip C. Stead
ROARING BROOK, 2018
ISBN: 9781626726567

Follow the story of the author, who recently moved from the city to the country, and see the moments that shape his and his dog Wednesday's world.

Alma and How She Got Her Name

by Juana Martínez-Neal
CANDLEWICK PRESS, 2018
ISBN: 9780763693558

Alma learns the stories behind the wonderful people who influenced her name.

Another

by Christian Robinson
ATHEANEUM, 2019
ISBN: 9781534421677

In this wordless picture book, readers are taken on a fantastical journey through a young girl's dream.

Auntie Luce's Talking Paintings

by Francie Latour, Illustrated by Ken Daley
GROUNDWOOD BOOKS, 2018
ISBN: 9781773060415

A young girl explores her identity and culture through her aunt's striking artwork.

Camp Tiger

by Susan Choi, Illustrated by John Rocco
PUTNAM, 2019
ISBN: 9780399173295

A young boy finds friendship in a talking tiger while on his family's camping trip. Along with the amazing pictures, readers will love the adventure these two have.

Carl and the Meaning of Life

by Deborah Freeman
VIKING, 2019
ISBN: 9780451474988

Carl is an earthworm who wonders why he matters in this ecological and philosophical picture book.

Dreamers

by Yuyi Morales
NEAL PORTER BOOKS, 2018
ISBN: 9780823440559

Morales and her young son discover how they fit into their strange, new country when they find the public library in this gorgeous, personal picture book.

Fox the Tiger

by Corey R. Tabor
BALZER + BRAY, 2018
ISBN: 9780062398697

Fox wishes he were a tiger—fast and big and sneaky—and pretends to be one, until

he meets someone who likes him for being a fox—fast and big and sneaky.

Hey, Water!

by Antoinette Portis
NEAL PORTER BOOKS, 2019
ISBN: 9780823441556

Zoe thinks about all the ways we see water in the world in this cheerfully illustrated poem. Curious minds will enjoy additional information about water and conservation at the end.

Jabari Jumps

by Gala Cornwall
CANDLEWICK, 2017
ISBN: 9780763678388

The big moment has come for Jabari to jump off the diving board, but is he ready?

Just in Case You Want to Fly

by Julie Fogliano, Illustrated by Christian Robinson
NEAL PORTER BOOKS, 2019
ISBN: 9780823443444

What do you need for your next adventure? Explore this nurturing tale through colorful pictures and lyrical text.

Llama Destroys the World

by Jonathan Stutzman, Illustrated by Heather Fox
HENRY HOLT, 2019
ISBN: 9781250303172

A funny, silly llama eats too much cake, and the resulting silliness takes the reader on a rollicking journey through his wild adventures.

Meet Yasmin!

by Saadia Faruqi, Illustrated by Hatem Aly
PICTURE WINDOW, 2018
ISBN: 9781684360222

Meet Yasmin, a bright, fun Pakistani American second-grader. With her oversize imagination and a little help from her family, there's no problem she can't solve.

Mia Mayhem Is a Superhero!

by Kara West, Illustrated by Leeza Hernandez
LITTLE SIMON, 2018
ISBN: 9781534432703

Mia embarks on a super journey after finding out that she has a super secret.

My Papi Has a Motorcycle

by Isabel Quintero, Illustrated by Zeke Peña
KOKILA, 2019
ISBN: 9780525553410

Daisy and her papi take a spin on his motorcycle, taking in the sights and sounds of their beloved neighborhood.

Our Celebración!

by Susan Middleton Elya, Illustrated by Ana Aranda
LEE & LOW, 2018
ISBN: 9781620142714

Join a spirited, bilingual summer fiesta complete with a parade, costumes, and fireworks.

The Patchwork Bike

by Maxine Beneba Clarke, Illustrated by Van Thanh Rudd
CANDLEWICK, 2018
ISBN: 9781536200317

Against a backdrop of dynamic, action-filled paintings, a young girl describes, with tremendous pride, the bike that she and her brothers made from scrap material, and the adventures they have.

Peter & Ernesto: The Lost Sloths

by Graham Annable
FIRST SECOND, 2019
ISBN: 9781626725720

When a hurricane blows their tree away, Peter, Ernesto, and their friends must find a new tree suitable for a group of sloths.

The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family

by Ibtihaj Muhammad and S. K. Ali, Illustrated by Hatem Aly
LITTLE, BROWN, 2019
ISBN: 9780316519007

Faizah's older sister, Asiya, is a princess. She certainly looks like one on her first day of sixth grade and her first day wearing her beautiful, bold blue headscarf to school.

Saturday

by Oge Mora
LITTLE, BROWN, 2019
ISBN: 9780316431279

Ava's mom works all week long, but Saturday is their special day off! When their plans don't go as expected, can Ava and her mom still have a perfect day?

Skulls!

by Blair Thornburgh, Illustrated by Scott Campbell
ATHEANEUM, 2019
ISBN: 9781534414006

A book all about skulls and their many functions!

Summer

by Cao Wenxuan, Illustrated by Yu Rong
MACMILLAN, 2019
ISBN: 9781250310064

Readers find out how some of their favorite animals stay cool during the summertime in this whimsical, poetic book.

We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga

by Traci Sorell, Illustrated by Frané Lessac
CHARLESBRIDGE, 2018
ISBN: 9781580897723

Following a full Cherokee year of celebrations and experiences, this book shares the contemporary life of the Cherokee people, highlighting their tradition of gratitude.

Where Are You From?

by Yamilé Saied Méndez, Illustrated by Jaime Kim
HARPERCOLLINS, 2019
ISBN: 9780062839930

A young girl is asked where she is from, so she turns to her abuelo for help answering and gets a very unexpected response.

Grades 3-5:

Aquicorn Cove

by Katie O'Neill, illustrated by the author

ONI, 2018
ISBN: 9781620105290

Lana discovers the Aquicorns, magical sea-dwelling creatures who need her help to stop the overfishing that is destroying their home.

The Book of Boy

by Catherine Gilbert Murdock

GREENWILLOW, 2018
ISBN: 9780062686206

In 1350, Boy, an orphaned servant, is hired to accompany a shadowy pilgrim on an action-filled quest across medieval Europe for the seven relics of St. Peter.

The Cardboard Kingdom

by Chad Sell, illustrated by the author

KNOPF, 2018
ISBN: 9781524719371

A diverse group of kids create their own world of play and safe self-expression using a little cardboard and a lot of imagination.

Clayton Byrd Goes Underground

by Rita Williams-Garcia, illustrated by Frank Morrison

AMISTAD, 2017
ISBN: 9780062215918

When his beloved grandfather, the blues man Cool Papa Byrd, dies suddenly, Clayton's anger and misplaced alliances get him into trouble. This story of family grief, reconciliation, and the power of music is set in New York City.

Front Desk

by Kelly Yang

ARTHUR A. LEVINE, 2018
ISBN: 9781338157796

A young girl and her family manage a motel and adjust

to a new life in America after emigrating from China.

Granted

by John David Anderson

WALDEN POND, 2018
ISBN: 9780062643865

What happens when you make a wish? In this story, it may get assigned to a fairy whose job is to make it come true, even if it almost kills her.

Indian No More

by Charlene Willing McManis and Traci Sorell

TU, 2019, ISBN: 9781620148396

Ten-year-old Regina Petit is Umpqua and lives on the Grand Ronde reservation. When the federal government signs a bill saying Regina's tribe no longer exists, Regina struggles to understand what it means to be "Indian no more."

Knights vs. Dinosaurs

by Matt Phelan, illustrated by the author

GREENWILLOW, 2018
ISBN: 9780062686237

Action and comedy rule when boasting sends four of King Arthur's knights back in time to battle a legion of "terrible lizards."

The Last Last-Day-of-Summer

by Lamar Giles, illustrations by Dapo Adeola

VERIFY, 2019
ISBN: 9781328460837

On the last day of summer, local crime-solving celebrities and cousins Sheed and Otto encounter members of an interdimensional community battling between good and evil. The boys join the fight when they accidentally freeze time.

The Lost Girl

by Anne Ursu

WALDEN POND, 2019
ISBN: 9780062275097

Twins Iris and Lark are challenged by their first school year in separate classrooms, as well as a mystery involving crows, missing belongings, and a strange new shop in their town.

Mañanaland

by Pam Muñoz Ryan

SCHOLASTIC, 2020
ISBN: 9781338157864

In this magical story, Maximiliano Córdoba goes on a dangerous journey armed only with a compass, a mysterious stone rubbing, and the legends Buelo told about traveling mythical gatekeepers.

Other Words for Home

by Jasmine Warga

BALZER + BRAY, 2019
ISBN: 9780062747808

In this novel in verse, 12-year-old Jude does her best to adjust to American life after she and her mother travel alone to live with relatives as violence approaches their home city in Syria.

The Parker Inheritance

by Varian Johnson

ARTHUR A. LEVINE, 2018
ISBN: 9780545946179

Candice would rather be home in Atlanta with her friends this summer, instead of where she is, in her grandmother's small town of Lambert, South Carolina. But the discovery of clues to an intricate puzzle entwined in the town's complicated history could lead to a hidden fortune.

Rocket to the Moon! Big Ideas That Changed the World

by Don Brown, illustrated by the author

HARRY N. ABRAMS, 2019,
9781419734045

Taking readers through the history of rocket building, this title explores the people and technology that made the moon landing possible. First in a series.

Ruby in the Sky

by Jeanne Zulick Ferruolo

FARRAR, STRAUS AND GIROUX, 2019
ISBN: 9780374309053

Ruby knows that she and her mom will not be living in Vermont for long, so she is determined to not get attached. When her mom is arrested, she realizes they will be there a bit longer than she originally planned.

Sanity & Tallulah

by Molly Brooks, illustrated by the author

DISNEY-HYPERION, 2018
ISBN: 9781368008440

Two best friends decide to engineer a three-headed kitten named Princess Sparkle, Destroyer of Worlds. If only her name didn't turn out to be a little too appropriate.

Sarai and the Meaning of Awesome

by Monica Brown and Sarai Gonzalez, illustrated by Christine Almeda

SCHOLASTIC, 2018
ISBN: 9781338256682

For Sarai, awesome means amazing, love, family, and fun... and it's going to take all that and more to help save the day.

The Simple Art of Flying

by Cory Leonardo

ALADDIN, 2019
ISBN: 9781534420991

A pair of brother-and-sister parrots navigate the perils of living in a pet shop, which means trying to stay together while also spreading their wings. Told from the perspective of the brother parrot, this book offers a unique perspective on relationships and coming of age.

Stanley Will Probably Be Fine

by Sally J. Pla, illustrated by Steve Wolfhard

HARPERCOLLINS, 2018
ISBN: 9780062445797

Stanley struggles to fit in, so he creates an imaginary superhero named John Lockdown who helps him compete in Trivia Quest, a comics-trivia scavenger hunt.

Sweeping Up the Heart

by Kevin Henkes

GREENWILLOW, 2019
ISBN: 9780062852540

Amelia is disappointed to be stuck at home for spring break, but when she meets a new friend at a local art studio who claims to see the spirit of her dead mother, the week takes an exciting turn.

Sweep: The Story of a Girl and Her Monster

by Jonathan Auxier

HARRY N. ABRAMS, 2018
ISBN: 9781419731402

Nan is an orphan living alone and working in a dangerous, cruel world. She discovers a friendly monster, and together they try to start a new life.

To Night Owl from Dogfish

by Holly Goldberg Sloan and Meg Wolitzer

DIAL, 2019
ISBN: 9780525553236

Twelve-year-olds Avery and Bett discover their dads are dating and plan to send the girls to summer camp to meet, while they vacation in China. The girls develop a long-distance friendship via email and letters, first to thwart their fathers' plans and then to reunite them when the men break up.

Twinchantment

by Elise Allen

DISNEY-HYPERION, 2019
ISBN: 9781368008624

Twin princesses must save their mother after magic resurfaces in their kingdom; they do so with the help of some newfound friends, a brave servant and his black kitten.

We're Not from Here

by Geoff Rodkey

CROWN, 2019
ISBN: 9781524773045

Follow the story of a family from Earth who moves to a new planet in this sci-fi adventure that explores concepts such as immigration, culture shock, and a galaxy of differences.

What a Waste: Trash, Recycling, and Protecting Our Planet

by Jess French

DK CHILDREN, 2019
ISBN: 9781465481412

What can we do to keep our home, planet Earth, healthy?

Grades 6-8

Be Prepared

by Vera Brosgol, illustrated by the author

FIRST SECOND, 2018
ISBN: 9781626724457

Laugh, cringe, and root for Vera as she navigates Russian summer camp.

Beverly, Right Here

by Kate DiCamillo

CANDLEWICK, 2019
ISBN: 9780763694647

After the unbearable loss of her dog, Beverly Tapinski runs away from her troubled home to a small Florida beach town where a quirky cast of characters helps her pick up the pieces of her heart.

The Bridge Home

by Padma Venkatraman

NANCY PAULSEN BOOKS, 2019
ISBN: 9781524758112

Runaway sisters Viji and Rukku end up living on the streets of Chennai, where they find a new family of friends who help them to survive by scavenging the city's mountains of rubbish.

Caterpillar Summer

by Gillian McDunn

BLOOMSBURY, 2019
ISBN: 9781681974332

An unexpected change in plans leaves Caterpillar to navigate an adventurous summer with her brother, who is autistic.

Dissenter on the Bench: Ruth Bader Ginsburg's Life and Work

by Victoria Ortiz

CLARION, 2019
ISBN: 9780544973640

This biography provides highlights from the iconic Supreme Court justice's life and career and will inspire young readers to change the world.

Each Tiny Spark

by Pablo Cartaya

KOKILA, 2019
ISBN: 9780451479723

When Emilia Torres's father returns from deployment, he's not quite the same, but they're able to bond over welding.

I Can Make This Promise

by Christine Day

HARPERCOLLINS, 2019
ISBN: 9780062871992

Eddie discovers a mysterious box in the attic, filled with pictures of a woman who looks just like her. The discovery is the beginning of a journey to uncover her family's secrets and find her own Native American identity.

Ivy Aberdeen's Letter to the World

by Ashley Herring Blake

LITTLE, BROWN, 2018
ISBN: 9780316515467

After a devastating tornado hits her town and destroys her home, Ivy Aberdeen develops a crush on another girl at school.

Just Jaime

by Terri Libenson, illustrated by the author

BALZER + BRAY, 2019
ISBN: 9780062851062

The last day of seventh grade has Jaime and Maya wondering who their real friends are: What do you do when it feels like you're drifting apart from your best friend? How can you tell who is a true friend?

Look Both Ways: A Tale Told in Ten Blocks

by Jason Reynolds, illustrated by Alexander Nabaum

ATHENEUM, 2019
ISBN: 9781481438285

Ten concurrent stories, ten captivating characters, one school bus falling from the sky.

Marcus Vega Doesn't Speak Spanish

by Pablo Cartaya

VIKING, 2018
ISBN: 9781101997260

Marcus just wants to help his single mom get by and protect his brother from bullies, but he creates more problems than he solves. His mother decides a trip to visit family in Puerto Rico is just the thing they need.

New Kid

by Jerry Craft, illustrated by the author

HARPERCOLLINS, 2019
ISBN: 9780062691200

Seventh-grader Jordan Banks navigates a new private school lauded for its academics. The school is lacking in both diversity and art, making the transition difficult for art-loving African American Jordan.

The Night Diary

by Veera Hiranandani

KOKILA, 2018
ISBN: 9780735228511

A gripping story of one family's flight from Pakistan during the partition of India in 1947, as told by twelve-year-old Nisha to her diary.

Nowhere Boy

by Katherine Marsh

ROARING BROOK, 2018
ISBN: 9781250307576

When Max finds Ahmed, a Syrian refugee, hiding alone in his basement in Belgium, Max decides to help Ahmed by keeping him secret and safe.

Pay Attention, Carter Jones

by Gary D. Schmidt

CLARION, 2019
ISBN: 9780544790858

Carter's first day of middle school gets off to an unusual start: he opens his front door and finds an English butler standing on the doorstep, sent by his late grandfather to help mend the family.

Peasprout Chen, Future Legend of Skate and Sword

by Henry Lien

HENRY HOLT, 2018
ISBN: 9781250165695

Peasprout and her brother, Cricket, are accepted into Pearl Famous Academy of Skate and Sword to study wu liu, martial arts figure skating. High-stakes competition, political intrigue, and more await them. First in a series.

Putting Peace First: 7 Commitments to Change the World

by Eric Dawson

VIKING, 2018
ISBN: 9781101997338

Learn how to make a difference and spread peace in the world NOW with this step-by-step guide to putting your visions into practice.

Queen of the Sea

by Dylan Meconis, illustrated by the author

WALKER, 2019
ISBN: 9781536204988

History is reimaged in this graphic novel retelling of the exile of Queen Elizabeth I.

The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise

by Dan Gemeinhart

HENRY HOLT, 2019
ISBN: 9781250196705

Coyote Sunrise and her dad travel the country in their school bus. Along the way, they meet new friends who help them see their world in a new way and heal from the tragedy that hit their family five years earlier.

Sal and Gabi Break the Universe

by Carlos Hernandez

RICK RIORDAN PRESENTS, 2019
ISBN: 9781368022828

Cuban culture is woven through this zany sci-fi story told by 13-year-old Sal, an aspiring magician who can rip holes in the fabric of the universe.

Sci-Fu

by Yehudi Mercado, illustrated by the author

ONI PRESS, 2018
ISBN: 9781620104729

It's 1980s Brooklyn, and Wax just scratched the perfect beat, attracting the attention of an evil alien robot who transports his family, best friend, and crush to the planet Discopia, where Wax must master the art of sci-fu if he wants to fight the bad guys, save the universe, and get back to Earth.

The Season of Styx Malone

by Kekla Magoon

WENDY LAMB BOOKS, 2018
ISBN: 9781524715953

An ordinary summer is upended with a splash when Styx Malone, who is sixteen and oozes cool, moves to town and befriends brothers Caleb and Bobby.

Song for a Whale

by Lynne Kelly

DELACORTE, 2019
ISBN: 9781524770235

Iris, who struggles to communicate with others because she is deaf, feels a kinship with a whale in a similar situation thousands of miles away and tries to make a connection.

The Stars beneath Our Feet

by David Barclay Moore

KNOPF, 2017
ISBN: 9781524701246

In the wake of his brother's death, a gift of LEGOs sets 12-year-old Lolly on a journey to find himself and a community in his Harlem neighborhood.

Us, in Progress: Short Stories about Young Latinos

by Lulu Delacre, illustrated by the author

HARPERCOLLINS, 2017
ISBN: 9780062392145

A collection of short stories offering refreshing and nuanced depictions of young Latinx boys and girls growing up in the United States.

White Bird: A Wonder Story

by R. J. Palacio, illustrated by the author and Kevin Czap

KNOPF, 2019
ISBN: 9780525645535

The grandmother of Wonder's Julian tells him the story of her experience during World War II, where she had to hide in a barn to escape persecution from the Nazis.

MORE BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS:

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