

A Book Set Outside the U.S.

Book Suggestions for the September Student Reading Challenge

Picture Books:

Updated 8/2025

Call Number:	Title:	Location:
E Atinuke	<i>Catch That Chicken</i> by Atinuke	Nigeria
E Bemelmans L	<i>Madeline</i> by Ludwig Bemelmans	France
E DePaola T	<i>Big Anthony: His Story</i> by Tomie DePaola	Italy
E Engle M	<i>All The Way to Havana</i> by Margarita Engle	Cuba
E Hernandez K	<i>I am La Chiva!: The Colorful Bus of the Andes</i> by Karol Hernández	Columbia
E Khan N	<i>Room for Everyone</i> by Naaz Khan	Zanzibar
E LaRocca R	<i>Where Three Oceans Meet</i> by Rajani LaRocca	India
E Latham I	<i>The Cat Man of Aleppo</i> by Irene Latham	Syria
E Maclear K	<i>The Big Bath House</i> by Kyo Maclear	Japan
E Maclear K	<i>Noodles on a Bicycle</i> by Kyo Maclear	Japan
E Martinez-Neal J	<i>Zonia's Rain Forest</i> by Juana Martinez-Neal	Peru
E Phung N	<i>My First Day</i> by Nguyen Quang Phung	Vietnam
E Sehgal K	<i>The Wheels on the Tuk Tuk</i> by Kabir Sehgal	India
E Suleiman S	<i>Hilwa's Gifts</i> by Safa Suleiman	Palestine
E Verde S	<i>The Water Princess</i> by Susan Verde	Burkina Faso
E Wang A	<i>The House Before Falling Into The Sea</i> by Ann Suk Wang	Korea

Early Chapter Books:

Call Number:	Title:	Location:
[GRAPHIC] j My	<i>My Beijing: Four Stories of Everyday Wonder</i>	China
j Atinuke	Anna Hibiscus series (<i>Anna Hibiscus</i>)	Nigeria
j Atinuke	Too Small Tola series (<i>Too Small Tola</i>)	Nigeria
j Krishnaswami U	<i>Book Uncle and Me</i>	India
j McCall Smith A	Akimbo series (<i>Akimbo and the Elephants</i>)	Kenya
j McCall Smith A	Precious Ramotswe's First Cases (<i>The Great Cake Mystery</i>)	Botswana
j Mutinda D	<i>Hockey Night in Kenya</i>	Kenya
j Paris H	Greetings from Somewhere series	
	<i>The Mystery of the Mosaic</i>	Italy
	<i>The Mystery of the Stolen Painting</i>	France
	<i>The Mystery of the Forbidden City</i>	China
	<i>The Mystery of the Lion's Tail</i>	Kenya
	<i>The Mystery of the Suspicious Spices</i>	Mumbai
	<i>The Mystery Across the Secret Bridge</i>	Peru
	<i>The Mystery at the Coral Reef</i>	Australia
	<i>The Mystery at the Secret Society</i>	Greece
j Soundar C	Sona Sharma series (<i>Sona Sharma, Very Best Big Sister?</i>)	India
j Willems M	<i>The Story of Diva and Flea</i>	France

Chapter Books:

Call Number:	Title:	Location:
[GRAPHIC] j First Time	<i>A First Time for Everything</i> by Dan Santat	European countries
[GRAPHIC] j Mexikid	<i>Mexikid: A Graphic Memoir</i> by Pedro Martin	Mexico
[GRAPHIC] j Other Side of Tomorrow	<i>The Other Side of Tomorrow</i> by Tina Cho	Korea
[GRAPHIC] j When	<i>When Stars Are Scattered</i> by Victoria Jamieson	Somalia / Kenya
j Ahn F	<i>A Brush with Magic</i> by Flora Ahn	Korea
j Bajaj V	<i>Thirst</i> by Varsha Bajaj	Mumbai
j / [BETWEEN] Blankman A	<i>The Blackbird Girls</i> by Anne Blankman	Ukraine / Russia
j Cao W	<i>Bronze and Sunflower</i> by Wenzuan Cao	China
j Compestine Y	<i>Morning Sun in Wuhan</i> by Ying Chang Compestine	China
j Dobbs A	<i>The Barefoot Dreams of Petra Luna</i> by Alda P Dobbs	Mexico
j Faruqi S	<i>A Thousand Questions</i> by Saadia Faruqi	Pakistan
j Funke C	<i>The Thief Lord</i> by Cornelia Funke	Italy
j Hiranandani V	<i>The Night Diary</i> by Veera Hiranandani	India
j Kelkar S	<i>Ahimsa</i> by Supriya Kelkar	India
j Lai T	<i>Listen, Slowly</i> by Thanhha Lai	Vietnam
j Okorafor N	<i>Ikenqa</i> by Nnedi Okorafor	Nigeria
j / [BETWEEN] Park L	<i>A Long Walk to Water</i> by Linda Sue Park	Sudan
j Perkins M	<i>Tiger Boy</i> by Mitali Perkins	India
j Pinkney A	<i>The Red Pencil</i> by Andrea Davis Pinkney	Sudan
j Rosner A	<i>Eyes on the Ice</i> by Anna Rosner	Czechoslovakia
j Ryan P	<i>The Dreamer</i> by Pam Muñoz Ryan	Chile
j Smith P	<i>Dawn Raid</i> by Pauline Vaeluaga Smith	New Zealand
j Venkatraman P	<i>The Bridge Home</i> by Padma Venkatraman	India
j Yelchin E	<i>Breaking Stalin's Nose</i> by Eugene Yelchin	Russia

Teen:

Call Number:	Title:	Location:
[BETWEEN] Abdel-Fattah R	<i>Where the Streets Had A Name</i> by Randa Abdel-Fattah	Israel
[BETWEEN] Behar R	<i>Letters from Cuba</i> by Ruth Behar	Cuba
[BETWEEN] Ellis D	<i>The Breadwinner</i> trilogy by Deborah Ellis	Afghanistan
[BETWEEN] Perkins M	<i>Bamboo People</i> by Mitali Perkins	Myanmar
[BETWEEN] Saeed A	<i>Amal Unbound</i> by Aisha Saeed	Pakistan
[BETWEEN] Sepetys R	<i>Between Shades of Gray</i> by Ruta Sepetys	Lithuania
YA Cho K	Gumiho series by Kat Cho (<i>Wicked Fox</i>)	S. Korea

Call Number:	Title:	Location:
YA Engle M	<i>Your Heart, My Sky: Love in a Time of Hunger</i> by Margarita Engle	Cuba
YA Farizan S	<i>If You Could Be Mine</i> by Sara Faizan	Iran
YA Gong C	<i>These Violent Delights</i> series by Chloe Gong	China
YA Hanna Alkaf	<i>The Weight of Our Sky</i> by Hanna Alkaf	Kuala Lumpur
YA Jean E	<i>Tokyo Ever After</i> by Emiko Jean	Japan
YA Khan S	<i>The Love & Lies of Rukhsana Ali</i> by Sabina Khan	Bangladesh
YA Khorram A	<i>Darius the Great is Not Okay</i> by Adib Khorram	Iran
YA Mendez Y	<i>Furia</i> by Yamile Saied Méndez	Argentina
YA Okorafor N	Akata series by Nnedi Okorafor (<i>Akata Witch</i>)	Nigeria
YA Pan E	<i>The Astonishing Color of After</i> by Emily X.R. Pan	Taiwan
YA Perkins S	<i>Anna and the French Kiss</i> by Stephanie Perkins	France
YA Sepetys R	<i>Fountains of Silence</i> by Ruta Sepetys	Spain
YA Skye E	<i>The Crown's Game</i> series by Evelyn Skye	Russia
YA Torres Sanchez J	<i>We Are Not From Here</i> by Jenny Torres Sanchez	Guatemala / Mexico
YA Wein E	<i>Code Name Verity</i> series by Elizabeth Wein	WWII Europe