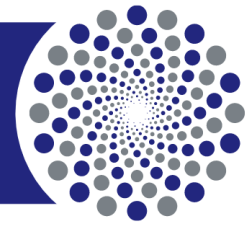


❖ 6th Grade ❖

Best Books of 2022



We aim to provide high quality lists featuring books of different genres, interests, maturity levels, and content for children & teens. You and your parents/guardians are the best judge of what's appropriate for you.

Best Books lists from previous years may be obtained by request at the Youth Services desk.

**Additional formats available from other libraries and/or downloadable from Libby.*

Adam, Jennifer – *Lark and the Wild Hunt*

+Adam, Fiction*

When her brother disappears into the Fae realm, twelve-year-old Lark must try to save him by solving riddles, fixing an ancient clock, and trusting her new Fae friend, Rook.

Barnett, Mac – *The First Cat in Space Ate Pizza*

+Barnett, Graphic Novels*

Accompanied by the imperious Moon Queen and LOZ 4000, a toenail clipping robot, the First Cat in Space journeys across a fantastic lunar landscape in a quest to save the world. Will these unlikely heroes save the moon in time?

Bowles, David – *They Call Her Fregona: A Border Kid's Poems*

+Bowles, Fiction*

Güero learns to balance band practice with his crew, Los Bobbys, and being Joanna's boyfriend. They call her "fregona" because she's tough, always sticking up for her family and keeping a school bully in check. But Güero sees her softness.

Buxbaum, Julie – *The Area 51 Files*

+Buxbaum, Fiction*

When Sky is sent to live with her mysterious uncle, she never imagines she'll end up in Area 51, a top-secret military base with a bajillion rules. Sky feels like she's landed in a whole new world because Area 51 is full of aliens!

Callender, Kacen – *Moonflower*

+Callender, Fiction*

Moon's only escape from their overwhelming depression is traveling to the spirit realms every night. That's where their only friend, Wolf, is and where they're excited to experience an infinite number of adventures.

Christmas, Johnnie – *Swim Team*

+Christmas, Graphic Novels*

Bree can't wait for the first day at her new middle school, until she's stuck with the only elective that fits her schedule, Swim 101. The thought of swimming makes Bree more than a little queasy, yet she's forced to dive into her fear.

Eagle, Judith – *The Pear Affair*

+Eagle, Fiction*

While accompanying her parents to Paris, twelve-year-old Nell sets off to investigate the disappearance of her beloved, former au pair, affectionately known as Pear.

Getten, Kereen – *If You Read This*

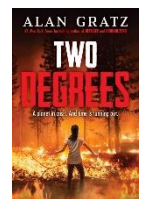
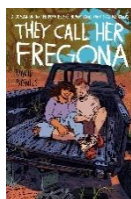
+Getten, Fiction

Brie's mama used to surprise her with treasure hunts. After she died, these were Brie's favorite memories. Now, her mama has another surprise: a series of letters leading Brie on a treasure hunt that will change life as she knows it.

Gratz, Alan – *Two Degrees*

+Gratz, Fiction*

In parallel narratives, four young people simultaneously experience the harrowing effects of climate change. An important message delivered with wrenching, dramatic urgency.

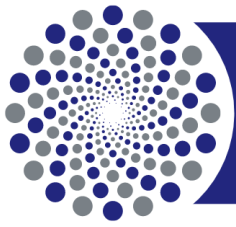


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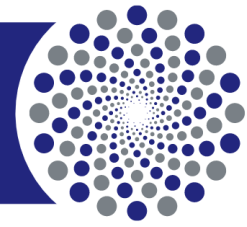
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❖ 6th Grade ❖

Best Books of 2022



Haddix, Margaret Peterson – *Mysteries of Trash and Treasure: The Secret Letters*

+Haddix, Fiction; +Haddix, Digital Audio Players*

Two sets of friends, separated by 50 years, are at the heart of this engrossing historical fiction and mystery tale. Woven within is a complex tapestry of different genres, timelines, and generations of characters in a can't-put-it-down novel.

Howell, Destiny – *High Score*

+Howell, Fiction*

Oceans 11 goes to the arcade in this wildly entertaining heist adventure.

Kwame, Alexander – *The Door of No Return*

YA Kwame, Fiction*

A boy's life is turned upside down following a wrestling match in West Africa. This novel in verse places readers alongside Kofi, thriving as a young boy surrounded by family love and legacy before being abruptly kidnapped.

Levi, Lia – *Just a Girl: A True Story of World War II*

+940.53 Lev*

In this award-winning memoir translated from Italian to English, a Jewish girl grows up during a difficult time of racial discrimination and war, and discovers light in unexpected places. A classic, powerful story adapted for young readers.

Levine, Gail Carson – *Sparrows in the Wind*

+Levine, Fiction*

Trojan princess Cassandra is cursed by Apollo with the gift of prophecy, and must try to find her place in a world that she knows to be perilous. Years later, will her friendship with a young Amazon princess named Rin help her to avert a war?

Lloyd, Natalie – *Hummingbird*

+Lloyd, Fiction*

When Olive, who suffers from brittle bone disease, finally attends school in person she discovers fitting in is hard, but if she can find the magical wish-granting hummingbird, and prove herself worthy, maybe her deepest wish will be granted.

Lukoff, Kyle – *Different Kinds of Fruit*

+Lukoff, Fiction*

When Annabelle learns that her father shares something big and surprising in common with her new nonbinary friend, she begins to see herself, and her family, in a whole new light.

Luqman-Dawson, Amina – *Freewater*

+Luqman-Dawson, Fiction*

After fleeing the plantation where they were enslaved, siblings Ada and Homer discover the secret community of Freewater, and work with freeborn Sanzi to protect their new home from the encroaching dangers of the outside world.

Magoon, Kekla – *Chester Keene Cracks the Code*

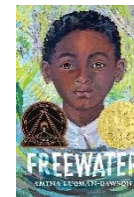
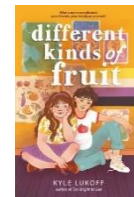
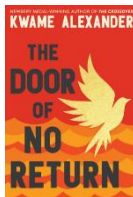
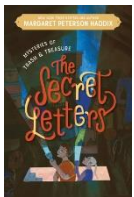
+Magoon, Fiction*

Eleven-year-old Chester and his classmate Skye, tasked with a complex puzzle-solving mission, discover the key to their spy assignment is to stop a heist, but cracking the code could mean finding out things are not always what they seem.

Moore, David Barclay – *Holler of the Fireflies*

+Moore, Fiction*

Javari knew that West Virginia would be different from his home in Bushwick, Brooklyn. But his first day at STEM Camp in Appalachia is still a shock. Javari will learn a lot about science, as well as rich people, racism, and hidden agendas.

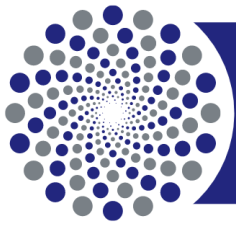


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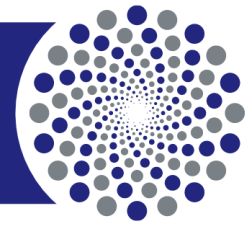


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❖ 6th Grade ❖ Best Books of 2022



Older, Daniel José – *Outlaw Saints: Ballad & Dagger* **YA Older, Fiction***
When Mateo and Chela discover each other and their powers during a political battle between neighborhood factions, they set aside their differences to unravel a mystery behind their homeland and to stop a dangerous political operative.

Ormsbee, Kathryn – *Growing Pangs* **+Ormsbee, Graphic Novels***
Homeschooled Katie experiences the ups and downs of growing up and 6th grade, from bad haircuts and friendship breakups to new experiences, new friends, and a new understanding of her OCD.

Ortega, Claribel A. – *Witchlings* **+Ortega, Fiction***
It's the night of the Black Moon Ceremony, when Witchlings in Ravenskill are assigned to their covens, and the one thing Seven hopes to avoid is being made a Spare Witch. Energetic and intelligent; invites readers to question the status quo.

Partridge, Elizabeth – *Seen and Unseen* **+940.53 Par, Non-Fiction***
Through the work of three prominent photographers, this nonfiction picture book for middle grade readers examines the Japanese-American incarceration and the complexity of documenting it.

Pasternack, Sofiya – *Black Bird, Blue Road* **+Pasternack, Fiction***
Pesah has lived with leprosy for years before he has a vision: The Angel of Death will come for him on Rosh Hashanah. So Ziva runs away with her brother to find doctors who can cure him. A story about the unshakable love of brave siblings.

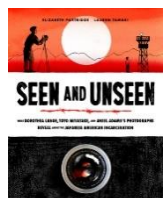
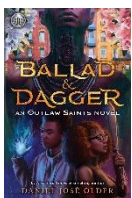
Pérez, Celia C. – *Tumble* **+Pérez, Fiction***
Before she decides whether she wants her stepfather to adopt her, Adela reaches out to her estranged biological father and the extended family of wrestlers she has never met, bringing Adela closer to understanding the definition of family.

Reynolds, Jason – *Ain't Burned All the Bright* **YA 811.6 Rey, Non-Fiction***
A smash up of art and poetry that viscerally captures what it is to be Black. In America. Right Now.

Rogers, Alexandria – *The Witch, the Sword, and the Cursed Knights* **+Rogers, Fiction***
Much to their dismay, a twelve-year-old boy and girl discover they are destined to become knights of King Arthur's Round Table, but first they must find and reforge Excalibur, breaking a curse that's weakened the magic of the Realms.

Santat, Dan – *The Aquanaut* **+Santat, Graphic Novels***
A crew of intrepid marine creatures rig up an antique diving suit to explore space, the final frontier—otherwise known as San Diego—and boldly go where no denizens of the deep have gone before.

Sass, A. J. – *Ellen Outside the Lines* **+Sass, Fiction**
Ellen, an autistic thirteen-year-old, navigates a new city, shifting friendships, a growing crush, and her queer and Jewish identities while on a class trip to Barcelona, Spain.

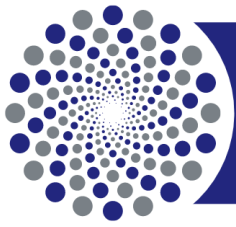


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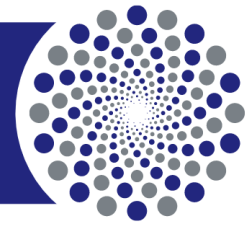
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Best Books of 2022



Schwab, V. E. – *Gallant*

YA Schwab, Fiction; YA Schwab, Digital Audio Players*

Olivia has grown up at the grim Merilance School for Girls with her mother's journal the only clue to her past, so when a letter arrives inviting her to come home to ruinous manor, Gallant, she seizes the chance to find out about her family.

Shiga, Jason – *Adventuregame Comics Vol. 1: Leviathan*

+Shiga, Graphic Novels

A "choose your own story" graphic novel. In a small medieval coastal town, the residents live in fear of a giant sea creature, the Leviathan, who attacks anyone who lies. Your mission: discover the secrets and defeat the creature.

Sorosiak, Carlie – *Always, Clementine*

+Sorosiak, Fiction*

Clementine is a lab mouse and a genius, but she's lonely. Only with Rosie, a chimpanzee who visits late at night, does she find friendship. When a lab technician frees Clementine, she discovers the world and goes in search of a real home.

Spaij, Marlyn – *Sisters of the Mist*

+Spaij, Graphic Novels

When Margot is enticed into the woods by the mysterious figures in the mist, Kyra resolves to do everything in her power to save her sister from danger, even if that means facing the spooky forces within Frygea Forest.

Stevenson, Robin – *Kid Trailblazers*

+920 Ste, Non-Fiction*

Childhood biographies of sixteen changemakers in government, social activism, environmental justice, and the arts.

Swift, India – *The Girl and the Glim*

+Swift, Graphic Novels

An original graphic novel about being the new kid in a different school, getting picked on by the class bullies, and what happens when a magical presence takes notice. Like, can things get any worse? Ugh, all these nervous feelings!

Zhao, Xiran Jay – *Zachary Ying and the Dragon Emperor*

+Zhao, Fiction*

After his augmented reality gaming headset is possessed by the spirit of the First Emperor of China, Zack is compelled to fight figures from Chinese history and myth and seal a portal to prevent spirits from destroying the human realm.

Zoboi, Ibi – *Star Child: A Biographical Constellation of Octavia Estelle Butler*

+921 But, Non-Fiction*

Born into the Space Race, the Red Scare, and the dawning Civil Rights Movement, Octavia Butler experienced an American childhood that shaped her into the groundbreaking science-fiction storyteller she is known to be today.

