

Reading Recommendations for Children

Reading great literature introduces children to advanced vocabulary and complex sentence structure as well as complicated and nuanced characters and compelling storylines. Appealing stories of great heroes and exciting adventures encourage and inspire children to expand beyond their experiences and grow emotionally. They lift us above narrow mindedness and provincialism and cause us to contemplate greater ideas. Rather than current trendy stories often filled with angst and mundane dialogue, great literature causes us to consider enduring questions of a more transcendent quality. Reading classic literature that has withstood the test of time allows children to participate in the shared cultural heritage vital to a well-educated nation.

Here are a few recommended reading lists that will help your child expand their horizons this summer. If a story is difficult, read it with your child - think of the conversations you will have about morality, virtue, decision-making and more!

- **Hillsdale Academy:** <https://academy.hillsdale.edu/academy/media/Documents/Academy-Summer-Reading-Lists.pdf>
- **PragerU:** https://assets.ctfassets.net/qnesrjodfi80/2FBDYOWAIrU89FT9KKsukD/d5647c6abf635855e6458041ed8c0897/PragerUKids_BookList_2024_updated.pdf?utm_source=lterable&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=campaign_10151470
- **Kids books recommended by kids:** <https://www.readbrightly.com/classics-8-to-12-year-olds-say-are-worth-reading-today/>
- **Top 20 recommended by BBC voters:** <https://www.bbc.com/culture/article/20230522-the-20-greatest-childrens-books-ever-what-the-voters-say>
- **Recommended by moms who love to read:** <https://www.beyondthebookends.com/best-classic-books-for-kids-by-age/>
- **Also see our Recommended Books and Gifts for kids** (under Resources) which includes a wide variety of fiction and nonfiction