

Chelmsford Public Schools 2026 Summer Reading Information for Grades 5 and 6



CHELMSFORD
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Over the summer, we encourage you to read as much as you can! Reading a wide variety of material in a variety of formats helps you discover new ways to look at the world, learn more about yourself, and improve skills that keep you “in shape” for next fall’s ELA class.

Reading specific titles is not required, and no assignment will be collected or graded.

Books (and lots of other materials) are available to borrow for free at the Chelmsford Public Library, as well as other area libraries. Feel free to ask your teachers, librarians, friends, and family members for suggestions on books you would enjoy!

Summer is a great time to try out new ways to read! Audiobooks are available on CD, MP3, and Playaway© devices from the library, as well as Wonder Books© (print books with built-in audio devices.) You may enjoy listening to them on their own, or while reading along with a print copy. You can also download ebooks to a tablet or eReader for free through Libby or Hoopla. Also remember, you’re *never* too old to enjoy picture books!

Here are some great middle grade authors of fiction and nonfiction, prose, poetry and graphic formats you might like to check out: (Some of these authors write for a range of age and reading levels and content for different interests. Choose ones that are “just right” for you!)

Kwame Alexander
Katherine Applegate
Elana Arnold
Peter Brown
Gennifer Choldenko
Jerry Craft
Nicholas Day
Kate DiCamillo
Sharon Draper
Alex Gino
Alan Gratz
Erin Entrada Kelly

Hena Khan
Grace Lin
Rosanne Parry
Jason Reynolds
Jewell Parker Rhodes
Christina Soontornvat
Tui T. Sutherland/Erin Hunter
Lauren Tarshis
Raina Telgemeier
Jasmine Warga
Jacqueline Woodson
Kelly Yang

Short Story Collections are a wonderful way to discover an author you like. You can read just one or a few stories in a collection, or read the whole book. Some collections available with a variety of excellent authors include:

Flying Lessons and Other Stories Edited by Ellen Oh

Funny Girl Edited by Betsy Bird

The Hero Next Door Edited by Olugbemisola Rhuday-Perkovich

Hope Wins: A Collection of Inspiring Stories for Young Readers Edited by Rose Brock

Once Upon an Eid: Stories of Hope and Joy by 15 Muslim Voices Edited by S.K. Ali and Aisha Saeed

Super Puzzletastic Mysteries Edited by Chris Grabenstein