Epsilon Sigma Omicron Reading List

2026 - 2028 ESO Reading List for GFWC's Reading Groups

The following is the **suggested national ESO reading list**. If your state compiles its own reading list, you should first consult it. The books are divided into 32 subject categories. The list is updated based on selected best sellers' lists, American Library Association lists, Pulitzer and other prize lists, and GFWC related topics. State Education & Libraries Community Service Program chairmen may adapt, alter, and/or update this list as desired. Books may also be read for ESO categories that are not on the list as this list is not exhaustive.

- American History
- The Arts
- Biography and Memoir
- Business and Finance
- Conservation and Ecology
- Drama
- Education
- Fiction, Classic
- Fiction, General
- Fiction, Historical
- Fiction, Mystery/Thriller
- Fiction, Romance
- Fiction, Science Fiction/Fantasy
- Health and Medicine
- Home and Garden
- International Authors
- Parenting and Families
- Poetry
- Reading to/with Children - Picture Books and Story Books
- Reading to/with Children - Chapter Books and Books for Youth
- Religion and Inspirational
- Science
- Social Science
- Sports and Recreation
- STEM/STEAM books for adults
- STEM/STEAM books for children
- Travel and Geography
- Volunteerism
- Women's Studies
- World History
- Authors from your State
- Books About or Taking Place in your State

The book lists that follow are based on the all-time best books as of January 2026.

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AMERICAN HISTORY

1. John Adams by David McCullough (2001)
2. 1776 by David McCullough (2005)
3. Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln by Doris Kearns Goodwin (2005)
4. A People's History of the United States: 1492-Present by Howard Zinn (1980)
5. Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee: An Indian History of the American West by Dee Brown (1971)
6. Alexander Hamilton by Ron Chernow (2004)
7. Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era by James M. McPherson (1988)
8. The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson (2003)
9. Founding Brothers: The Revolution Generation by Joseph J. Ellis (2000)
10. Truman by David Mc Cullough (1992)
11. Undaunted Courage: The Pioneering First Mission to Explore America's Wild Frontier by Stephen E. Ambrose (1996)
12. The Rise of Theodore Roosevelt by Edmund Morris (1979)
13. The Autobiography of Malcolm X by Malcolm X (1965)
14. Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community and War by Nathaniel Philbrick (2006)
15. Band of Brothers: E Company, 506th Regiment 101st Airborne from Normandy to Hitler's Eagle's Nest by Stephen E. Ambrose (1992)
16. Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your American History Textbook Got Wrong by James W. Loeven (1995)
17. Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience and Redemption by Laura Hillenbrand (2010)
18. Washington: A Life by Ron Chernow (2010)
19. The Civil War: A Narrative by Shelby Foote (1958)
20. His Excellency: George Washington by Joseph J. Ellis (2004)

THE ARTS

1. Ink and Wash Florals: Stunning Botanical Projects in Watercolor and Ink (2022) by Camilla Damsbo Brix
2. The Artist's Drawing Book: Learn How to Draw, Sketch, Shade and More with Easy Lessons and Practice Pages (2023) by Katy Lipscomb & Tyler Fisher
3. The Art of Jazz: A Visual History (2020) by Alyn Shipton & John Hasse
4. The Practice: Shipping Creative Work (2020) by Seth Godin
5. Abstract Art: A Global History (2020) by Pepe Karmel
6. Woman Artist's: An Illustrated Story (2026) by Nancy Heller
7. Hot, Cold, Heavy, Light, 100 Art Writings 1988-2018 (2019) by Peter Schjeldahl
8. History of Art in Japan (2019) by Nobuo Tsuj
9. A History of Art History (2021) by Christopher S. Wood
10. What Becomes a Legend Most: A Biography of Richard Avedon (2020) by Philip Gefter
11. This is Not My Memoir (2020) by André Gregory & Todd London
12. Art, Second Edition: A Visual History (2020) by Robert Cumming
13. Women Street Photographers (2021) by Gulnara Samoilova, Ami Vitale, Melissa Breyer
14. Vincent Van Gogh: The Complete Paintings (2015) by Ingo F. Walther, Rainer Metzger
15. The Storyteller: Tales of Life and Music (2021) by Dave Grohl
16. Dolly Parton, Songteller: My Life in Lyrics (2020) by Dolly Parton & Robert K. Oermann

17. National Geographic the Photo Ark: One Man's Quest to Document the World's Animals (2017) by Joel Sartore
18. Juila Morgan: An Intimate Biography of a Trailblazing Architect (2022) by Victoria Kastner
19. Art Therapy Theories: A Critical Introduction (2015) by Susan Hogan
20. Hilma Klint: A Biography (2022) by Julia Voss

BIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIR

1. The Power Broker by Robert Caro (1974)
2. Angela's Ashes by Frank McCourt (1996)
3. Born a Crime by Trevor Noah (2016)
4. I'm Glad My Mom Died by Jennette McCurdy (2022)
5. Crying in H Mart by Michelle Zauner (2021)
6. The Yellow House by Sarah M. Broom (2019)
7. Just Kids by Patti Smith (2010)
8. Educated by Tara Westover (2018)
9. Wild by Cheryl Strayed (2012)
10. Kitchen Confidential by Anthony Bourdain (2000)
11. In the Dream House by Carmen Maria Machado (2019)
12. Long Live the Tribe of Fatherless Girls by T Kira Madden (2019)
13. Madly, Deeply: The Diaries of Alan Rickman by Alan Rickman (2022)
14. Napoleon: A Life by Paul Johnson (2014)
15. The Autobiography of a Face by Lucy Grealy (1994)
16. Knife: Meditations After an Attempted Murder by Salman Rushdie (2024)
17. Water Mirror Echo (Biography of Bruce Lee) (2025)
18. Mark Twain by Ron Chernow (2025)
19. Matriarch by Tina Knowles (2025)
20. Patchwork: A Sewist's Diary by Maddie Ballard (2025)

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

1. Financial Feminist by Tori Dunlap (2022)
2. Smart Women Finish Rich by David Bach (1999)
3. We Should All Be Millionaires by Rachel Rodgers (2021)
4. Get Good with Money by Tiffany Aliche (2021)
5. Rich as F*ck by Amanda Frances (2021)
6. Girls That Invest by Simran Kaur (2022)
7. The Psychology of Money by Morgan Housel (2020)
8. Clever Girl Finance by Bola Sokunbi (2019)
9. Lean In Women, Work, and the Will to Lead by Sheryl Sandberg (2013)
10. The Confidence Code by Katty Kay and Claire Shipman (2014)
11. How Women Rise by Sally Helgesen and Marshall Goldsmith (2018)
12. Dare to Lead by Brené Brown (2018)
13. She Thinks Like a Boss by Jemma Royston (2021)
14. Radical Candor by Kim Scott (2017)
15. Likeable Badass by Allison Walsh (2024)
16. In the Company of Women by Grace Bonney (2016)

17. Atomic Habits by James Clear (2018)
18. Shark Tales by Barbara Corcoran (2011)
19. Mindset The New Psychology of Success by Carol S. Dweck (2006)
20. How to Build a Goddamn Empire by Ali Kriegsman (2021)

CONSERVATION AND ECOLOGY

1. A Sand County Almanac by Aldo Leopold (1949)
2. Silent Spring by Rachel Carson (1962)
3. The Song of the Dodo by David Quammen (1996)
4. The Snow Leopard by Peter Matthiessen (1978)
5. Walden by Henry David Thoreau (1854)
6. Half-Earth: Our Planet's Fight for Life by Edward O. Wilson (2016)
7. The Hidden Life of Trees by Peter Wohlleben (2015)
8. The Insect Crisis by Oliver Milman (2022)
9. Emperors of the Deep by William McKeever (2019)
10. The Last Panda by George Schaller (1993)
11. Feral: Rewilding the Land, the Sea, and Human Life by George Monbiot (2013)
12. Beloved Beasts: Fighting for Life in an Age of Extinction by Michelle Nijhuis (2021)
13. The Man Who Planted Trees by Jean Giono (1953)
14. All We Can Save: Truth, Courage, and Solutions for the Climate Crisis edited by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson & Katharine K. Wilkinson (2020)
15. Life on the Rocks: Building a Future for Coral Reefs by Juli Berwald (2022)
16. Amphibious Soul by Craig Foster (2024)
17. The World Is Blue: How Our Fate and the Oceans Are One by Sylvia A. Earle (2009)
18. The Wild Trees by Richard Preston (2007)
19. World of Wonders by Aimee Nezhukumatathil (2020)
20. Generation Dread: Finding Purpose in an Age of Climate Anxiety by Britt Wray (2022)

DRAMA

1. Hamlet or King Lear by William Shakespeare (1603/1608)
2. The Importance of Being Earnest by Oscar Wilde (1899)
3. Waiting for Godot by Samuel Beckett (1954)
4. A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare (1600)
5. Death of a Salesman by Arthur Miller (1949)
6. Antigone (Theban Plays, #3) by Sophocles (441 BC)
7. A Doll's House by Henrik Ibsen (1879)
8. A Streetcar Named Desire by Tennessee Williams (1947)
9. Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead by Tom Stoppard (1967)
10. The Crucible by Arthur Miller (1953)
11. Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? by Edward Albee (1962)
12. Angels in America by Tony Kushner (1992)
13. Pygmalion by George Bernard Shaw (1916)
14. A Raisin in the Sun by Lorraine Hansberry (1952)

15. For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide / When the Rainbow Is Enuf by Ntozake Shange (1977)
16. The Vagina Monologues by V (formerly Eve Ensler) (1998)
17. Top Girls by Caryl Churchill (1982)
18. The Thanksgiving Play by Larissa FastHorse (2019)
19. Harry Potter and the Cursed Child: Parts One and Two by J.K. Rowling (2016)
20. Sweat by Lynn Nottage (2017)

EDUCATION

1. The Art of Teaching Children: All I've Learned from a Lifetime in the Classroom (2022) by Phillip Done
2. Educated: A Memoir (2018) by Tara Westover
3. Why Knowledge Matters: Rescuing our Children from Failed Educational Theories (2015) by E. D. Hirsch Jr
4. Myths of Education: The Truths that will Set You Free (2024) by Margie Abbitt
5. How Do We Learn?: A Scientific Approach to Teaching and Learning (2024) by Héctor Ruiz Martín
6. Overcoming Dyslexia: Second Edition, Completely Revised and Updated (2020) by Sally Shaywitz M.D., Jonathan Shaywitz MD
7. Leading With a Beach Ball: A Guide to Building Relationships in Early Childhood Relationships in Early Childhood Education (2024) by Kassy Lopez-Sonchar PhD
8. The Early Childhood Promise: Sparking Change for Parents, Early Childhood Professionals, and Policymakers (2024) by Aimee E. Ketchum, Crystal Corle Loose+
9. A Matter of Principal: A Former School Principal's Journey to Redefine Education and Bring Learning Back to the Home (2023) by Mandy Davis
10. Better: A Teacher's Journey: Project 180 Book one (2022) by Monte Syrie
11. The Education Wars: A Citizen's Guide and Defense Manual (2024) by Jennifer C. Berkshire, Jack Schneider
12. Creative Schools: The Grassroots Revolution That's Transforming Education (2016) by Sir Ken Robinson PhD, Lou Aronica
13. Developmentally Appropriate Practice in Early Childhood Programs Serving Children from birth Through Age 8, Fourth Edition (2021) by NAEYC
14. How to Love Teaching Again: Work Smarter, Beat Burnout, and Watch Your Students Thrive (2023) by Jamie Sear
15. 101 Things College Students Should Know (2024) by Peter Myers
16. Have Fun Be Safe I Love You…And Everything Else I want you to Tell My Kids About College and Beyond (2022) by Kate Hickey
17. The Dyslexic Advantage: Unlocking the Hidden Protentional of the Dyslexic Brain (2023) by Brock L. Eide M.D. M.A., Fernette F. Eide M.D.
18. Surthriving Special Education: The Special Educator's Best Friend (2024) by Lisle Med
19. Why Meadow Died: The People and Policies that Created the parkland Shooter and Endanger America's Students (2019) by Andrew Pollack, Max Eden
20. School Bus Safety (2018) by Becky Coyle

CLASSIC FICTION

1. To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee (1960)
2. Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen (1813)
3. 1984 by George Orwell (1949)
4. Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte (1847)
5. The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald (1925)
6. Animal Farm by George Orwell (1945)
7. The Count of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas (1844)
8. The Lord of the Rings by J.R.R. Tolkien (1955)
9. Little Women by Louisa May Alcott (1868)
10. The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde (1890)
11. The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien (1937)
12. Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte (1847)
13. Hamlet by William Shakespeare (approx. 1603)
14. Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury (1953)
15. Lord of the Flies by William Golding (1954)
16. Crime and Punishment by Fyodor Dostoevsky (1866)
17. The Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger (1951)
18. Frankenstein: The 1818 Text by Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley (1818)
19. The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank (1947)
20. Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare (1597)

FICTION, GENERAL

1. My Friends (2025) by Fredrik Backman
2. Wild Dark Shore (2025) by Charlotte McMonaghy
3. The Correspondent (2025) by Virginia Evans
4. The Names (2025) by Florene Knapp
5. The Wedding (2024) by Alison Espach
6. Intermezzo (2024) Sally Rooney
7. Welcome to the Hyunam-Dong Bookshop (2024) by Hwang Bo-Reum
8. Blue Sisters (2024) by Coco Mellors
9. Yellowface (2023) by R.F. Kuang
10. Hello Beautiful (2023) by Ann Napolitano
11. The Wishing Game (2023) by Meg Shaffer
12. Tom Lake (2023) by Ann Patchett
13. Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow (2022) by Gabrielle Zein
14. Wish You Were Here (2022) by Jodi Picoult
15. The Winners (2022) by Fredrick Backman
16. Remarkably Bright Creatures (2022) by Shelby Van Pelt
17. Beautiful World, Where are You (2021) by Sally Rooney
18. Dail A for Aunties (2021) by Jesse Q. Sutanto
19. Cloud Cuckoo Land (2021) by Anthony Doerr
20. Once There Were Wolves (2021) by Charlotte McConaghy

FICTION, HISTORICAL

1. Atmosphere (2025) by Taylor Jenkins Reid
2. Broken Country (2025) by Clare Leslie Hall
3. The First Witch of Boston (2025) by Andrea Catalano
4. The Book Club for Troublesome Women (2025) by Marie Bostwick
5. The Women (2024) Kristin Hannah
6. James (2024) Percival Everett
7. Frozen River (2024) Ariel Lawhon
8. The Booklovers Library (2024) by Madeline Martin
9. Weyward (2023) by Emilia Hart
10. The Covenant of Water (2023) by Abraham Verghese
11. Lady Tan's Circle of Woman (2023) by Lisa See
12. The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store (2023) by James McBride
13. Carrie Soto is Back (2022) by Taylor Jenkins Reid
14. Lessons in Chemistry (2022) by Bonnie Garmus
15. Go Tell the Bees That I Am Gone (2022) by Diana Gabaldon
16. The Diamond Eye (2022) by Kate Quinn
17. Malibu Rising (2021) by Taylor Jenkins Reid
18. The Four Winds (2021) by Kristin Hannah
19. The Lost Apothecary (2021) by Sarah Penner
20. The Rose Code (2021) by Kate Quinn

FICTION, MYSTERY/THRILLER

1. Not Quite Dead Yet (2025) by Holly Jackson
2. The impossible Fortune (2025) by Richard Osman
3. Beautiful Ugly (2025) by Alice Feeney
4. The Perfect Divorce (2025) by Jeneva Rose
5. The God of the Woods (2024) by Liz Moore
6. First Lie Wins (2024) by Ashley Elston
7. All the Colors of the Dark (2024) by Chris Whitaker
8. Listen for the Lies (2024) by Amy Tintera
9. None of this is True (2023) by Lisa Jewell
10. The Only One Left (2023) by Riley Sager
11. Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murders (2023) by Jesse Q. Sutanto
12. Bright Young Women (2023) by Jessica Knoll
13. The Maid (2022) by Nita Prose
14. The Paris Apartment (2022) by Lucy Filey
15. A Flicker in the Dark (2022) by Stacy Willingham
16. The Book of Cold Cases (2022) by Simone St. James
17. The Last Thing He Told Me (2021) by Laura Dave
18. The Maidens (2021) by Alex Michaelides
19. Billy Summers (2021) by Stephen King
20. The Push (2021) by Ashley Audrain

FICTION, SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY

1. Dune by Frank Herbert (1965)
2. The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams (1979)
3. Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card (1985)
4. Foundation by Isaac Asimov (1951)
5. Neuromancer by William Gibson (1984)
6. The Three-Body Problem by Liu Cixin (2014)
7. The Martian by Andy Weir (2014)
8. 1984 by George Orwell (1949)
9. The Lord of the Rings by J.R.R. Tolkien (1955)
10. A Song of Ice and Fire by George R.R. Martin (1996)
11. The Broken Earth Trilogy by N.K. Jemisin (2015)
12. A Wizard of Earthsea by Ursula K. Le Guin (1968)
13. The Wheel of Time by Robert Jordan & Brandon Sanderson (1990)
14. Mistborn by Brandon Sanderson (2006)
15. American Gods by Neil Gaiman (2001)
16. The First Law Trilogy by Joe Abercrombie (2006)
17. The Murderbot Diaries by Martha Wells (2017)
18. Exhalation by Ted Chiang (2019)
19. The House in the Cerulean Sea by TJ Klune (2020)
20. Project Hail Mary by Andy Weir (2021)

HEALTH AND MEDICINE

1. Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End by Atul Gawande (2014)
2. The Emperor of All Maladies: A Biography of Cancer by Siddhartha Mukherjee (2010)
3. When Breath Becomes Air by Paul Kalanithi (2016)
4. The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot (2010)
5. The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat by Oliver Sacks (1985)
6. The Checklist Manifesto by Atul Gawande (2009)
7. The Body Keeps the Score by Bessel van der Kolk (2014)
8. Complications: A Surgeon's Notes on an Imperfect Science by Atul Gawande (2002)
9. The Hot Zone by Richard Preston (1994)
10. The Great Influenza by John M. Barry (2004)
11. And the Band Played On by Randy Shilts (1987)
12. Medical Apartheid by Harriet A. Washington (2007)
13. The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down by Anne Fadiman (1997)
14. This is Going to Hurt by Adam Kay (2017)
15. Do No Harm: Stories of Life, Death, and Brain Surgery by Henry Marsh (2015)
16. Mountains Beyond Mountains by Tracy Kidder (2003)
17. The Real Doctor Will See You Shortly by Matt McCarthy (2015)
18. An Elegant Defense: The Extraordinary New Science of the Immune System by Matt Richtel (2019)
19. The Age of Scientific Wellness by Leroy Hood and Nathan Price (2023)
20. The Beauty in Breaking by Michele Harper (2020)

HOME & GARDEN

1. How to Grow Flowers in Small Spaces: An Illustrated Guide to Planning, Planting, and Caring for your Small Flower Garden (2024) by Stephanie Walker
2. Less Planting, More Blooms!: Sprouting Your Own Perennial Garden (2024) by Laura Storris
3. My Container Gardens: A Collection of Summer Flower Projects (2024) by Lisa Coy
4. The Cut Flower Handbook: Select, Plant, Grow , and Harvest Gorgeous Bloom (2024) by Lisa Mason Ziegler
5. Herb Gardening (2024) by Sophia Grey
6. Vegetable Gardening: Practical (2024) by Sophia Grey
7. Beginners Guide to Backyard Vegetable Gardening: Hoe to Easily Build, Sustain & Enjoy a Bountiful Harvest of Rich Garden to Table Delights with Recipe Included (2024) By Jenna Pennink
8. Vegetable Gardening Hero (2024) by Gideon Pierce
9. Orchid Care for Beginners and Beyond: The ultimate Step-by-Step Guide to Thriving Orchids with Expert Tips for Stunning Blooms (2024) by Emma W. Green
10. Houseplants & Succulents for Dummies (2024) by Steven A. Frowine
11. Heart & Home: Craft and DIY Projects to Bring Love into your Home and Garden (2024) by Catherine Carton
12. House Rules: How to Decorate for Every Home, Style and Budget (2024) by Myquillyn Smith
13. Real Spaces: DIY Home Organization for Real Life (2024) by Alissa Boukal
14. The Slow Down: For the Love of Home (2024) by Leanne Ford
15. Organize Your Home One Room at a Time: Tips and Encouragement to Having a Harmonious Living Space (2023) by Marybelle Durand
16. Welcome Home: A Cozy Minimalist Guide to Decorating and Hosting All Year Round (2020) by Myquillyn Smith
17. Wild at Home: How to Style and Care for Beautiful Plants (2019) by Hilton Carter
18. Bloom: The Secrets of Growing Flowering Houseplants Year-Round (2022) by Lisa Eldred Steinkopf
19. The Little Flower Recipe Book: 148 Tiny Arrangements for Every Season and Occasion (2022) by Jill Rizzo
20. Designing with Dried Flowers: Creating Everlasting Arrangements (2024) by Hannah Rose Rivers Muller

PARENTING AND FAMILIES

1. How to Talk to Kids About Anything: Tips, Scripts, Stories, and Steps to Make Even the Toughest Conversations Easier (2023) by Robyn Silverman PhD
2. You're a F*cking Awesome Mom (2019) by Leslie Anne Bruce
3. Hunt, Gather, Parent: What Ancient Cultures Can Teach us About the Lost Art of Raising Happy, Helpful Little Humans (2021) Michaeleen Doucleff
4. Remaining You While Raising Them: The Secret Art of Confident Motherhood (2023) by Alli Worthington
5. What Do You Say?: How to Talk with Kids to Build Motivation, Stress Tolerance, and a Happy Home (2021) by William Stixrud PhD, Ned Johnson
6. Caring for your Baby and young Child, 8th Edition: Birth to Age 5 (2024) by American Academy of Pediatrics

7. The Simplest Baby Book in the World (2021) by S.M. Gross, Jeremy F. Shapiro, Gabriella Terhes Karlsson
8. Parenting a Teen with Anxiety: Simple Proven Strategies to Balance Empathy & Discipline, Enhance Communication, Boost Self-Esteem, and Raise Happier Teens (2024) by Ethan J. Harper
9. The Daily Family Conversation Starter: 365 Ways to Nurture Connection, inspire Play, and Empower Your Kids (2024) by Katie Clemons
10. Family Vacation Activity Book: Puzzles, Questions and Creative Activities that will Engage Both Kida and Adults
11. With Grace and Gratitude: A Memoir of Uncoupling, Co-Parenting, and Collective Healing (2024) by Meg Campbell
12. Parenting Middle Schoolers Made Easy: Empower You Tween with Strong Self-Confidence, High Emotional Intelligence, and Essential Skills to Thrive in School and Life (2024) by Grace Clark
13. Teenagers Unleashed: Parenting the Unknown (2024) by Tanya Cambridge
14. The Hilarious Grandparent Handbook (2024) by Steve Lewis
15. Beautiful Chaos: On Motherhood, Overwhelming Love and Finding Yourself (2024) by Jessica Urlichs
16. Mama Tried: Tears & Cheers of Motherhood (2024) by Katlen Schreiner
17. Baby Sign Language Made Easy: 101 Signs to Start Communicating with Your Child Now (2018) by Lane Rebelo
18. Baby Sign Language Songs & Games: 65 Fun Activities for Easy Everyday Learning (2022) by Lane Rebelo
19. Parenting Your Parents: A Practical Guide for Caregivers (2019) by Dr. Grant Ethridge, Tammy Ethridge
20. Caring for Aging Parents: A Practical Survival Guide (2024) by Claire Alden

POETRY

1. Leaves of Grass by Walt Whitman (1855
2. The Complete Poems of Emily Dickinson (1955 - posthumous collection
3. The Waste Land and Other Poems by T.S. Eliot (1922)
4. Ariel by Sylvia Plath (1965)
5. The Collected Poems of Langston Hughes (1994 - comprehensive collection)
6. The Essential Rumi (1995 - Barks translation)
7. Shakespeare's Sonnets (1609)
8. Devotions by Mary Oliver (2017)
9. The Sun and Her Flowers by Rupi Kaur (2017)
10. American Primitive by Mary Oliver (1983)
11. Citizen: An American Lyric by Claudia Rankine (2014)
12. Night Sky with Exit Wounds by Ocean Vuong (2016)
13. A Poetry Handbook by Mary Oliver (1994)
14. 100 Poems to Break Your Heart by Edward Hirsch (2021)
15. The Ode Less Travelled by Stephen Fry (2005)
16. The Norton Anthology of Poetry (1970 - 1st Edition)
17. "The Road Not Taken" by Robert Frost (1916)
18. "I carry your heart with me" by e.e. cummings (1952)
19. "Still I Rise" by Maya Angelou (1978)
20. "The Raven" by Edgar Allan Poe (1845)

READING TO/WITH CHILDREN

1. Olivia by Ian Falconer (2000)
2. The Man Who Walked Between the Towers (2003) by Mordicai Gerstein
3. Don't let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! (2003) by Mo Willems
4. The Lion and the Mouse (2009) by Jerry Pinkney
5. Dave the Potter: Artist, Poet, Slave (2010) by Laban Carrrick and Bryan)Collier
6. Press Here (2011) by Herve Tullet
7. Each Kindness (2012) by E. B. Lewis
8. Extra Yarn (2012) by Mac Barnett and Jon Klassen
9. An Egg is Quiet (2013) by Dianna Aston and Sylvia Long
10. The Book with No Pictures (2014) by B.J. Novak
11. Last Stop on Market Street (2015) by Matt De La Pena and Cristian Robinson
12. Du Iz Tak? (2016) by Carson Ellis
13. School's First Day of School (2016) by Adam Rex and Christian Robinson
14. They All Saw a Cat (2016) by Brenden Wenzel
15. Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut (2017) by Derrick Barnes and Gordon C. James
16. Julian Is a Mermaid (2018) by Jessica Love
17. Dreamer (2018) by Yuyi Morales
18. The Undefeated (2019) by Kwame Alexander and Kadir Nelson
19. Vamos! Let's go to the Market (2019) by Raul the Third and Elain Bay
20. Little Witch Hazel: A Year in the Forest (2020) by Phoebe Wahl
21. Unspeakable: The Tulsa Race Massacre (2021) by Carole Boston Weatherford and Floyd Cooper
22. Farmhouse (2022) Sophie Blackall
23. Dim Sum Palace (2023) by X. Fang
24. The Skull: A Tyrolean Folktale (2023) by Jon Klassen
25. Don't Trust Fish (2025) by Neil Shapson and Dan Santat

READING TO/WITH CHILDREN – CHAPTER BOOKS AND BOOKS FOR YOUTH

1. A Suffragist's Guide to the Antarctic (2024) by Yi Shun Lai
2. Charlotte's Web by E.B. White (1952)
3. Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone by J.K Rowling (1997)
4. Matilda by Roald Dahl (1988)
5. The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis (1950)
6. Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl (1964)
7. Little House on the Prairie by Laura Ingalls Wilder (1935)
8. James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl (1961)
9. Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo (2000)
10. Holes by Louis Sachar (1998)
11. Anne of Green Gables by L.M. Montgomery (1908)
12. The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster (1961)
13. A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle (1962)
14. The Lightning Thief (Percy Jackson and the Olympians #1) by Rick Riordan (2005)
15. The Mouse and the Motorcycle by Beverly Cleary (1965)
16. This is Your Time by Ruby Bridges (2020)
17. Return to Sender by Julia Alvarez (2009)
18. Projekt 1065 by Alan Gratz (2016)

19. Wonder by R.J. Palacio (2012)
20. The Wild Robot by Peter Brown (2016)

RELIGION AND INSPIRATIONAL

1. The Four Agreements by Don Miguel Ruiz (1997)
2. The Power of Now by Eckhart Tolle (1997)
3. The Untethered Soul by Michael A. Singer (2007)
4. The Book of Joy by Dalai Lama & Desmond Tutu (2016)
5. Inner Engineering by Sadhguru (2016)
6. Boundaries by Henry Cloud and John Townsend (1992)
7. The Book of Mysteries by Jonathan Cahn (2016)
8. Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis (1952)
9. On the Brink of Everything by Parker Palmer (2018)
10. The Year of Yes: How to Dance It Out, Stand in the Sun and Be Your Own Person by Shonda Rhimes (2015)
11. Big Magic: Creative Living Beyond Fear by Elizabeth Gilbert (2015)
12. The Intentional Year: Simple Rhythms for Finding Freedom, Peace and Purpose by Holly and Glenn Packiam (2022)
13. Love Does: Discover a Secretly Incredible Life in an Ordinary World by Bob Goff (2012)
14. The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry: How to Stay Emotionally Healthy and Spiritually Alive in the Chaos of the Modern World by John Mark Comer (2019)
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18. Speak: Find Your Voice, Trust Your Gut and Get from Where You Are to Where You Want to Be by Tunde Oyeneyin (2023)
19. Be Useful: Seven Tools for Life by Arnold Schwarzenegger (2023)
20. More Than Enough: Claiming Space for Who You Are by Elaine Welteroth (2019)

SCIENCE

1. A Short History of Nearly Everything by Bill Bryson (2003)
2. Cosmos by Carl Sagan (1980)
3. A Brief History of Time by Stephen Hawking (1988)
4. The Demon-Haunted World: Science as a Candle in the Dark by Carl Sagan (1995)
5. Astrophysics for People in a Hurry by Neil deGrasse Tyson (2017)
6. Seven Brief Lessons on Physics by Carlo Rovelli (2014)
7. The Elegant Universe by Brian Greene (1999)
8. The God Equation by Michio Kaku (2021)
9. The Selfish Gene by Richard Dawkins (1976)
10. The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot (2010)
11. The Gene: An Intimate History by Siddhartha Mukherjee (2016)
12. Lab Girl by Hope Jahren (2016)

13. Eve: How the Female Body Drove 200 Million Years of Human Evolution by Cat Bohannon (2023)
14. Thinking, Fast and Slow by Daniel Kahneman (2011)
15. Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind by Yuval Noah Harari (2011)
16. How the Mind Works by Steven Pinker (1997)
17. The Disappearing Spoon by Sam Kean (2010)
18. The Emperor of All Maladies: A Biography of Cancer by Siddhartha Mukherjee (2010)
19. Packing for Mars by Mary Roach (2010)
20. The Exceptions: Nancy Hopkins, MIT, and the Fight for Women in Science by Kate Zernike (2023)

SOCIAL SCIENCE

1. Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind by Yuval Noah Harari (2011)
2. Thinking, Fast and Slow by Daniel Kahneman (2011)
3. Guns, Germs, and Steel by Jared Diamond (1997)
4. Freakonomics by Steven D. Levitt & Stephen J. Dubner (2005)
5. Outliers: The Story of Success by Malcolm Gladwell (2008)
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7. Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking by Malcolm Gladwell (2005)
8. The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness by Michelle Alexander (2010)
9. Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City by Matthew Desmond (2016)
10. The Sociological Imagination by C. Wright Mills (1959)
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17. Talking to Strangers: What We Should Know About the People We Don't Know by Malcolm Gladwell (2019)
18. Predictably Irrational: The Hidden Forces That Shape Our Decisions by Dan Ariely (2008)
19. The Power of Habit: Why We Do What We Do in Life and Business by Charles Duhigg (2012)
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SPORTS & RECREATION

1. Women Breaking Barriers in Sports: 1850 to the Present and Beyond (2024) by Debb Boom Wateren
2. The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics (2013) by Daniel James Brown
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8. Thirty Below: The Harrowing and heroic Story of the First All Women's Ascent of Denali (2025) by Cassidy Randall
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10. Forward by Abby Wambach (2016)
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17. A walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail (1999)
18. Moneyball: The Art of Willing an Unfair Game by Michael Lewis (2004)
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STEM/STEAM books for Adults

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13. Surely You're Joking, Mr. Feynman! by Richard P. Feynman (1985)
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15. A Short History of Nearly Everything by Bill Bryson (2003)
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15. Zoey and Sassafras books 1-6 by Asia Citro (2018)
16. The Girl Who Thought in Pictures: The Story of Dr. Temple Grandin by Julia Finley Mosca (2017)
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19. Calculating Chimpanzees, Brainy Bees, and Other Animals with Mind-Blowing Mathematical Abilities by Stephanie Gibeault (2024)
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4. Full Tilt: Ireland to India with a Bicycle by Dervla Murphy (1965)
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16. Travels with Charley in Search of America by John Steinbeck (1962
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18. The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini (2013)

19. And Then We Hit a Rock by Greg Buenzli (2024)
20. World Travel: An Irreverent Guide by Anthony Bourdain (2024)

GEOGRAPHY

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2. All over the Map: A Cartographic Odyssey by Greg Miller (2018)
3. Why Geography Matters: More thaN Ever by Harm de Blij (2012)
4. Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies by Jared Diamond (1997)
5. Prisoners of Geography: Ten Maps That Tell You Everything You Need to Know About Global Politics by Tim Marshall (2015)
6. Maphead: Charting the Wide, Weird World of Geography Wonks by Ken Jennings (2011)
7. Longitude: The True Story of a Lone Genius Who Solved the Greatest Scientific Problem of His Time by Dava Sobel (1995)
8. Unruly Places: Lost Spaces, Secret Cities, and Other Inscrutable Geographies by Alastair Bonnett (2014)
9. The Revenge Of Geography: What the Map Tells Us About Coming Conflicts and the Battle Against Fate by Robert D. Kaplan (2012)
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16. The Map That Changed the World: William Smith and the Birth of Modern Geology by Simon Winchester (2001)
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19. Mapping Penny's World by Loreen Leedy (2000)
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1. Soul of a Citizen: Living with Conviction in Challenging Times by Paul Rogat Loeb (2010)
2. Giving: How Each of Us Can Change the World by Bill Clinton (2007)
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4. They Come Back Singing by Mercy Volunteer Corps
5. The Volunteer Management Handbook by Tracy Daniel Connors (2011)
6. The New Breed: Understanding and Equipping the 21st Century Volunteer by Jonathan McKee & Thomas McKee (2010)
7. Smart Volunteer Management: A Volunteer Coordinator's Handbook by Patricia Lotich (2016)
8. Volunteer Management: A Strategic Approach by Jaclyn S. Piatak and Jessica E. Sowa (2024)

9. When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert (2012)
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18. Children As Volunteers: Preparing for Community Service by Susan J. Ellis (2009)
19. Half the Sky by Sheryl WuDunn and Nicholas Kristof (2009)
20. The Five People You Meet in Heaven by Mitch Albom (2003)

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1. The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood (1985)
2. Women Who Run With the Wolves by Clarissa Pinkola Estes (1992)
3. The Second Sex by Simone de Beauvoir (1949)
4. The Feminine Mystique by Betty Friedan (1963)
5. We Should All Be Feminists by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie (2014):
6. A Room of One's Own by Virginia Woolf (1929)
7. The Beauty Myth by Naomi Wolf (1990)
8. Invisible Women: Data Bias in a World Designed for Men by Caroline Criado Perez (2019)
9. The Bell Jar by Sylvia Plath (1963)
10. The Color Purple by Alice Walker (1982)
11. The Madwoman in the Attic by Sandra Gilbert and Susan Gubar (1979)
12. Expecting Better: Why the Conventional Pregnancy Wisdom is Wrong—and What You Really Need to Know by Emily Oster (2014)
13. Matriarch: A Memoir (audiobook) by Tina Knowles (2025)
14. Come as You are: The Surprising New Science that Will Transform Your Sex Life by Emily Nagoski (2015)
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WORLD HISTORY

1. Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind — Yuval Noah Harari (2011)

2. Guns, Germs, and Steel — Jared Diamond (1997)
3. The Silk Roads: A New History of the World — Peter Frankopan (2015)
4. A Little History of the World — E.H. Gombrich (1935)
5. The History of the Ancient World — Susan Wise Bauer (2007)
6. The History of the Medieval World — Susan Wise Bauer (2010)
7. The History of the Renaissance World — Susan Wise Bauer (2013)
8. 1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus — Charles C. Mann (2005)
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10. The Penguin History of the World — J.M. Roberts & Odd Arne Westad (2013)
11. The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers — Paul Kennedy (1987)
12. Postwar: A History of Europe Since 1945 — Tony Judt (2005)
13. The Anarchy — William Dalrymple (2019)
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15. Empireland — Sathnam Sanghera (2021)
16. A People's History of the World — Chris Harman (1999)
17. The Warmth of Other Suns — Isabel Wilkerson (2010)
18. The World: A Brief Introduction — Richard Haass (2020)
19. Women, Race & Class — Angela Davis (1981)
20. The Women's History of the World — Rosalind Miles (1988)

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