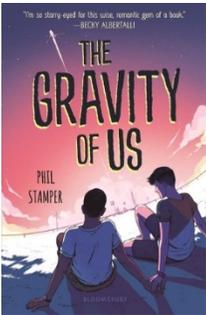
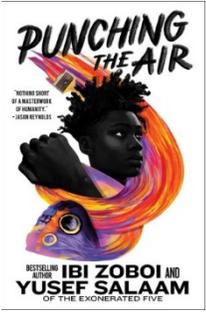
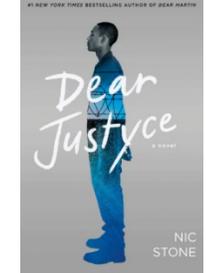
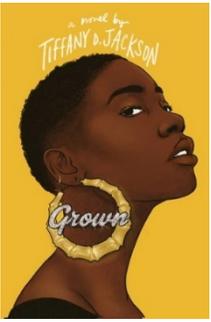
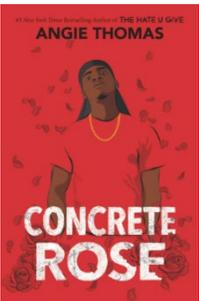
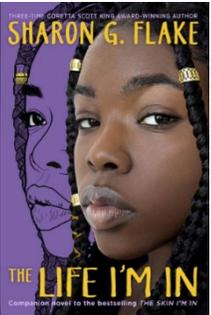
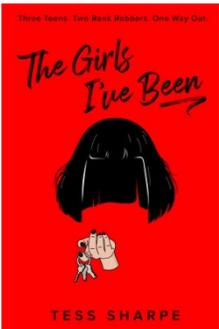


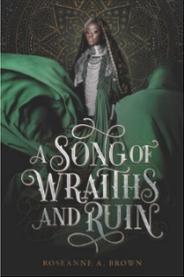
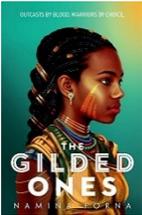
Expect great things.

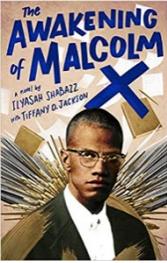
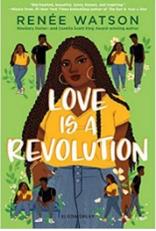
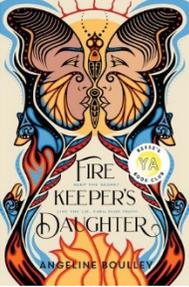


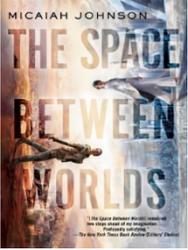
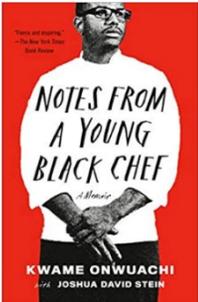
9th-12th Grade Summer Reading List

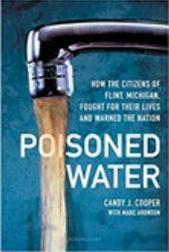
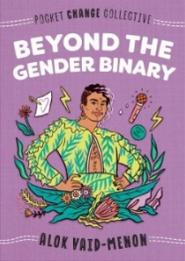
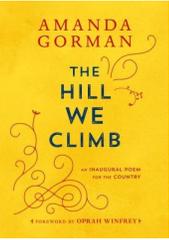
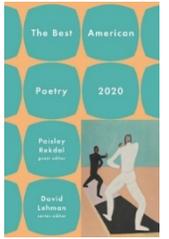
Book	Title, Author, Review	Where can I find it?
Realistic Fiction		
	<p><i>The Gravity of Us</i> Stamper, Phil</p> <p>In this smart, heart-warming YA novel, two teens find love when their lives are uprooted for their parents' involvement in a NASA mission to Mars. Cal wants to be a journalist, and he's already well underway with almost half a million followers on his FlashFame app and an upcoming internship at BuzzFeed. But his plans are derailed when his pilot father is selected for a highly-publicized NASA mission to Mars, launching his family into the spotlight in which they attempt to represent the "perfect American family," an impossible façade to maintain. Then Cal meets Leon, whose mother is another astronaut on the mission, and he finds himself falling head over heels--and fast. They become an oasis for each other amid the craziness of this whole experience. As their relationship grows, so does the frenzy surrounding the Mars mission, and when secrets are revealed about ulterior motives of the program, Cal must find a way to get to the truth without hurting the people who have become most important to him.</p>	<p>Print Book, Kindle Book, Adobe EPUB ebook, OverDrive Read, OverDrive MP3 Audiobook, OverDrive Listen</p>
	<p><i>Punching the Air</i> Zoboi, Ibi and Yusef Salaam</p> <p>Amal Shahid has always been an artist and a poet. But even in a diverse art school, because of a biased system, he's seen as disruptive and unmotivated. Then, one fateful night, an altercation in a gentrifying neighborhood escalates into tragedy. "Boys just being boys" turns out to be true only when those boys are white. Suddenly, at just 16 years old, Amal is convicted of a crime he didn't commit and sent to prison. Despair and rage almost sink him until he turns to the refuge of his words, his art. This never should have been his story. But can he change it? With spellbinding lyricism, award-winning author Ibi Zoboi and prison reform activist Yusef Salaam tell a moving and deeply profound story about how one boy is able to maintain his humanity and fight for the truth in a system designed to strip him of both.</p>	<p>Print Book, Kindle Book, Adobe EPUB ebook, OverDrive Read, OverDrive MP3 Audiobook 2020, OverDrive Listen</p>
	<p><i>Dear Justyce</i> Stone, Nic</p> <p>Quan was labelled a delinquent at 11. He never stood a chance. Not like Justyce. When Quan's dad gets arrested, things go from bad to worse. He eventually joins a local gang, looking for somewhere to belong. He ends up in jail for killing a police officer, the same cop who wrongfully arrested Justyce. When Quan first writes to Justyce, he has no idea what to expect. He certainly isn't prepared for the friendship and support Justyce offers. Can it really make a difference in his life?</p>	<p>Print Book, OverDrive MP3 Audiobook, OverDrive Listen, Kindle Book, Adobe EPUB ebook, OverDrive Read, Book on CD, Book on MP3 Disc, Large Print</p>

Book	Title, Author, Review	Where can I find it?
	<p>Grown Jackson, Tiffany D.</p> <p>Seventeen-year-old Enchanted dreams of becoming a star and imagines her future as a singer indeed becoming a reality when pop star Korey Fields takes her on tour. Her dreams become nightmares when the relationship between mentor and mentee turns abusive, a story that closely resembles the headlines and accusations surrounding R. Kelly. Worse still, Korey is found dead, and all the evidence points to Enchanted as the murderer. The imbalance between an abusive, powerful man versus his victim is further amplified when the victim is a young, black woman. How will Enchanted overcome historically cemented layers of racism compounded by society's tendency to dismiss and ignore the claims of black women? With everything stacked against her, Enchanted must find a way in order to survive.</p>	<p>Print Book, Kindle Book, Adobe EPUB ebook, OverDrive Read, OverDrive MP3 Audiobook, OverDrive Listen, Book on CD, Large Print</p>
	<p>Concrete Rose Thomas, Angie</p> <p>Maverick Carter is doing his best to survive in Garden Heights. His dad is in jail, his mom works all the time. Mav tries to help out by dealing for the King Lords. Then, his world changes. Mav finds out that he's a father. Now he has to decide what's really important in his life. Mav juggles his responsibilities as best as he can. This story revisits the neighborhood and family from <i>The Hate U Give</i>, 17 years earlier. Find out how the Carters become a family and why Maverick had such strong feelings about his neighborhood.</p>	<p>Print Book, Large Print, Book on CD, Book on MP3 Disc, OverDrive MP3 Audiobook, OverDrive Listen, Kindle Book, Adobe EPUB ebook, OverDrive Read</p>
	<p>The Life I'm In Flake, Sharon G.</p> <p>You can look at her like this, if you choose to: failed seventh grade three times, violent, and out of control, Char is a wild kid asking for trouble. Or you can choose to see the real Charlese Katherine Jones: a 16-year-old grieving, angry, traumatized orphan in need of family and individual support. However you see her, it can't replace how Charlese sees herself: bad. Kicked out by her big sister to go live with her grandparents in Alabama, Charlese decides to make her own way with a new friend. Unfortunately, there are people in the world who really are bad, and one of them has eyes on Char.</p>	<p>Print Book</p>
	<p>The Girls I've Been Sharpe, Tess</p> <p>Nora O'Malley's been a lot of girls. As the daughter of a con-artist who targets criminal men, she grew up as her mother's protégé. But when her mom fell for the mark instead of conning him, Nora pulled the ultimate con: escape. For five years Nora's been playing at normal. But she needs to dust off the skills she ditched because she has three problems:</p> <p>#1: Her ex walked in on her with her girlfriend. Even though they're all friends, Wes didn't know about her and Iris.</p> <p>#2: The morning after Wes finds them kissing, they all have to meet to deposit the fundraiser money they raised at the bank. It's a nightmare that goes from awkward to deadly, because:</p> <p>#3: Right after they enter the bank, two guys start robbing it.</p> <p>The bank robbers may be trouble, but Nora's something else entirely. They have no idea who they're really holding hostage.</p>	<p>Print Book, Kindle Book, Adobe EPUB ebook, OverDrive Read, OverDrive MP3 Audiobook, OverDrive Listen</p>

Book	Title, Author, Review	Where can I find it?
	<p><i>Fighting Words</i> Brubaker Bradley, Kimberly</p> <p>It is rare to encounter a narrator like Delicious Naveah Roberts—a hard cussing, tattooed ten-year old, who, with her older sister Suki, fled the man claiming to be their father. This man took them in after their mother was incarcerated for blowing up a motel room cooking meth—with the girls in it. Della, as she prefers to be called, is hilarious, tough and sweet...and what she wants most is healing for Suki, who is carrying terrible wounds Della suspects might be too much for either of them to handle.</p>	Print Book, Kindle Book, Adobe EPUB ebook, OverDrive Read, Book on CD, OverDrive MP3 Audiobook, OverDrive Listen
	<p><i>What I Carry</i> Longo, Jennifer</p> <p>At 17, Muiriel needs to make it through one more placement, then she will age out of foster care and into state-sanctioned self-sufficiency. Muir is white, woke, and keenly aware that her experience of not knowing any family from birth isn't representative of most foster kids. She meticulously follows the wisdom of her hero and namesake, John Muir, and keeps her baggage light. However, it quickly becomes apparent that her new temporary home will challenge her resolute independence.</p>	Print Book
Fantasy		
	<p><i>A Song of Wraiths and Ruin</i> Brown, Roseanne A.</p> <p>For Malik, the Solstasia festival is a chance to escape his war-stricken home and start a new life with his sisters in the prosperous desert city of Ziran. But when a vengeful spirit abducts his younger sister, Nadia, as payment to enter the city, Malik strikes a fatal deal—kill Karina, Crown Princess of Ziran, for Nadia's freedom. But Karina has deadly aspirations of her own. Her mother, the Sultana, has been assassinated; her court threatens mutiny; and Solstasia looms like a knife over her neck. Grief-stricken, Karina decides to resurrect her mother through ancient magic...requiring the beating heart of a king. And she knows just how to obtain one: by offering her hand in marriage to the victor of the Solstasia competition. When Malik rigs his way into the contest, they are set on a heart-pounding course to destroy each other. But as attraction flares between them and ancient evils stir, will they be able to see their tasks to the death?</p>	Print Book, Kindle Book, Adobe EPUB ebook, OverDrive Read, OverDrive MP3 Audiobook 2020, OverDrive Listen
	<p><i>Legendborn</i> Deonn, Tracy</p> <p>Briana Matthews is dealing with a lot. Her mom recently died, and she's moved away from home. Bree is trying to get through her first night in her residential program at UNC Chapel Hill when she witnesses a demon attack. A secret society hunts down the demon and sets their sights on Bree. When they fail to wipe Bree's memory, she discovers her own blend of magic. She joins the society to try and find out the truth about her mom's death. She ends up preparing for a war with the descendants of the knights of King Arthur.</p>	Print Book, Kindle Book, Adobe EPUB ebook, OverDrive Read, OverDrive MP3 Audiobook, OverDrive Listen
	<p><i>The Gilded Ones</i> Forna, Namina</p> <p>Deka is a 16-year-old who lives in a small village with her father. The story begins on the morning of the village's Purity Ritual. This practice cuts each girl to make sure their blood is pure. Deka's blood runs gold, marking her as impure. She suffers terrible torture at the hands of the village elders. A strange woman comes to meet with her during her imprisonment and provides her a way out. She is given the chance to join the emperor's army to fight against terrifying demons. Through her training Deka gains friends and acceptance for the first time in her life. But nothing is as it seems. Deka will be tested repeatedly, right up to the final battle.</p>	Print Book, Kindle Book, Adobe EPUB ebook, OverDrive Read, OverDrive MP3 Audiobook, OverDrive Listen

Book	Title, Author, Review	Where can I find it?
Historical Fiction		
	<p><i>We Are Not Free</i> Chee, Traci</p> <p>Fourteen teens form a bond growing up together in California. They go to school, work hard to be good kids in their community, and try their best to find happiness in various hobbies. American-born, they are of Japanese descent and surrounded by people who do not trust their right to be in the U.S. World War II turns their already strained lives upside down. Taken and forced into desolate internment camps, these young kids must rally together as racism threatens to tear them apart.</p>	Print Book, Kindle Book, Adobe EPUB ebook, OverDrive Read, OverDrive MP3 Audiobook, OverDrive Listen
	<p><i>The Awakening of Malcolm X</i> Shabazz, Ilyasah and Tiffany D. Jackson</p> <p>Malcolm X's daughter Shabazz teams up with YA veteran Jackson to create an affecting piece of historical fiction that focuses on the civil rights icon's young adulthood. It begins five weeks into the imprisonment of 20-year-old Malcolm Little. Through the mentorship of older prisoners and by witnessing the atrocities African Americans are subjected to behind bars, a fire is stoked within him. As his narrative unfolds, Malcolm hones his skills in rhetoric and debate to become a feared sparring partner, and, by embracing Islam, Malcolm X finds a calling to guide other African Americans to rally for true justice. The authors not only show Malcolm's intellectual and spiritual evolution, but also manage to depict the plight of his fellow inmates with equal parts compassion and revulsion. Though technically a work of fiction, this book nevertheless serves as a perfect entrée for young adult readers to learn about the formative years of a pivotal leader in the Civil Rights Movement.</p>	Print Book, OverDrive MP3 Audiobook, OverDrive Listen, Kindle Book, Adobe EPUB ebook, OverDrive Read
Romance		
	<p><i>Love is a Revolution</i> Watson, Renee</p> <p>Nala has big plans for her summer. She wants to find a new hairstyle, spend time with her cousin-sister-friend Imani, and, most importantly, fall in love. When she meets Tye, she thinks she has the last part of her plan locked down. But does she really? Through the course of her summer, Nala falls in love for sure. But who does she fall in love with?</p>	Print Book, Kindle Book 2021, Adobe EPUB ebook, OverDrive Read
Thriller/Mystery		
	<p><i>Fire Keeper's Daughter</i> Boulley, Angeline</p> <p>Daunis is having a rough start to her summer. She defers her admission to her dream school to stay home and help her mom after her grandmother's stroke. She tells herself it will be alright, at least she's going to the community college with her best friend. Daunis's world is turned upside down when she witnesses a shocking murder. She is thrust into the center of an FBI investigation into who is selling meth to her Ojibwe community. Daunis agrees to use her knowledge of chemistry and traditional native medicine to help solve the crimes but new dangers emerge, forcing her to examine her role in her indigenous community.</p>	Print book

Book	Title, Author, Review	Where can I find it?
Science Fiction		
	<p><i>The Space Between Worlds</i> Johnson, Micaiah</p> <p>Multiverse travel is finally possible, but there's just one catch: no one can visit a world where their counterpart is still alive. Enter Cara, whose parallel selves happen to be exceptionally good at dying—from disease, turf wars, or vendettas they couldn't outrun. Cara's life has been cut short on 372 worlds in total. On this dystopian Earth, however, Cara has survived. Identified as an outlier and therefore a perfect candidate for multiverse travel, Cara is plucked from the dirt of the wastelands. Now what once made her marginalized has finally become an unexpected source of power. She has a nice apartment on the lower levels of the wealthy and walled-off Wiley City. She works—and shamelessly flirts—with her enticing yet aloof handler, Dell, as the two women collect off-world data for the Eldridge Institute. She even occasionally leaves the city to visit her family in the wastes, though she struggles to feel at home in either place. So long as she can keep her head down and avoid trouble, Cara is on a sure path to citizenship and security. But trouble finds Cara when one of her eight remaining doppelgängers dies under mysterious circumstances, plunging her into a new world with an old secret. What she discovers will connect her past and her future in ways she could have never imagined—and reveal her own role in a plot that endangers not just her world but the entire multiverse.</p>	<p>Kindle Book, Adobe EPUB ebook, OverDrive Read, Print Book, OverDrive MP3 Audiobook, OverDrive Listen</p>
Nonfiction		
	<p><i>The Pretty One</i> Brown, Keah</p> <p>Keah Brown loves herself, but that hadn't always been the case. Born with cerebral palsy, her greatest desire used to be normalcy and refuge from the steady stream of self-hate. But after years of introspection and reaching out to others in her community, she has reclaimed herself and changed her perspective. In <i>The Pretty One</i>, Brown gives a contemporary and relatable voice to the disabled—so often portrayed as mute, weak, or isolated. With clear, fresh, and light-hearted prose, these essays explore everything from her relationship with her able-bodied identical twin (called “the pretty one” by friends) to navigating romance; her deep affinity for all things pop culture—and her disappointment with the media's distorted view of disability; and her declaration of self-love with the viral hashtag #DisabledAndCute</p>	<p>Kindle Book, Adobe EPUB ebook, OverDrive Read, Print Book, Book on CD</p>
	<p><i>Notes From A Young Black Chef</i> Onwuachi, Kwame</p> <p>By the time he was 27 years old, Kwame Onwuachi had opened—and closed—one of the most talked about restaurants in America. He had sold drugs in New York and been shipped off to rural Nigeria to “learn respect.” He had launched his own catering company with \$20,000 made from selling candy on the subway, and starred on <i>Top Chef</i>. Through it all, Onwuachi's love of food and cooking remained a constant. In this inspirational memoir about the intersection of race, fame, and food, he shares the remarkable story of his culinary coming-of-age; a powerful, heartfelt, and shockingly honest account of chasing your dreams—even when they don't turn out as you expected.</p>	<p>OverDrive MP3 Audiobook, OverDrive Listen, Kindle Book, Adobe EPUB ebook, OverDrive Read, Print Book, Large Print Book</p>

Book	Title, Author, Review	Where can I find it?
	<p><i>Poisoned Water</i> Cooper, Candy J. In 2014, Flint, Michigan, was a cash-strapped city that had been built up, then abandoned by General Motors. As part of a plan to save money, government officials decided that Flint would temporarily switch its water supply from Lake Huron to the Flint River. Within months, many residents broke out in rashes. Then it got worse: children stopped growing. Some people were hospitalized with mysterious illnesses; others died. Citizens of Flint protested that the water was dangerous. Despite what seemed so apparent from the murky, foul-smelling liquid pouring from the city's faucets, officials refused to listen. They treated the people of Flint as the problem, not the water, which was actually poisoning thousands.</p>	Print Book
	<p><i>Beyond the Gender Binary</i> Vaid-Menon, Alok Activist and artist Vaid-Menon writes with purpose and passion about the harmful impact of judging gender non-conforming individuals through the lens of the gender binary. The author, who grew up in an Indian American family in College Station, TX, recounts how their experience, their life, and their way of moving through the world were not only viewed as wrong but as something to be ashamed of. They explain, "Overnight, so many of the things that I loved not only became associated with femininity but with shame." They share their process of personal growth during adolescence and young adulthood, which led to self-acceptance, pride, and the freedom and joy that accompanied that awareness. The message is empowering, informative, and supportive, offering young people a beacon of hope in what can be a dark time.</p>	Print Book, Kindle Book, Adobe EPUB ebook, OverDrive Read
Poetry		
	<p><i>The Hill We Climb</i> Gorman, Amanda On January 20, 2021, Amanda Gorman became the sixth and youngest poet to deliver a poetry reading at a presidential inauguration. Taking the stage after the 46th president of the United States, Joe Biden, Gorman captivated the nation and brought hope to viewers around the globe. <i>The Hill We Climb: An Inaugural Poem for the Country</i>, with a foreword by Oprah Winfrey, is the text of that significant and powerful poem.</p>	Print
	<p><i>The Best American Poetry 2020</i> Rekdal, Paisley guest editor Lehman, David series editor Since 1988, <i>The Best American Poetry</i> anthology series has been "one of the mainstays of the poetry publication world" (Academy of American Poets). Each volume in the series presents some of the year's most remarkable poems and poets. Now, the 2020 edition is guest edited by Utah's Poet Laureate Paisely Rekdal, called "a poet of observation and history...[who] revels in detail but writes vast, moral poems that help us live in a world of contraries" by the <i>Los Angeles Times</i>. In <i>The Best American Poetry 2020</i>, she has selected a fascinating array of work that speaks eloquently to the "contraries" of our present moment in time.</p>	Print Adobe EPUB ebook OverDrive Read



Don't forget to visit the PPS Reading Corner this summer! You will find Story Times with fun follow-up activities as well as Book Talks with your PPS School Librarians. Listen to books, stories and poetry appropriate for Pre-K through High School. Get excited about reading, listening, and learning! You will find a little bit of the magic of school libraries here. [Click here! https://www.pghschools.org/Page/5404](https://www.pghschools.org/Page/5404)