



WEST  
VIRGINIA

# 2022 FAMILY READ WEEK

NOVEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup> - 20<sup>TH</sup>

SHARE THE POWER OF IMAGINATION!



CHAPTER BOOKS

GRAPHIC NOVELS

SCIENCE  
FICTION  
MYSTERY  
BIOGRAPHY

FANTASY

ROMANCE

HISTORY



AUDIO BOOKS

E-BOOKS

BRAILLE



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This fun and exciting guidebook is filled with ideas and tips to bring more reading into your family time. The West Virginia Library Commission and your local public library partner for a week each November to highlight ways reading can strengthen family time and grow academic success in children.

West Virginia Family Read Week gives you the tools to add reading to your family time or ideas and activities to expand the reading time you might already do as a family.

Parents and caregivers are vital role models in getting children interested in reading. Studies show when parents and caregivers talk about books and read with their children, kids develop better language skills, perform well academically, and cultivate a love for reading.

Enjoying books together sends powerful messages about the wonders of reading, learning, and creating. It teaches children reading happens everywhere and everyday—not just at school. They see reading not as a chore or assignment, but as a pleasurable activity they can do with the most important people in their lives.

The goal of this reading packet is to help parents and caregivers develop literacy skills and to create strong readers. Simple and small interactions with adults have a big impact on young children.

Reading is the best way for children to develop literacy skills and boost their vocabulary. When reading books, we often encounter words that are not commonplace in day-to-day conversations.

For West Virginia Family Read Week, we encourage you to not only read with your child but to visit your local library together to discover the many offerings it has for keeping your family reading beyond this week.



# ***LET'S BEGIN***

This year's West Virginia Family Read Week gives us the opportunity to unlock the Power of Reading while having fun together as a family.

Reading comics and graphic novels help children in many ways. These benefits go beyond improving literacy skills, which all forms of reading do.

For more information about the benefits of children reading comic books and graphic novels, see the Resources page at the end of the Family Guidebook.

We hope you and your family take some time to explore books throughout the week. You are not limited to just comic books and graphic novels..

There are activities and reading lists for each day of the week in this guidebook. Look through the packet to see what might appeal to your family.

Read the books you select before hand, if possible. Reading the book first allows you to find the twists and turns, areas where questions might pop-up, and parts of the story your child will like most. It might also prompt questions to ask while reading the story.

If your child is very young, don't worry if he/she might not seem interested in sitting still while you read. It takes time to for children to develop listening and reading skills. Start off reading to your child as a newborn and keep reading to them as they grow. It will become a natural part of your family's activities.

When West Virginia Family Read Week is over, keep reading! Be sure to continue visiting the library and reading together.



## MEANWHILE BACK AT THE LIBRARY...

The first step in using your reading super power this week, is to visit your local public library get a library card.

Once you have a card, you are ready to begin to unlock the Power of Reading.

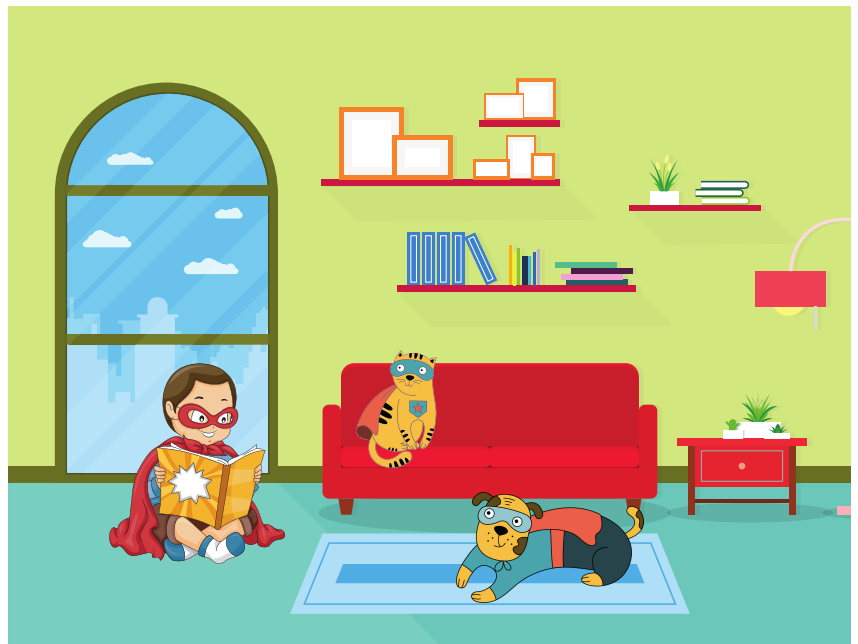
Search your library's online card catalog to find comics, graphic novels, and other stories to flex your reading super power. Create a list of books to explore at the library. This is a good time to talk about different types of stories (fiction and non-fiction), different types of books (picture books, chapter books, graphic novels, etc.)

In addition to a library card, your family might want to complete some of the quests listed on the next page to see your reading super power in action.

You can even invite a Book Buddy to join in the fun as well.

Be sure to stop by your local public library all week to participate in their activities!





Having a Book Buddy allows your child to make a friend to read to or with during the week. There are several options for a Book Buddy, your child can use a stuffed animal they may already adore, pick a new stuffed friend, or build a Book Buddy just for the week.

Book Buddies are a great way for children to boost their reading abilities.

The Book Buddy can even search for books it might like to read or hear read.

Once your child has a Book Buddy, make it an official part of West Virginia Family Read Week activities.

Older kids might enjoy having a Book Buddy that travels and takes photos of places. Think of the Flat Stanley Project: [www.flatstanleyproject.com](http://www.flatstanleyproject.com) or this middle school English teacher's classroom pet project:

<https://mrsbsbrainybunch.com/building-a-sense-of-community-in-your-middle-school-classroom/>

More about the benefits of Book Buddies and reading.

<https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/blog-posts/alycia-zimmerman/stuffed-animals-reading-and-writing-buddies/>

<https://food.ndtv.com/health/teddy-bear-helps-your-infant-cultivate-reading-habits-1664816>

<https://parentclub.ganzworld.com/uncategorized/the-benefits-of-plush-toys/>

<https://www.donorschoose.org/project/adopt-a-stuffed-animal-for-buddy-reading/4532555/>



After you find some great books, gather the family to make some fun superhero and comic related crafts. Express your reading super power!

Easy Upcycle T-shirt capes

<https://thetiptoefairy.com/easy-upcycle-t-shirt-capes/>

Rainbow Loom Superhero Flingers

<https://frugalfun4boys.com/rainbow-loom-superhero-flingers/>

DC Super Hero Girls Peg Dolls

<https://www.thecrafttrain.com/dc-super-hero-girls-peg-dolls/>

DIY Mini Superhero Shield

<https://spaceshipsandlaserbeams.com/diy-mini-superhero-shield/>

Pipe Cleaner Superheroes

<https://frugalfun4boys.com/pipe-cleaner-superheroes/>

Comic Book Bookmarks

<https://craftingagreenworld.com/articles/make-comic-book-bookmarks/>

DIY Superhero Bookends

<https://littleredwindow.com/diy-superhero-bookends>





Here are some activities for parents/caregivers with visually impaired children.

#### Story Boxes: A Hands-On Literacy Experience

This web article explains how to make story boxes.

<https://www.wonderbaby.org/articles/story-boxes>

#### Make a Texture Book

This website explains how to make a texture book for low vision children. It would be a fun and creative way to explore the world of superheroes with your child.

<https://www.aph.org/the-tactile-and-cvi-book-builder-kits/>

#### Superheroes Sensory Bag or Bin Ideas

Here are a few ideas to create sensory bags/bins with and for your kids.

<https://www.messarounduk.com/blog/five-simple-superhero-messy-play-activities-try-home/><https://littlebinsforlittlehands.com/icy-super-hero-rescue-sensory-sink/>

<https://www.thechaosandthec clutter.com/archives/superheroes-sensory-bag-superkids>

#### Marvel Superhero Slime

A fun tactile craft to make with a superhero.

<https://temeculablogs.com/superhero-slime/>



# **THE KIDS ARE ALL WRITE: HOW TO MAKE A COMIC**

## **BY JAMIE NANFARA AT KIDLITTV**

<https://www.kidlit.tv/2016/10/how-to-make-a-comic/>

<https://kidlit.tv/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/ComicWorksheet.pdf>

### **Step 1: Pick a character**

Who is your story about? Is your character a human or a fierce lion?

### **Step 2: Sketch your character**

Do a few sketches of your character on scratch paper. Draw him/her happy, sad, and angry. What does he/she look like running or jumping? Make quick sketches of your character doing different things.

### **Step 3: Think of a plot**

What does your character want? Plan your story by giving your character a hope, want, or goal. Then, put something in the way so that your character has to struggle before getting what they want. Use the sentence below to help you plan your story.

My character wants \_\_\_\_\_ but \_\_\_\_\_ so \_\_\_\_\_.

Example: Ted the Dragon wants a friend but everyone is scared of his fire breath so he lets them roast marshmallows in his fire breath!

### **Step 4: Plan your panels**

Before you start drawing, plan how your story will go by saying it out loud. Point to each panel and plan what your picture will look like. Don't forget to think about dialogue – what will your character be saying in each scene?

### **Step 5: Bring your comic to life!**

Download our comic worksheets and tell your story! Draw the pictures and add speech bubbles. Use colored pencils or crayons to add color to your comic.

# QUESTS

GET A  
LIBRARY  
CARD  
OR  
ALREADY HAVE  
ONE

DO AN  
ACTIVITY FROM  
THE FAMILY  
GUIDEBOOK

CHECK  
OUT  
A  
BOOK!

ATTEND A  
LIBRARY  
PROGRAM!

TELL A FRIEND ABOUT  
WEST VIRGINIA  
FAMILY READ WEEK!

DOWNLOAD  
AN  
AUDIOBOOK!

READ TO A  
FAMILY  
MEMBER

READ TO A  
PET OR YOUR  
BOOK BUDDY



READ  
15 MINS

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# YOU ARE A SUPER READER

Now you have the Power of Reading! Design your Super Reader identity!



# TACTILE

# SUPER READER

Now you have the Power of Reading! Create a Tactile Super Reader for your own Super Reader by gluing different items to the image. Use items with different textures. For inspiration check out this art guide to tactile art:  
<https://www.henshaws.org.uk/tactile-art-is-a-way/>



# GRAPHIC NOVELS READING LISTS

grades 3 - 5

## **The Accursed Vampire**

**Madeline McGrane**

QUILL TREE, 2021

9780062954350

Nonbinary vampire child Dragoslava has been tasked with returning a stolen spell book for an unkind witch and learns to rely on their friends, fellow vamp children Eztli and Quintus, for help along the way.

## **The Adventures of Team Pom: Squid Happens**

**Isabel Roxas**

FLYING EYE BOOKS, 2021

9781912497256

Offbeat pals competing for a synchronized swimming championship find something fishy at their swim club, where an enormous squid hides out.

## **Allergic**

**Megan Wagner Lloyd, illust. by Michelle Mee Nutter**

GRAPHIX, 2021

9781338568912

While learning to live with an allergy, Maggie searches for a pet she can safely love and questions her friendship with her next-door neighbor, who just got a puppy.

## **Blancaflor, the Hero with Secret Powers: A Folktale from Latin America**

**Nadja Spiegelman, illust. by Sergio García Sánchez**

TOON BOOKS, 2021

9781943145553

In an updated retelling of this folktale, Blancaflor uses her powers to help a prince with a challenge set by her ogre father, in hope of having a happily ever after.

## **Can You Hear a Penguin Fart on Mars? And Other Excellent Questions (Jop and Blip Wanna Know #1)**

**Jim Benton**

HARPERALLEY, 2021

9780062972927

Robots Jop and Blip work through the logic of whether you can hear a penguin fart on Mars and other silly questions, while sharing hilarious jokes and interesting facts.

## **Complete the Quest: The Poisonous Library**

**Brian McLachlan**

MACMILLAN, 2021

9781250268297

Choose your characters and navigate maps on a perilous quest to save Queen Evergreen from the evil plot to destroy this imaginary world's books.

## **The Fifth Quarter**

**Mike Dawson**

FIRST SECOND, 2021

9781250244178

In the fifth quarter of basketball, points don't count. That doesn't stop Lori, though, from playing her favorite sport and working to improve at it. Now if only she could feel like she fit in with her friends, things would be good on and off the court.

## **The First Case (Pup Detectives #1)**

**Felix Gumpaw, illust. by Walmir Archanjo**

LITTLE SIMON, 2021

9781534474956

Four young pup detectives join together to solve the crimes at their school, like missing pencils and a lunchtime bandit who keeps stealing the cafeteria's food.

## **Fred & Marjorie: A Doctor, a Dog, and the Discovery of Insulin**

**Deborah Kerbel, illust. by Angela Poon**

OWLKIDS, 2021

9781771474115

A Canadian doctor's research in the 1920s led to the discovery of life-saving insulin but raises ethical issues about animal experimentation.

## **Garlic and the Vampire**

**Bree Paulsen**

QUILL TREE, 2021

9780062995094

With talking veggies and a reclusive vampire who only drinks beet juice, this graphic novel explores themes of anxiety, bravery, and believing in yourself!

## **The Golden Hour**

**Niki Smith**

LITTLE, BROWN, 2021

9780316540377

After a traumatic event, Manuel is paired with Sebastian and Caysha for a group project. The three become fast friends, working together to prepare for the local county fair.

## **Just Roll with It**

**Lee Durfey-Lavoie, illust. by Veronica Agarwal**

RANDOM HOUSE GRAPHIC, 2021

9781984897008

Maggie's starting middle school, and her worries have begun to control her life in a way that doesn't feel healthy or sustainable. A thoughtful exploration of anxiety and OCD, aided by supportive relationships.

## **Katie the Catsitter**

**Colleen AF Venable, illust. by Stephanie Yue**

RANDOM HOUSE, 2021

9780593306321

**valsc**  
ASSOCIATION FOR LIBRARY  
SERVICE TO CHILDREN



The Graphic Novels Reading List was created by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association. Titles on this list were selected and annotated by members of ALSC's Quicklists Consulting Committee.

For more booklists, please visit:  
[ala.org/alsc/booklists](https://ala.org/alsc/booklists)

grades  
**3 - 5**

When Katie starts watching her neighbor's cats—all 217 of them!—to earn extra money, she notices a wave of crimes happen only when her neighbor is out. It's up to Katie—and the cats—to stop the crimes before they get out of control!

### **Living with Viola**

**Rosena Fung**

ANNICK PRESS, 2021  
9781773215488

Livy deals with being the new kid on top of hiding her recurring anxiety from her parents and family. This story tackles tough topics in an easy-to-understand way.

### **Monster Friends**

**Kaeti Vandorn**

RANDOM HOUSE GRAPHIC, 2021  
9781984896827

Shape-shifting monster Reggie is happy to spend a quiet summer house-sitting for his cousins. Reggie's solitude is interrupted by Emily, an energetic and enthusiastic young monster who is determined to be his friend.

### **The Mystery Monster (Paige Proves It #1)**

**Amy Marie Stadelmann**

ALADDIN, 2021  
9781534451612

Paige has just moved to Evergreen Street, where she uses her favorite things—logic and facts—to investigate a supposed monster that also lives on the street.

### **Otto: A Palindrama**

**Jon Agee**

DIAL, 2021  
9780803741621

When his pet Pip goes missing, Otto goes on a wild mission to find his missing pup. This inventive graphic novel is written entirely in palindromes.

### **Pawcasso**

**Remy Lai**

HENRY HOLT, 2021  
9781250774484

A story about missing your family, the ups and downs of friendship, and how a lie can snowball but forgiveness is still possible.

### **Power Up**

**Sam Nisson, illust. by Darnell Johnson**

ETCH/CLARION, 2021  
9780358325659

Taking place in both the real world and in a video game, this story examines themes of friendship and bullying.

### **Roar of the Beast (Cardboard Kingdom #2)**

**Chad Sell and others, illust. by Chad Sell**

KNOPF, 2021  
9780593125540

The Cardboard Kingdom is threatened by bullies and monsters, and the neighborhood friends must work together to save the Kingdom before Halloween.

### **Saving Sorya: Chang and the Sun Bear**

**Trang Nguyen, illust. by Jeet Zdung**

DIAL, 2021  
9780593353639

A young conservationist attempts to reintegrate a sun bear into the wild in this beautifully illustrated translation from Vietnam.

### **The Secret Garden on 81st Street**

**Ivy Noelle Weir, illust. by Amber Padilla**

LITTLE, BROWN, 2021  
9780316459655

This retelling of Frances Hodgson Burnett's novel places a racially diverse cast of characters in modern-day New York City.

### **Secrets of Camp Whatever**

**Chris Grine**

ONI PRESS, 2021  
9781620108628

Stuck at her dad's old summer camp, Willow is sucked into mystery after mystery. Soon, she must come to terms with family secrets—and her own.

### **The Sleepover**

**Michael Regina**

RAZORBILL, 2021  
9780593117347

Grieving the sudden death of his beloved nanny, Ruby, Matt believes Ruby's voice is calling to him, and he suspects his new nanny hides an evil secret.

### **Student Ambassador: The Missing Dragon**

**Ryan Estrada, illust. by Axur Eneas**

IRON CIRCUS COMICS, 2021  
9781945820601

Joseph, eight-year-old student ambassador, gets sent on a special mission by the president to talk an eight-year-old king of another country out of going to war.

### **Sunny Makes a Splash (Sunny #4)**

**Jennifer L. Holm, illust. by Matthew Holm**

SCHOLASTIC, 2021  
9781338233186

Sunny is relieved to get a job at the local swimming pool, which not only gets her out of babysitting her little brother but also brings new friends.

### **A Tale as Tall as Jacob: Misadventures with My Brother**

**Samantha Edwards**

ANDREWS MCMEEL, 2021  
9781524865047

A fictional tale based on the author's experiences growing up with a younger brother with ADHD.

### **Wingbearer**

**Marjorie Liu, illust. by Teny Issakhanian**

QUILL TREE, 2022  
9780062741165

Young orphan Zuli leaves the safety of her magic-tree haven for a world she has no memory of to discover what is interfering with the avian cycle of rebirth. An epic fantasy quest full of colorful characters, big action, plenty of humor, and a big heart.



# GRAPHIC NOVELS READING LISTS

grades 6 - 8

## **Amelia Erroway: Castaway Commander**

**Betsy Peterschmidt**

GRAPHIX, 2021

9781338186147

When Amelia accidentally pilots her father's ship into the unknown lands, Rastor and Fynley, twin-brother engineers who live in the rain forest, do their best to help her fix the ship and fly home.

## **Another Kind**

**Trevor Bream and Cait May, illust. by Cait May**

HARPERALLEY, 2021

9780063043541

Six "irregular" children are locked away in a secret government lab due to their special appearances and abilities. After almost being kidnapped, these kids must go on the run to save themselves and others like them.

## **Artie and the Wolf Moon**

**Olivia Stephens**

GRAPHIC UNIVERSE, 2021

9781541542488

After discovering she's one of a long line of were-wolves, Artie must quickly harness her powers and master wolf skills when vampires come back to town.

## **The Awakening Storm (City of Dragons #1)**

**Jaimal Yogis and Vivian Truong**

GRAPHIX, 2021

9781338660432

Having just moved to Hong Kong with her mom and stepdad, Grace adjusts to a new school, makes new friends, and also protects a dragon from the Chinese legends her father used to tell her at bedtime.

## **Big Apple Diaries**

**Alyssa Bermudez**

ROARING BROOK, 2021

9781250774279

This memoir-style graphic novel follows middle-schooler Alyssa around New York City during the year 2001.

## **Borders**

**Thomas King, illust. by Natasha Donovan**

LITTLE, BROWN, 2021

9780316593069

While on a trip off their reserve to Salt Lake City, a mother and son who identify themselves as Blackfoot citizens get stuck between the United States and Canadian borders when guards will not recognize them.

## **Chunky**

**Yehudi Mercado**

HARPERALLEY, 2021

9780062972798

Hudi, a comedian rather than athlete, is forced by his parents and doctor to try various sports to lose weight. With the support of his mascot, Chunky, Hudi may just survive these sports while also being himself.

## **Death & Sparkles**

**Rob Justus**

CHRONICLE, 2021

9781797206356

After Death meets global sensation Sparkles the Last Unicorn, the unlikely pair square off against a trio of alien lizards intent on spreading their message of conservation and responsible citizenship in a story with fart jokes, philosophical musings, and cupcakes galore.

## **The Dragon Path**

**Ethan Young**

GRAPHIX, 2021

9781338363302

On the way to the Old Land, Prince Sing gets separated from his family due to a menacing dragon tribe. The prince must learn the truth about his family's past and rescue them.

## **Fly by Night**

**Tara O'Connor**

RANDOM HOUSE GRAPHIC, 2021

9780593125304

On a search for her missing sister, Dee discovers there's something living in the woods around her. That something might just be monsters, but the monsters are rarely who or what you think they are.

## **The Girl from the Sea**

**Molly Knox Ostertag**

GRAPHIX, 2021

9781338540581

Saved from drowning by a magical sea creature, Morgan soon falls in love with a mermaid who attempts to pass as human in order to spend time with Morgan and prevent a coming disaster.

## **In the Shadow of the Fallen Towers: The Seconds, Minutes, Hours, Days, Weeks, Months, and Years After the 9/11 Attacks**

**Don Brown**

ETCH/CLARION, 2021

9780358223573

A chronology of the devastating aftermath, personal and political consequences, heartbreak, and heroism of many who were directly involved in the attacks on September 11, 2001.

## **Jukebox**

**Nidhi Chanani**

FIRST SECOND, 2021

9781250156365

Shaheen's music-loving father is missing, and she and her cousin are led to a jukebox with the power of time travel while investigating his disappearance.





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### **Just Pretend**

**Tori Sharp**

LITTLE, BROWN, 2021  
9780316538893

Tori turns to her love of books and writing to navigate her parents' divorce and the growing pains of middle-school friendship.

### **Kyle's Little Sister**

**BonHyung Jeong**

JY, 2021  
9781975335892

Grace struggles starting middle school in the shadow of her older brother, a popular basketball player.

### **The Leak**

**Kate Reed Petty, illust. by Andrea Bell**

FIRST SECOND, 2021  
9781250217950

Twelve-year-old Ruth dreams of being an investigative reporter and finds a great news story when she and a friend discover strange black slime at the local lake.

### **The Legend of Auntie Po**

**Shing Yin Khor**

KOKILA, 2021  
9780525554882

In addition to her pie-baking talents, 13-year-old Mei is a storyteller whose stories not only connect traditions and community but also help her navigate the racism Mei and others encounter as Chinese Americans in 1885.

### **Long Distance**

**Whitney Gardner**

SIMON & SCHUSTER, 2021  
9781534455665

After an unwanted family move, things get very strange at Vega's summer camp, where she must team up with new friends to solve an out-of-this-world mystery.

### **Lucy in the Sky**

**Kiara Brinkman, illust. by Sean Chiki**

FIRST SECOND, 2021  
9781626727212

Lucy struggles at home, but after finding her dad's Beatles records, she creates an all-girl band with her friends, although success may be harder to find than Lucy thinks.

### **Messy Roots: A Graphic Memoir of a Wuhanese American**

**Laura Gao**

BALZER + BRAY, 2022  
9780063067776

In this graphic memoir, Laura faces challenges both in her school and in her home as she adjusts to her new life in suburban Texas after emigrating from Wuhan, China, as a young girl.

### **Other Boys**

**Damian Alexander**

FIRST SECOND, 2021  
9781250222824

This memoir chronicles the author's seventh-grade year as he attempts to avoid the bullying he experienced at his previous school and navigate questions about his sexuality.

### **Run: Book One**

**John Lewis and Andrew Aydin, illust. by Nate Powell and others**

ABRAMS, 2021  
9781419730696

This follow-up to the March trilogy brings to life figures of the 1960s movement for civil rights and encourages readers to continue the fight to make "good trouble."

### **Salt Magic**

**Hope Larson, illust. by Rebecca Mock**

MARGARET FERGUSON BOOKS, 2021  
9780823446209

After a mysterious woman's curse turns her family farm's fresh spring into salt water, 11-year-old Vonceil discovers a world of witchcraft that reveals unsettling truths about the life she thought she knew.

### **The Sprite and the Gardener**

**Joe Whitt, illust. by Rii Abrego**

ONI PRESS, 2021  
9781620109069

A curious sprite named Wisteria awakens her long-dormant gardening skills by questioning the way things are now and how they used to be.

### **Stealing Home**

**J. Torres, illust. by David Namisato**

KIDS CAN PRESS, 2021  
9781525303340

Reflecting the true story of Japanese Canadians and the Vancouver Asahi baseball team, Sandy Saito and his family must navigate their time in an internment camp following the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

### **Swan Lake: Quest for the Kingdoms**

**Rey Terciero, illust. by Megan Kearney**

HARPERALLEY, 2022  
9780062941480

Two princesses from rival royal families become best friends on an epic quest to cure a curse and perhaps ease tension between their kingdoms as well.

### **Treasure in the Lake**

**Jason Pamment**

HARPERALLEY, 2021  
9780063065185

Mystery, adventure, and tests of friendship ensue when 13-year-old Iris and her best friend Sam discover a hidden city in a dry riverbed.

grades  
**6 - 8**

# GRAPHIC NOVELS READING LISTS

## **All Ketchup, No Mustard! (Nugget and Dog #1)**

by Jason Sharp  
SIMON SPOTLIGHT, 2021  
9781534484634

This story follows a chicken nugget and a hot dog who are the best of friends. Nugget and Dog start the K.E.T.C.H.U.P. club, where they hope to save the world with positivity and goodness.

## **Apple of My Pie (Norma and Belly #2)**

by Mika Song  
RANDOM HOUSE GRAPHIC, 2021  
9781984895851

Follow the misadventures of three young squirrels who attempt to rescue Gramps when he accidentally ends up at an apple farm. Luckily, their visit coincides with a school field trip, and a friendly student helps out.

## **Beware the Claw! (Hound Heroes #1)**

by Todd Goldman  
GRAPHIX, 2021  
9781338648461

When a spaceship crashes in their backyard, an ordinary group of dogs become . . . the Hound Heroes! In their first tale, they face off against an alley cat, The Claw, who is intent on destroying them.

## **Boris the Cat: The Little Cat with Big Ideas**

by Erwin Moser  
NORTHSOUTH, 2021  
9780735844544

Seasonal short stories from Germany about the playful adventures of a charming cat and his animal friends.

## **The Bug Club**

by Elise Gravel  
DRAWN & QUARTERLY, 2021  
9781770464155

Did you know there is a kind of tarantula that keeps pet frogs? Learn about all kinds of insects in this lively, informative book.

## **Cranky Chicken**

by Katherine Battersby  
MARGARET K. MCELDERRY BOOKS, 2021  
978153446988

One very cranky chicken, with his very cranky eyebrow, meets a cheerful worm named Speedy, and over three chapters (with two playful interludes), the unlikely pair become BFFs (that's best feathered friends).

## **Dinosaurs before Dark (Magic Tree House Graphic Novel #1)**

by Mary Pope Osborne, adapted by Jenny Laird, illustrated by Kelly and Nichole Matthews  
RANDOM HOUSE, 2021  
9780593174685

Jack and Annie are investigating a mysterious tree house when they are suddenly taken to the prehistoric past! Hopefully they make it home before dark or else they'll be someone's dinner.

## **Fish and Sun**

by Sergio Ruzzier  
HARPERALLEY, 2021  
9780063076648

A bored young Fish ventures to the ocean's surface and befriends Sun, only to see it disappear after a fun-filled day. Fish is left wondering what will happen to their friendship.

grades K - 2

## **Frog and Ball**

by Kathy Caple  
HOLIDAY HOUSE, 2021  
9780823443413

Frog uses a magic spell book on a flat ball. When that doesn't work, he kicks it, but the now-angry ball flies back at him and chases Frog around town.

## **Geraldine Pu and Her Lunch Box, Too!**

by Maggie P. Chang  
SIMON SPOTLIGHT, 2021  
9781534484696

Geraldine's Amah packs her lunch box, which she calls Biandang, for school every morning with Taiwanese delights. However, one classmate doesn't think her food looks or smells very good.

## **Going Up! (Baloney and Friends #2)**

by Greg Pizzoli  
LITTLE, BROWN, 2021  
9780759554801

Friends Baloney, Peanut, Bizz, and Krabbit return for more silliness as they write a theme song, search for a missing sneeze, and more.



The Graphic Novels Reading List was created by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association. Titles on this list were selected and annotated by members of ALSC's Quicklists Consulting Committee.

For more booklists, please visit:  
[ala.org/alsc/booklists](https://ala.org/alsc/booklists)

**Haylee and Comet: A Tale of Cosmic Friendship**

by **Deborah Marcero**

ROARING BROOK, 2021  
9781250774392

Haylee's wish comes true when Comet falls from the sky and becomes her friend.

**I'm On It!**

by **Andrea Tsurumi**

HYPERION, 2021  
9781368066969

In this comic exploration of positional words, a goat and a frog play a game of one-upmanship with hilarious results.

**Kitty Sweet Tooth**

by **Abby Denson, illustrated by Utamaru**

FIRST SECOND, 2021  
9781250196774

Kitty Sweet Tooth is determined to save Pop-Pop's theater and make it spectacular. With a renovation under her belt, she's ready for opening night, until everything starts to go wrong! It's up to Kitty to make things right.

**Kraken Me Up**

by **Jeffrey Ebbeler**

HOLIDAY HOUSE, 2021  
9780823450176

When a young girl brings a kraken to the fair's pet show, everyone is afraid. The kraken must find a way to make people smile.

**Play It Cool (Cookie & Broccoli #2)**

by **Bob McMahon**

DIAL, 2021  
9780593109090

This second installment in this silly series about two unlikely friends places Broccoli as the new leader of the "Cool Crowd" and explores questions about what being cool really means.

**The Quest for Snacks (Cat & Cat Adventures #1)**

by **Susie Yi**

HARPERALLEY, 2021  
9780063083806

When two magical cats run out of snacks, they go on an epic adventure to find the missing ingredients for a magic potion that will produce unlimited snacks.

**The Sleepover and Other Stories (Fox & Chick #3)**

by **Sergio Ruzzier**

CHRONICLE, 2021  
9781452183381

Ever-patient Fox and his friend Chick are back again, this time for a sleepless sleepover, a long-lost hammer, and a birthday-party surprise.

**Tiny Tales: Shell Quest**

by **Steph Waldo**

HARPERALLEY, 2021  
9780063067837

Perfect for new readers, this super-short graphic novel teaches how to stay true to yourself, while exploring the scientific differences between slugs and snails.

**¡Vamos! Let's Cross the Bridge**

by **Raúl the Third**

VERSIFY, 2021  
9780358380405

Another dynamic tale of the adventures of Little Lobo and his friends; this time the anthropomorphic friends are heading across the border to attend "la gran celebración."

**Wildflowers**

by **Liniers**

TOON BOOKS, 2021  
9781943145539

Three sisters explore a jungle with giant flowers, a tiny gorilla, and a dragon before their play is interrupted by a call to come in for dinner.

grades  
**K - 2**



# RESOURCES!



## Graphic Novels for Kids: Classroom Ideas, Booklists, and More

Graphic novels for elementary and middle grade children have become enormously popular and widely accepted by parents, teachers, and librarians.

 Reading Rockets / Apr 15, 2021



### Graphic Novels: Read the Pictures

Traditionally, we think of storyboo...  
[readingrockets.org](http://readingrockets.org)



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### Family Engagement Toolkit

Family Engagement Toolkit The  
Public Library Association (PLA) a...  
[ilovelibraries.org](http://ilovelibraries.org)

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### Using Graphic Novels and Comics in the Classroom

Reasons to use graphic novels and...  
[edutopia.org](http://edutopia.org)