

**Book of Choice List
Summer 2026**

1. A Christmas Carol — Charles Dickens

A miser is transformed by three spirits who teach him mercy, generosity, and redemption.

2. A Little Princess — Frances Hodgson Burnett

A girl who loses everything refuses to lose her kindness, proving true nobility comes from the heart.

3. A Tale of Two Cities (abridged) — Charles Dickens

A story of sacrifice and courage set during the French Revolution.

4. A Wrinkle in Time — Madeleine L'Engle

Meg travels through space to rescue her father and discovers that love is stronger than darkness.

5. Alice's Adventures in Wonderland — Lewis Carroll

A curious girl tumbles into a world of riddles, nonsense, and unforgettable characters.

6. All Creatures Great and Small (young readers edition) — James Herriot

True stories of a country vet who meets quirky animals and even quirkier people.

7. Anne of Green Gables — L.M. Montgomery

A spirited orphan transforms a small community with her imagination and honesty.

8. Black Beauty — Anna Sewell

A horse tells his own story, teaching compassion and responsibility.

9. The Black Stallion — Walter Farley

A boy and a wild stallion form an unbreakable bond after surviving a shipwreck.

10. The Blue Sword — Robin McKinley

A young woman discovers she is destined for a heroic role in a desert kingdom.

11. The Borrowers — Mary Norton

Tiny people living under the floorboards must outsmart humans to survive.

12. The Bronze Bow — Elizabeth George Speare

A young man in Roman-occupied Israel learns forgiveness through an encounter with Christ.

13. Brown Girl Dreaming — Jacqueline Woodson

A poetic memoir about growing up and finding your voice.

14. Bud, Not Buddy — Christopher Paul Curtis

A boy searches for his father during the Great Depression, discovering hope and resilience.

15. Call of the Wild — Jack London

A sled dog must survive the harsh Yukon wilderness and discover his true nature.

16. Carry On, Mr. Bowditch — Jean Lee Latham

A mathematical genius overcomes hardship to chart new paths in navigation.

17. Cheaper by the Dozen — Gilbreth & Carey

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A hilarious, heartwarming look at a big family run by two efficiency experts.

18. The Children's Homer — Padraic Colum

A vivid retelling of *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* for young readers.

19. The Children's Plutarch — F.J. Gould

Short, inspiring stories of ancient heroes who shaped history.

20. The Chronicles of Narnia (any title) — C.S. Lewis

Adventures filled with courage, sacrifice, and Christian symbolism.

21. The Crossover — Kwame Alexander

Twin brothers navigate basketball, family, and growing up in this fast-paced, poetic novel.

22. David Copperfield (abridged) — Charles Dickens

A boy grows into a man while facing hardship and injustice.

23. Emma (abridged) — Jane Austen

A clever young woman learns humility and charity through her matchmaking mistakes.

24. The Enchanted Castle — E. Nesbit

Three children discover a magical ring that leads to unexpected adventures.

25. The Fellowship of the Ring (abridged) — J.R.R. Tolkien

A hobbit begins a dangerous quest to destroy a powerful ring.

26. From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler — E.L. Konigsburg

Two siblings run away to a museum and uncover a mystery.

27. The Girl Who Drank the Moon — Kelly Barnhill

A magical story about truth, sacrifice, and love overcoming fear.

28. The Giver — Lois Lowry

A boy discovers the dark truth behind his seemingly perfect society.

29. The Golden Goblet — Eloise Jarvis McGraw

An Egyptian boy uncovers a dangerous secret while trying to prove his worth.

30. The Golden Thread (St. Ignatius of Loyola)– Louis de Wohl

A fast-moving narrative of Ignatius's conversion and early spiritual journey, emphasizing courage, discipline, and discernment.

31. The Great Expectations (abridged) — Charles Dickens

An orphan learns that true worth comes from character, not wealth.

32. The Great Little Madison — Jean Fritz

A lively biography of James Madison and the founding of the United States.

33. The Green Ember — S.D. Smith

Heroic rabbits fight to reclaim their kingdom in this virtue-rich fantasy.

34. The Iliad (Classic Starts) — Homer

Epic battles and heroic deeds unfold in this ancient classic.

35. The Indian in the Cupboard – Lynne Reid Banks

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When a toy figurine magically comes to life, a boy must learn responsibility, courage, and respect as he protects his tiny new friend.

36. Island of the Blue Dolphins — Scott O'Dell

A girl survives alone on an island using courage and resourcefulness.

37. Jane Eyre (abridged) — Charlotte Brontë

A young woman seeks love and integrity while overcoming hardship.

38. Journey to the Center of the Earth — Jules Verne

An expedition uncovers prehistoric wonders deep beneath the earth.

39. The Joyful Beggar (St. Francis of Assisi) – Louis de Wohl

The story of St. Francis that highlights his joy, humility, and radical love for God.

40. The Jungle Book — Rudyard Kipling

A boy raised by wolves learns courage, loyalty, and the laws of the jungle.

41. The Last of the Mohicans — James Fenimore Cooper

A dramatic frontier adventure about loyalty and survival.

42. Lay Siege to Heaven (St. Catherine of Siena) – Louis de Wohl

A look at St. Catherine's bravery and holiness.

43. Little Women — Louisa May Alcott

Four sisters grow up during the Civil War, learning virtue and sacrifice.

44. The Magician's Nephew — C.S. Lewis

A magical beginning to Narnia that explores temptation and courage.

45. Moby-Dick (abridged) — Herman Melville

A sea captain's obsession becomes a gripping tale of fate and pride.

46. Mr. Midshipman Hornblower — C.S. Forester

A young naval officer learns courage and leadership.

47. My Side of the Mountain — Jean Craighead George

A boy lives alone in the wilderness and learns independence.

48. Number the Stars — Lois Lowry

A Danish girl helps her Jewish friend escape the Nazis.

49. Old Yeller — Fred Gipson

A frontier boy and his loyal dog face danger and responsibility.

50. Oliver Twist (abridged) — Charles Dickens

An orphan navigates danger and discovers kindness.

51. The Once and Future King (young readers edition) — T.H. White

The story of King Arthur's youth, full of magic and moral lessons.

52. The Odyssey (Classic Starts) — Homer

A hero's long journey home filled with monsters and gods.

53. Peter Pan (Classic Starts) — J.M. Barrie

A magical boy leads children to Neverland for adventures.

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54. Pride and Prejudice (abridged) — Jane Austen

Elizabeth Bennet learns about virtue, humility, and true love.

55. Prince Caspian — C.S. Lewis

The Pevensies return to Narnia to restore justice.

56. The Prince and the Pauper — Mark Twain

Two boys switch places and learn empathy and justice.

57. The Princess and the Goblin — George MacDonald

A brave girl uncovers hidden dangers and the power of faith.

58. The Quiet Light (St. Thomas Aquinas) – Louis de Wohl

An inspiring look at the life of St. Thomas Aquinas that shows his brilliance, kindness, and perseverance in pursuing truth.

59. The Red Badge of Courage (Classic Starts) — Stephen Crane

A young soldier confronts fear and honor.

60. The Secret Garden — Frances Hodgson Burnett

A hidden garden transforms the lives of three lonely children.

61. Sense and Sensibility (abridged) — Jane Austen

Two sisters navigate love, loss, and virtue.

62. The Swiss Family Robinson — Johann David Wyss

A shipwrecked family builds a new life on a deserted island.

63. The Tale of Despereaux — Kate DiCamillo

A small mouse with a big heart goes on a quest to save a princess.

64. The Three Musketeers (Classic Starts) — Alexandre Dumas

D'Artagnan and the Musketeers fight for honor and justice.

65. Treasure Island — Robert Louis Stevenson

A thrilling pirate adventure filled with danger and moral choices.