

North Allegheny Elementary Libraries

Summer Reading Suggestions

Nonfiction Books

Many children enjoy reading non-fiction books, especially books with a high interest level. There are lots of great non-fiction titles available for children of all reading levels.

Corey, Shana ***A Time to Act***

This book gives us a kid-friendly fresh look at President Kennedy and his involvement with the Civil Rights Movement.

Eggers, Dave and Shawn Harris, ***Her Right Foot***

The authors investigate a small, little known trait of the Statue of Liberty. While the reader learns lots of facts about the most famous statue in America, they also realize that her right foot has a powerful message.

Bolden, Tonya ***Capital Days: Michael Shiner's Journal and the Growth of Our Nation's Capital***

Michael Shiner, a former slave, kept a journal of events while growing up in Washington DC. The author, Tonya Bolden, artifacts and documents from the time period and each chapter ends with a time line.

Chin, Jason ***Grand Canyon***

This beautifully illustrated book explores our national treasure, The Grand Canyon.

Demuth, Patricia ***What Was Ellis Island?***

From 1892 to 1954, Ellis Island was the gateway to a new life in the United States for millions of immigrants. Read all about Ellis Island in this nonfiction chapter book with engaging text and a graphic novel-like feel. (Try others in the What Was series)

Jerome, Kate ***Who Was Alexander Hamilton?***

This short chapter book examines the life of the founding father, who inspired the very popular Broadway musical. (Try others in this Who Was Series)

Keating, Jess ***Pink is for Blobfish: Discovering the World's Perfectly Pink Animals***

Pinkalicious meets National Geographic in this nonfiction picture book introducing the weirdest, wildest, pinkest critters in the animal kingdom! Explore some wacky and wonderful animals in this unusual and fact-filled text.

Keller, Shana ***Ticktock Banneker's Clock***

This picture book biography tells the remarkable story of Benjamin Banneker. Scientist, mathematician and astronomer, Banneker was largely self-taught. Finding inspiration in a pocket watch he had seen, Banneker built the first strike clock using just his own drawings.

Mattick, Lindsay ***Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear***

A #1 New York Times Bestseller and Winner of the 2016 Caldecott Medal. Before Winnie-the-Pooh, there was a real bear named Winnie. And she was a girl! In 1914, Harry Colebourn, a veterinarian on his way to tend horses in World War I, followed his heart and rescued a baby bear. Discover the true story behind everyone's favorite bear, Winnie the Pooh.

McCarthy, Meghan ***Pop! The Invention of Bubble Gum!***

This amazing book, full of fun historical facts shows the true story of how bubble gum was invented.

Nivola, Claire A. ***Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai***

Wangari Maathai grew up in the highlands of Kenya, where fig trees cloaked the hills, fish filled the streams, and the people tended their bountiful gardens. When Wangari returned home from college in America, she found the village gardens dry, the people malnourished, and the trees gone. How could she alone bring back the trees and restore the gardens and the people?

Roy, Katherine ***How to Be An Elephant***

Being an elephant in the wild of the African savannah is not easy. It is a wild, dangerous place, especially for baby elephants. This book explores how baby elephants learn the skills necessary to survive in their family herd.

Rusch, Elizabeth ***Impact: Asteroids and the Science of Saving the World***

This book explores asteroids - they come in all shapes and sizes. Scientists are learning ways to follow asteroids and to avoid devastating impacts in the future.

Sheinkin, Steve ***Undeclared: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle School Indian Football Team***

This historical book tells the story of how Jim Thorpe and Pop Warner changed the history of competitive football and created the legendary Carlisle Indians football team.

Shetterly, Margot Lee ***Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race.***

Before John Glenn orbited the earth, or Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of dedicated female mathematicians known as -human computers- used pencils, slide rules, and adding machines to calculate the numbers that would launch rockets, and astronauts, into space. This book brings to life the stories of four African-American women whose work forever changed the face of NASA and the country.

Walmsley, Naomi ***Forest School Adventure: Outdoor Skills and Play for Children***

From essential bushcraft basics and Stone Age skills to joyful outdoor play, Forest School Adventure is packed with ideas to bring your little ones closer to nature and all its magical offerings. The book is divided into four sections-bushcraft, wild food, nature awareness, and games.

Wicks, Maris ***Human Body Theater***

This graphic novel that discusses the 11 systems that make up the human body.