North Allegheny Elementary Libraries
Summer Reading Suggestions

Sports Fiction
Sports fans and athletes love to read books that center around sports – try some of these:

Abdul-Jabbar, Kareem *Sasquatch in the Paint (Streetball Crew Book One)*
Now that Theo is suddenly six inches taller, will he be able to transform himself from an “invisible” science geek into a skilled basketball player?

Alexander, Kwame *The Crossover*
This is the story of Josh and Jordan, twin basketball stars on their junior high team. Their father was a famous college basketball star who encourages them on and off the court. The boys start to change priorities as their father’s health begins to fail. What is more important, basketball or life? (2014 Newbery Medal winner!)

Christopher, Matt *The Kid Who Only Hit Homers*
A boy becomes a phenomenal baseball player one summer when a mysterious stranger resembling Babe Ruth befriends him. (Try others by this author)

Feinstein, John *The Walk On*
After moving to a new town his freshman year in high school, Alex Myers is happy to win a spot on the varsity team as a quarterback but must deal with the idea of not playing for two years since the first-string quarterback is not only a local hero, he is also son of the corrupt head coach. (Try others by this author and this series)

Green, Tim *Force Out*
Joey and Zach have always been best friends. They're also two of the best baseball players in their league, and shoo-ins for the all-star team at the end of the season. When the unthinkable happens - the boys learn there’s only one open spot on the select team - suddenly Joey and Zach go from being best friends to biggest rivals. Joey has to decide his next move: how far should he go to win? (Try others by this author)

Gutman, Dan *Ted and Me (Baseball Card Adventure Series)*
When Stosh travels back in time to 1941 he meets Ted Williams one of the greatest hitters in baseball history. Will Williams help him prevent the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor that brought the United States into World War II? (Try others in this series)

Gutman, Dan *Million Dollar Shot*
Eleven-year-old Eddie gets a chance to win a million dollars by sinking a foul shot at the National Basketball Association finals. (Try others in this series)

updated 2019
Jamieson, Victoria *Roller Girl*
A graphic novel adventure about a girl who discovers roller derby right as she and her best friend are growing apart. (2016 Newbery Honor winner)

Jeter, Derek *The Contract*
As a young boy, Derek Jeter dreams of being the shortstop for the New York Yankees. He even imagines himself in the World Series. So when Derek is chosen for the Little League Tigers, he hopes to play shortstop. But on the day of the assignments, Derek starts at second base. Still, he tries his best while he wishes and dreams of that shortstop spot. And to help him stay focused on school, his parents make him a contract: keep up the grades or no baseball. Derek makes sure he always plays his best game—on and off the baseball field! (Try others in this series)

Kelly, David A. *Ballpark Mysteries #1: The Fenway Foul-up*
Thanks to Kate's mom, a sports reporter, cousins Mike Walsh and Kate Hopkins have tickets to the Red Sox game and All Access passes to Fenway Park. But as they're watching batting practice before the game, the lucky bat of Red Sox star slugger Big D is stolen... right in front of dozens of people. Without the bat, Big D can’t seem to hit a thing. Can Kate and Mike figure out who pinched the bat before Big D and the Sox chalk up a loss? (Try others in this series)

Lupica, Mike *The Underdogs*
Small but fast twelve year old Will Tyler, an avid football player in the rundown town of Forbes, Pennsylvania, takes matters into his own hands to try and finance the city's football team, and gives the whole community hope in the process. (Try others in this series and by this author)

Maddox, Jake *Win or Lose (Team Jake Maddox Series)*
PJ Harris, the tallest player on the Wildcats basketball team, tries to not crumble under pressure when he steps to the free throw line to take shots during a close game. (Try others in this series)

Morgan, Alex *Saving the Team (The Kicks Series)*
After moving to California, seventh-grader Devin is afraid she will not make the soccer team but finds, instead, that the team is so bad that she is compelled to take the lead and turn it into something the players and coach can all be proud of. (Try others in this series)

Palmer, Avi-Marie *MVP Summer (Gabby Garcia’s Ultimate Playbook Series)*
When she's invited to join an elite baseball league, it seems like Gabby is bound to achieve her MVP status. But life loves throwing Gabby curveballs. This time, her BFF Diego returns from Costa Rica and their once solid friendship is suddenly biting the dust. Thank goodness Gabby has her playbook! (Try others in this series)

Stoudemire, Amar’e *STAT: Standing Tall and Talented Book #1: Home Court*
Eleven-year-old Amar’e Stoudemire likes to play basketball with his best friends. When a group of older kids start disrespecting his boys on their neighborhood basketball court, there is only one solution: Amar’e must step in and use his athletic ability and intelligence to save the day.
(Try others in this series)