

OC Public Libraries Presents

# 2026 SUMMER READING LIST

Upper: Recommended for Grades 6-9

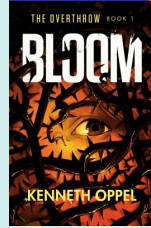


## Alone

Freeman, Megan E.

When 12-year-old Maddie went to sleep, her world was normal, but when she woke up, everything had changed. She is alone and her city is deserted. Maddie has to learn to survive on her own.

**XFICU FREEMAN M**

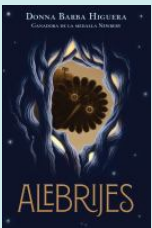


## Bloom

Oppel, Kenneth

A drenching rain brings sinister change to the lives of Anaya, Petra, and Seth when strange black plants appear all over their island home.

**XFICU OPPEL K**

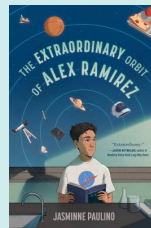


## Alebrijes

Higuera, Donna Barba

Leandro and his sister Gabi live on a dystopian Earth where they are persecuted and struggle to survive. Leandro decides to form a plan to take down the oppressive government and bring freedom to his people.

**XSP FICU HIGUERA D**



## The Extraordinary Orbit of Alex Ramirez

Paulino, Jasminne

Alex is determined to transition to the mainstream science class to further his dream of working for NASA someday.

**XFICU PAULINO J**

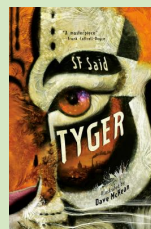


## When Tomorrow Burns

Keller, Tae

Climate change, middle school, and a book of prophecies collide in this story of childhood friends who must reunite as adults to forestall disaster.

**XFICU KELLER T**



## Tyger

Said, S. F.

Adam and Zadie discover a mystical tiger which may be the key to saving their whole world.

**XFICU SAID S**



Orange County, CA  
Public Libraries  
Open Doors. Free Access. Community.

**PLANT A SEED, READ**  
SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

JUNE 15, 2026 - AUGUST 2, 2026

OC Public Libraries Presents

# 2026 SUMMER READING LIST

Upper: Recommended for Grades 6-9

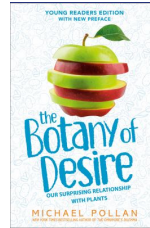


## Time Lions and the Chrono-Loop

Seneviratne, Martin

Twins Pearl and Patrick learn the hard way that time travel is not so simple when an unauthorized visit to Ancient Egypt sets off a chain of events no one saw coming.

**XFICU SENEVIRATNE M**

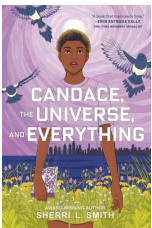


## The Botany of Desire: Our Surprising Relationship with Plants

Pollan, Michael

In this younger teen edition, you'll learn the fascinating stories of our connections with apples, tulips, potatoes, and coffee and tea plants.

**XU 306.45 POL**



## Candace, the Universe, and Everything

Smith, Sherri L.

When Candace opens her locker at the start of 8th grade, she discovers a wormhole that links her to Tracey in 1988 and Loretta in 1948.

**XFICU SMITH S**



## Follow the Water

Cochrane, Ellen

Imagine being a teenager falling out of an airplane over the Amazon – and walking out of the rainforest 11 days later, a survivor.

**XU 363.12409 COC**



## The Summer of June

Sumner, Jamie

This summer, June is determined to meet new people, start a garden, and overcome her anxiety. This is the summer of new beginnings!

**XFICU SUMNER J**



## The Legend of Korra: The Mystery of Penquan Island

Hughes, Kiku

Brothers Mako and Bolin travel to the island of Penquan where a missing persons case reveals ties to their own mother.

**XU 741.5973 LEGEND**



Orange County, CA  
**Public Libraries**  
Open Doors. Free Access. Community.

**PLANT A SEED, READ**  
SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

JUNE 15, 2026 - AUGUST 2, 2026