

2019 Alternative Summer Reading Book List

The African American Parent Council's additional summer reading books from or about African American and people of African descent.

Elementary

1. *Tiny Stiches: The Life of Medical Pioneer Vivien Thomas* by *Gwendolyn Hooks*
2. *The Big Box* by *Toni Morrison*
3. *Bird* by *Zetta Elliott*
4. *Game Set Match Champion Arthur Ashe* by *Crystal Hubbard*
5. *The Red Pencil* by *Andrea Davis Pickney*
6. *The Undefeated* by *Kwame Alexander*

Grade 6 -7

1. *Etched in Clay: The Life of Dave, Enslaved Potter and Poet* by *Andrea Cheng*
2. *The Crossover* by *Kwame Alexander*
3. *Estaban -The African Slave Who Explored America* by *Denis Herrick*

Grade 8 - 9

1. *The Poet X* by *Elizabeth Acevedo*
2. *Everybody's Son* by *Thrity Umrigar*
3. *Children of Blood and Bone* by *Tomi Adeyemi*
4. *Track Series (4 book series)* by *Jason Reynolds*
 - a. *Ghost*
 - b. *Patina*
 - c. *Sunny*
 - d. *Lu*
5. *The Hate U Give* by *Angie Thomas*
6. *On the Come Up* by *Angie Thomas*
7. *Barracoon: The Story of the Last Black Cargo* by *Zora Neal Hurston*

Grade 10- 12

1. *Miles Morales by Jason Reynolds*
2. *Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds*
3. *The End of the Line by Jim Power*
4. *The Short and Tragic Life of Robert Peace by Jeff Hobbs*
5. *The Fire Next Time by James Baldwin*
6. *Go Tell it on the Mountain by James Baldwin*
7. *Selected Poems by Langston Hughes*
8. *Native Son by Richard Wright*
9. *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot*

Young Adult

1. *Dread Nation by Justine Ireland*
2. *Black Enough: Stories of Being Young and Black in America, edited by Ibi Zoboi (anthology)*
3. *Tyler Johnson was Here by Jay Coles*
4. *A Blade so Black by L.L. McKinney*
5. *Let's Talk About Love by Claire Kann (LGBTQ theme)*

College

1. *A Lesson before Dying by Ernest J. Gaines*
2. *A Gathering of Old Men by Earnest J. Gaines*
3. *The Color Purple by Alice Walker*
4. *The Third Life of Grange Copeland by Alice Walker*