

Great Books for 6<sup>th</sup> Graders  
Akron-Summit County Public Library

Alston, B.B. **Amari and the Night Brothers**, 2021. JFIC Book #1

Thirteen-year-old Amari, a poor African American girl from the projects, gets an invitation from her missing brother to join the Bureau of Supernatural Affairs and join in the fight against an evil magician.

Bildner, Phil. **A High Five for Glenn Burke**, 2020. JFIC

After researching Glenn Burke, the first major league baseball player to come out as gay, sixth-grader Silas Wade slowly comes out to his best friend, Zoey, and then his coach, with unexpected consequences.

Blake, Ashley Herring. **Ivy Aberdeen's Letter to the World**, 2018. JFIC

Twelve-year-old Ivy Aberdeen's house is destroyed in a tornado. In the aftermath of the storm, she begins to develop feelings for another girl at school.

Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker. **Fighting Words**, 2020. JFIC

Della and Suki have always been together, but after Suki attempts suicide, it becomes apparent that she is struggling more than she lets on.

Brosgol, Vera. **Be Prepared**, 2018. TEENGN

Vera is sure she's found the one place she can fit in, but camp is far from what she imagined. And nothing could prepare her for all the "cool girl" drama, endless Russian history lessons, and outhouses straight out of nightmares!

Callender, Kacen. **King and the Dragonflies**, 2020. JFIC

In a small but turbulent Louisiana town, one boy's grief takes him beyond the bayous of his backyard, to learn that there is no right way to be yourself.

Colbert, Brandy. **The Only Black Girls in Town**, 2020. JFIC

In a predominately white California beach town, the only two black seventh-graders, Alberta and Edie, find hidden journals that uncover family secrets and speak to race relations in the past.

Di Bartolo, Jim. **The Boy Who Became a Dragon: A Bruce Lee Story**, 2020. JBIO

Readers will learn the astonishing story of martial arts legend Bruce Lee.

Fipps, Lisa. **Starfish**, 2021. JFIC

Bullied and shamed her whole life, twelve-year-old Ellie finally gains the confidence to stand up for herself, with the help of some wonderful new allies.

Harrell, Rob. **Wink**, 2020. JFIC

After being diagnosed with a rare eye cancer, twelve-year-old Ross discovers how music, art, and true friends can help him survive both treatment and middle school.

Hernandez, Carlos. **Sal and Gabi Break the Universe**, 2019. JFIC Book #1  
In order to heal after his mother's death, thirteen-year-old Sal learns to reach into time and space to retrieve things, and people, from other universes.

Leyh, Kat. **Snapdragon**, 2020. JGN  
Snap's town has a witch and when Snap's dog goes missing, the first place she looks is the witch's house.

LeZotte, Ann Clare. **Show Me a Sign**, 2020. JFIC  
Mary Lambert has always felt safe and protected on her beloved island of Martha's Vineyard. Her great-great-grandfather was an early English settler and the first deaf islander. Recent events have delivered winds of change when a scientist arrives.

Libenson, Terri. **Just Jaime**, 2019. JFIC  
The last day of seventh grade has Jaime and Maya wondering who their real friends are.

Marks, Janae. **From the Desk of Zoe Washington**. 2020. JFIC  
Avid baker Zoe Washington receives a letter on her twelfth birthday from her biological father, who is in prison for a terrible crime.

Sloan, Holly Goldberg. **To Night Owl from Dogfish**, 2019. JFIC  
When Bett's and Avery's dads start dating, they send the girls to summer camp together to become acquainted. The girls form a close friendship as they find their families changing shape in unexpected ways.

Soontornvat, Christina. **All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys' Soccer Team**, 2020. JNF 796.525 So711a  
A unique account of the amazing Thai cave rescue told in a-you-are-there style that blends suspense, science and cultural insight.

Warga, Jamine. **The Shape of Thunder**, 2021. JFIC  
Estranged from the best friend whose brother killed her sister in a school shooting, a grieving Cora receives a message on her twelfth birthday from her friend, asking for her help with creating a time portal to prevent the tragedy.

Williams, Alicia. **Genesis Begins Again**, 2019. JFIC/JSCK  
Thirteen-year-old Genesis tries again and again to lighten her black skin, thinking it is the root of her family's troubles, before discovering reasons to love herself as is.

Zaczek, Alyssa. **Martin McLean, Middle School Queen**. 2020. JFIC  
Seventh-grader Martin McLean has trouble expressing himself except at Mathletes competitions and, now, as a female impersonator but his first-ever drag show falls on the same night as an important Mathletes tournament.