#LVReads is a summer reading program for all students from preschool through high school. The program’s main goal is to create confident and capable readers who find joy in reading. #LVReads has no reports. No tests. No vocabulary lists. Just read!

The Research

**JUST 10-15 BOOKS!**
Elementary students who read only 10-15 books at home over the summer gain as much in reading achievement as students who attend summer school.

**SUMMER SLIDE**
Students who do not read over Summer Break lose 2-3 months of reading achievement.

**HEALTHY AND HAPPY**
Students who read books report feeling healthier and happier!

**SOCIAL CONNECTIONS**
Reading promotes relaxation and sleep, helps with depression and increases social connections.

#LVReads is a summer reading program that promotes autonomy, independence, mindfulness, thoughtfulness, and empathy in alignment with our Student 360 initiative. Parents are encouraged to join in and model reading through participation in our Parent 360 Summer Series.

Sources: eric.ed.gov, scholar.harvard.edu, journals.sagepub.com, geediting.com
Beginning Readers

This category, which includes picture books, is for children who are non-readers or just beginning to read.

Shy
by Deborah Freedman
Shy loves birds, but he’s only ever read about them in books. When a real bird finally comes along, he’s dying to meet her, but he’s too afraid. Can he put aside his fears, step out onto the page, and get to know her?

The Most Magnificent Thing
by Ashley Spires
A girl and her dog set out to make the most magnificent thing. Despite their hard work, the end result is not what the girl had envisioned. A walk soon clears her mind and yields a fresh perspective.

When Miles Got Mad
by Samantha Kurtzman-Counter
When his little brother breaks his favorite toy, Miles catches a glimpse of his angry self in the mirror and is astonished to see a toothy red monster who encourages him to use words to express his feelings.

How to Catch a Star
by Oliver Jeffers
Determined to catch a star by climbing to the top of the tallest tree and building a rocket ship out of paper, a young boy makes a discovery about the night sky that leads to an unexpected friendship.

Oops, Pounce, Quick, Run!
: An Alphabet Caper
by Mike Twohy
A whimsical book that incorporates a story about a mouse whose nap is interrupted by a ball that bounces into his home, setting off an epic chase.

Those Shoes
by Maribeth Boelts
Jeremy longs to have black high tops, but his grandmother cannot afford them. He is excited when he sees them for sale in a thrift shop and decides to buy them even though they are too small.

Sometimes You Fly
by Katherine Applegate
Illustrations and simple, rhyming text remind the reader that any achievement may be preceded by mistakes, and learning from them makes accomplishments sweeter.

The Book of Mistakes
by Corinna Luyken
A celebration of the creative process and the inspiration that can be found in mistakes follows the experiences of an artist who incorporates accidental splotches, spots and misshapen things into her art.

I Got It!
by David Wiesner
In this wordless picture book, a young outfielder imagines all the terrifying ways he might not catch the baseball, and one way that he can.

Don’t Think About Purple Elephants
by Susan Whelan
Sophie is always worried, even to the point of causing her to lose sleep, until one day her mom suggests that she not think about purple elephants before bed.

Las Virgenes Unified School District
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Calabasas, California 91302 | 818-880-4000
www.lvusd.org/read
Transitional Readers
This category is for students who are moving from primary books to early chapter books.

When Sophie Thinks She Can’t...
by Molly Bang
Young Sophie discovering a more empowered way to manage feelings of inadequacy when she learns from a teacher that even if she has trouble doing something, it does not mean she cannot ever learn.

Crown: an ode to the fresh cut
by Derrick D Barnes
Celebrates the magnificent feeling that comes from walking out of a barber shop with newly-cut hair.

The New Small Person
by Lauren Child
Feeling jealous when a new sibling arrives, little Elmore Green becomes frustrated when the “small person” knocks over his things and licks his jelly-bean collection until a special night when their relationship changes.

Wilma Jean The Worry Machine
by Julia Cook
Wilma Jean worries about everything. Her teacher helps her figure out what worries she can control, and what she can’t.

Starring Jules (Series)
by Beth Levine Ain
Enthusiastically starting the third grade, child television actress Jules confronts unexpected challenges in the form of an intimidating teacher, a baffling assignment and difficult on-set rehearsals.

Muggie Maggie (Series)
by Beverly Cleary
Maggie resists learning cursive writing in the third grade, until she discovers that knowing how to read and write cursive promises to open up an entirely new world of knowledge for her.

What if Everybody Did That? (Series)
by Ellen Javernick
Uses whimsical to help children understand the consequences of messy, disruptive and otherwise thoughtless behaviors if rules were broken on a large scale.

The Dark
by Lemony Snicket
A poetic tale by the best-selling author of the Series of Unfortunate Events books, follows the transformation of young Laszlo, who gradually learns to overcome a universal fear of the dark.

My Weird School (Series)
by Dan Gutman
Presents four works in which the teachers, the librarian, and the principal at A.J.’s school all demonstrate unusual teaching methods to motivate their students to learn.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Summary</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Wish Tree</td>
<td>Kyo Maclear</td>
<td>Charles and his trusty toboggan set out to find the wish tree, and along the way he helps to make the wishes of his friends Squirrel, Fox, and Beaver come true.</td>
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<td>Hero Dog! (Series)</td>
<td>Hilde Lysiak</td>
<td>Nine-year-old Hilde Lysiak is an aspiring reporter with her own newspaper, the Orange Street News, and she is investigating break-ins and missing baked goods—-and with the help of Zeus, a little dog with a big bark.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drooling and Dangerous: The Riot Brothers Return! (Series)</td>
<td>author Amato, Mary</td>
<td>Irreverent duo Orville and Wilbur Riot dive headfirst many misadventures, from tracking dangerous criminals and starring in a movie to inventing an insect-flinging game and switching everything backwards.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inspector Flytrap (Series)</td>
<td>Tom Angleberger</td>
<td>A series starring a disabled mystery-solving Venus flytrap, who investigates a mysterious glob on a recently discovered da Vinci painting.</td>
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<td>The Loser List (Series)</td>
<td>Holly Kowitt</td>
<td>Landing in detention when he is caught trying to erase his name from the girls’ bathroom wall, Danny is discovered by a gang of bullies who would use his artistic abilities for their tattoos and graffiti.</td>
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<td>Secret Coders: Robots &amp; Repeats</td>
<td>Gene Luen Yang</td>
<td>When a weird advanced chemistry class is added to the curriculum, the Coders investigate clues that they hope will lead to Hopper’s missing dad.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The 39-story Treehouse (Series)</td>
<td>Andy Griffiths</td>
<td>Follow Andy and Terry as they work to meet a deadline and build a larger treehouse with a bumper car rink, a maze, and ice cream parlor.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lucy &amp; Andy Neanderthal</td>
<td>Jeffrey Brown</td>
<td>An adventure starring two prehistoric kids who take on a wandering baby sibling, bossy teens, cave paintings and a mammoth hunt before encountering a strange group of humans.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zack Delacruz: Me and My Big Mouth (Series)</td>
<td>Jeff Anderson</td>
<td>Zack is in charge of raising money for his class dance. He must come up with a way to save the dance when he discovers his salesperson eating the candy bars she should be selling.</td>
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Independent Readers
These selections are for stronger readers who can easily tackle a 150+ page book and successfully digest the content.

The Wonderling
by Mira Bartók
Wonderling, a one-eared, fox-like creature, has toiled most of his eleven years at an institute run by villainous Miss Carbunkle, but Trinket, a young bird, gives him a real name, Arthur, and her friendship as they seek to escape together.

It All Comes Down to This
by Karen English
Wanting to participate in community activities but feeling marginalized in her new, all-white 1965 Los Angeles neighborhood, 12-year-old Sophie struggles with household dynamics until the riots in nearby Watts and the unfair arrest of a friend make her get involved.

Patina
by Jason Reynolds
A newbie to the track team, Patina “Patty” Jones must learn to rely on her family and teammates as she tries to outrun her personal demons.

Lucky Broken Girl
by Ruth Behar
A story about a multi-cultural girl in the 1960s that describes how Cuban-Jewish Ruthie Mizrahi emigrates with her family from Castro’s Cuba to New York, where a devastating accident challenges her perceptions about mortality and strength.

Hello, Universe
by Erin Entrada Kelly
Two boys and two girls explore respective views about courage and being different in the wake of a prank that traps one of them at the bottom of a well and compels the others to embark on a search-and-rescue mission.

Undefeated: Astonishing Rise of Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indians football team
by Steve Sheinkin
Presents the true story of how Jim Thorpe and Pop Warner created the legendary Carlisle Indians football team, one of the winningest teams in football history.

Piecing me together
by Renée Watson
Tired of being singled out at her mostly-white private school as someone who needs support, high school junior Jade would rather participate in the school’s amazing Study Abroad program than join Women to Women, a mentorship program for at-risk girls.

The Vanderbeekers of 141st Street
by Karina Yan Glaser
Informed by their landlord that he will not be renewing their lease on the home where they have always lived, the five Vanderbeeker siblings decide to prove to their curmudgeonly landlord just how wonderful they are as tenants.

The War I Finally Won
by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
Ada welcomes a Jewish-German girl into the crowded cottage where her loved ones are enduring the horrors of World War II.

The Jumbies
by Tracey Baptiste
Eleven-year-old Corinne must call on her courage and an ancient magic to stop an evil spirit and save her island home.
Young Adults

This category of books is for experienced high school readers who possess the maturity to tackle young adult and politically sensitive issues. Parents are encouraged to review these titles. Consideration should be given to difficulty, subject matter and content.

The Hate U Give
by Angie Thomas
Caught between her poor neighborhood and her fancy prep school, sixteen-year-old Starr Carter becomes the focus of intimidation and more after witnessing the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend, Khalil, by a police officer.

The 57 bus
by Dashka Slater
The true story of two Oakland high school students, a white girl from a private school and a black youth from a school overshadowed by crime, whose interaction triggered devastating consequences for both, raising awareness about hate.

Moxie
by Jennifer Mathieu
Witnessing a series of sexist incidents at her high school, an exasperated teen creates an anonymous feminist zine (magazine) that triggers a revolution in her small-town Texas high school.

Dear Martin
by Nic Stone
Profiled by a racist police officer in spite of his excellent academic achievements and Ivy League acceptance, a youth navigates the prejudices of new classmates and his crush on a white girl by writing a journal to Dr. Martin Luther King.

Tool of War
by Paolo Bacigalupi
In a future beset with corporate government and civil war, a bioengineered super-soldier who calls himself Tool breaks his conditioning to overcome his limitations.

The Mosaic
by Nina Berkhout
A teen pacifist who must volunteer for community service in order to graduate and escape her military hometown unexpectedly bonds with a brusque and reclusive young veteran.

We Are Okay
by Nina LaCour
After leaving her life behind to go to college in New York, Marin must face the truth about the tragedy that happened in the final weeks of summer with her friend Mabel.

Long Way Down
by Jason Reynolds
Driven by the secrets and vengeance that mark his street culture, 15-year-old Will contemplates over the course of 60 psychologically suspenseful seconds whether or not he is going to murder the person who killed his brother.

The Inexplicable Logic of my Life
by Benjamin Alire Sáenz
Having believed he was happy with his place in the loving Mexican-American family he shares with his adoptive gay father, Sal turns angry and uncertain when wants to know more about his biological origins.

The Boy in the Black Suit
by Jason Reynolds
Soon after his mother’s death, Matt takes a job at a funeral home in his tough Brooklyn neighborhood and, while attending and assisting with funerals, begins to accept her death and his responsibilities as a man.