

Summer Reading Assignment 2026

Incoming 1st and 2nd Graders



Hello Students!

This summer, we encourage you to read lots of books with your family! At NEST+m, we read books that help us see ourselves and our experiences in the stories of others. We call this idea **MIRRORS**. We also learn about others through the experiences characters have in books. We call this idea **WINDOWS**.

A **mirror** is a reflection of who we are. A **window** is how we learn about others.

Your summer assignment is to find a special book that reflects who you are as a person (mirror) or helps you learn new information about someone else (window).

The key questions to keep in mind are:

- How is this book a mirror or window for you?

- How does this book share something about you or something else's identity or culture?
- What do I want my classmates and teachers to know about me or others as it relates to the book?

Once you've found a book, you then have TWO choices for how you'll present to your new class in September. You will only choose ONE of these options:

OPTION 1: Poster [Click Here for Sample Poster](#)

- Create a collage of pictures that answers the highlighted questions above. You can label the pictures with words that define your identity! Make sure to incorporate the book in your poster.

OPTION 2: Written response [Click Here for Sample Writing](#)

- Provide a short summary of the book and explain how the book is a mirror or a reflection of your identity.
- Be sure to write in complete sentences answering the highlighted questions above.
- Add a drawing to go with your writing.

This assignment will be due on Due: Monday, September 21, 2026.

Happy Summer and Happy Reading! ☀️ 📚

K-2 Suggested Reading List

Grade	Book Titles
1	The Year We Learned to Fly by Jacqueline Woodson That's Not My Name! By Anoosha Syed We Are All Neighbors by Alexandra Penfold A Girl Like You by Frank Murphy A Boy Like You by Frank Murphy The Cool Bean by Jory John Just Like Grandma by Kim Rogers This Is Not My Home by Eugenia Yoh and Vivienne Chang

2	I'm an American By Darshana Khiani The Boy Who Tried to Shrink His Name by Sandhya Parappukaran All the Way to the Top: How One Girl's Fight for Americans with Disabilities Changed Everything by Annette Bay Pimentel Maribel's Year by Michelle Sterling Plátanos Are Love by Alyssa Reynoso-Morris Grandma's Tipi: A Present-Day Lakota Story by SD Nelson Food for Hope: How John Van Hengel Invented Food Banks for the Hungry by Jeff Gottesfeld
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