



# READING LIST FOR GLOBAL STUDENTS 2024

## KINDERGARTEN-GRADE 3

### For as Long as Zebra's are Striped

By Julia Schettler, Illustrated by Sarah Neville 🍁

This book tells the story of the Gallopers, a close-knit zebra family and their foster colt Zac. Readers of all ages are invited to journey with the characters as they navigate the challenges and discover the joys of becoming a forever family.

### Sam's Super Seats

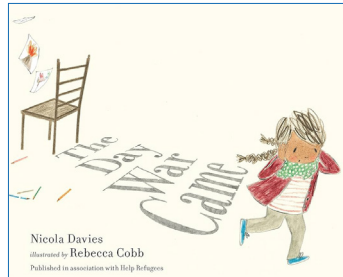
By Keah Brown

A joyful picture book about a disabled girl with cerebral palsy who goes back-to-school shopping with her best friends, from #DisabledandCute creator and *The Pretty One* author Keah Brown.

### The Day War Came

By Nicola Davies

The day war came there were flowers on the windowsill and my father sang my baby brother back to sleep. A moving, poetic narrative and child-friendly illustrations follow the heartbreaking, ultimately hopeful journey of a little girl who is forced to become a refugee.



### Dancing Hands: A Story of Friendship in Filipino Sign Language

By Joanna Que and Charima Marquez, Illustrated by Fran Alvarez

This book has playful illustrations that celebrate the beautiful movements of sign language and discusses sign languages around the world. *Dancing Hands* conveys the shy and fumbling experience of making friends and overcoming language barriers.

Recommended by the  
Millenium Library!



-  Canadian author
-  Graphic novel
-  Non-fiction

## GRADES 4-6

### Thirst

By Varsha Bajaj

The riveting story of a heroic girl who fights for her belief that water should be for everyone. This story brings awareness to the world water crisis and social equality as Minni works to bring clean water to her community in Mumbai.

### Killer Underwear Invasion! How to Spot Fake News, Disinformation & Conspiracy Theories

By Elise Gravel 🍁

A hilarious and timely tool to help kids learn how to tell what news is true and what isn't using colourful and humorous illustrations. What is fake news and why do people spread it? This book equips young readers with the tools needed to better discern truth in news sources. [NF](#)

### The Secret of the Jade Bangle

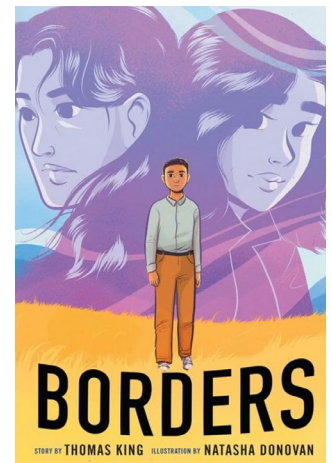
By Linda Trinh 🍁

A charming early chapter book series that explores Vietnamese culture and identity through the eyes of the Nguyen siblings, with elements of the supernatural, spirituality, and social justice woven in.

### Borders

By Thomas King, Illustrated by Natasha Donovan 🍁

A powerful graphic-novel adaptation of one of Thomas King's most celebrated short stories. *Borders* explores themes of identity and belonging, and is a poignant depiction of the significance of a nation's physical borders from an Indigenous perspective. [NF](#)





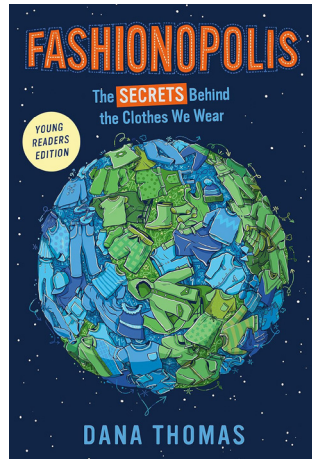
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## GRADES 7-9

### Fashionopolis: The Secrets Behind the Clothes We Wear (Young Readers Edition)

By Dana Thomas

Where do your clothes come from? What happens to them when you're done wearing them? *Fashionopolis* shows us how the clothes we wear and throw away every day are made, and what that means for our planet and for people around the world.



### Step

By Deborah Ellis   
(author of *The Breadwinner*)

In this powerful collection of short stories, children around the world turn eleven and take a step into their futures.

### Disfigured: On Fairy Tales, Disability, and Making Space


By Amanda Leduc



In fairy tales, happy endings are the norm—as long as you're beautiful and walk on two legs. *Disfigured* examines the ways that fairy tales have shaped expectations of disability and shows a new world where disability is no longer a punishment or impediment. **NF**

### Saving Sunshine



By Saadia Faruqi, Illustrated by Shazleen Khan

It's hard enough being a kid without being teased for a funny sounding name or wearing a hijab. It's even harder when you're constantly fighting your sibling—but when the twins find an ailing turtle on a family trip, it presents a rare opportunity for teamwork—if the two can put their differences aside at last. 

 Canadian author  
 Graphic novel  
**NF** Non-fiction

## GRADES 10-12

### The Day the World Stops Shopping: How Ending Consumerism Saves the Environment and Ourselves

By J.B. MacKinnon 


Consuming less is our best strategy for saving the planet—but can we do it? In this thoughtful and surprisingly optimistic book, journalist J. B. MacKinnon investigates how we may achieve a world without shopping. We can't stop shopping. And yet we must. **NF**

### Surviving the City (Vol. 1)

By Tasha Spillet, Illustrated by Natasha Donovan and Donovan Yaciuk 

Miikwan is Anishinaabe; Dez is Innineew. Together, the two best friends navigate the challenges of growing up in an urban landscape. They lean on each other and their communities for support as they hope to change the devastating trend of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit persons.

### Into the Bright Open: A Secret Garden Remix

By Cherie Dimaline (author of *The Marrow Thieves*) 

This queer YA reimagining of *The Secret Garden* subverts the cisnet (cisgender heterosexual) and white status quo of the original in a tale of family secrets wonderful and horrifying.

### Shades of Black

By Carlos Anthony 

An authentic portrayal of life as a young Black male teen in Toronto's Etobicoke neighbourhood. Romero is a sensitive kid who attends an inner-city-style school with a large racialized population. Romero falls in with a friendly crew but soon finds himself in trouble.

