Great Reads for 6th Grade

**NONFICTION**

- **JG 615.372 BROWN**
  A Shot in the Arm!
  Part of the Big Ideas That Changed the World series, this book lays out the history of vaccines, from smallpox to COVID-19.

- **JG 741.51 COOVERT**
  Draw a Comic!
  Love comics? Why not make your own? This guide will show you how. Be sure to check out the rest of the Maker Comics series as well.

- **JG B SHARP**
  Just Pretend
  In Sharp’s graphic memoir, she recounts her middle school years adjusting to her parents’ divorce, changing friends, and difficult classes.

- **J 305.8 TALK**
  The Talk: Conversations About Race, Love & Truth
  This anthology of short stories, letters, and poems by a diverse group of authors and illustrators invites everyone to be anti-racist.

- **J 398.2097 GARCIA ESPERON**
  The Sea-Ringed World: Sacred Stories of the Americas
  Check out these sacred stories from Indigenous cultures across the Americas, featuring stunning graphics, cultural notes, and maps.

- **J 508 GRANDIN**
  Outdoor Scientist: The Wonder of Observing the Natural World
  Famous scientist and autism spokesperson Temple Grandin shares her enthusiasm for the natural world and suggests fun DIY projects.

- **J 567.9 BRUSATTE**
  The Age of Dinosaurs: The Rise and Fall of the World’s Most Remarkable Animals
  Not only does this book offer a comprehensive look at all things dinosaur, the author also tells stories of his career in paleontology.

- **J 796.357 WILLIAMS**
  Baseball’s Leading Lady: Effa Manley and the Rise and Fall of the Negro Leagues
  A biography about the first woman inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame and her influence on the Negro Leagues.

- **J 796.525 SOONTORNVAT**
  All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys’ Soccer Team
  This is the thrilling, harrowing true story of the operation to rescue 12 boys and their coach from a flooding underground cavern.

- **J 811 NYE**
  Cast Away: Poems for Our Time
  This collection of poems about what we throw away, from Young People’s Poet Laureate Nye, range from funny to angry to inspirational.

- **J 940.53 SHULEVITZ**
  Chance: Escape from the Holocaust: Memories of a Refugee Childhood
  The award-winning author remembers his childhood as a Jewish refugee in Eastern Europe during World War II.

- **J B PARKER**
  One Real American: The Life of Ely S. Parker, Seneca Sachem and Civil War General
  Joseph Bruchac chronicles Parker’s amazing life and how he “walked with honor in two worlds” during a troubling time.

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**J GHOST**
*Ghost: Thirteen Haunting Tales to Tell*
If you can’t get enough of *Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark*, check out this collection of stories, poems, and creepy illustrations.

**J HARRELL**
*Wink*
Based on the author’s life, this humorous, heartfelt story is about Ross, who just wants to be a normal 7th-grader after a rare eye cancer diagnosis.

**J LEE**
*Brother’s Keeper*
12-year-old Sora and her younger brother walk hundreds of miles to escape war in Communist North Korea, 1950.

**J LEVITHAN**
*The Mysterious Disappearance of Aidan S. (As Told to His Brother)*
Lucas’ older brother Aidan disappears, then reappears suddenly. But how can anyone believe the impossible story Aidan tells about his week away?

**J OKORAFOR**
*Ikenga*
When Nnamdi’s father is murdered by a local crime boss, he must use ancient magic to bring peace to his Nigerian town in this superhero origin story.

**J ORTEGA**
*Ghost Squad*
Lucely accidentally awakens evil ghosts in her town. She must team up with the spirits of her ancestors to defeat them in this fun, spooky tale.

**J PANCHOLY**
*The Best at It*
Rahul is a 7th-grader struggling with mental health issues finding something he is good at, and coming out to his family.

**J RAMEE**
*Something to Say*
Janae has a crippling fear of public speaking. How will she ever learn to stand up for what she truly believes?

**J RIVERA**
*Cece Rios and the Desert of Souls*
In this magical adventure, Cece must pretend to be a bruja to rescue her older sister from El Sombreron, the dark criatura who has kidnapped her.

**J SASS**
*Ana on the Edge*
As reigning U.S. Juvenile Girls Champion in figure skating, Ana must navigate the highly gendered sport while embracing a non-binary identity.

**J SIMON**
*The Anti-Book*
Troubled preteen Mickey finds himself in a bizarre, funny “anti-world”—a twisted version of his own life—that he must escape.

**J YOUNG**
*Healer of the Water Monster*
Nathan expects to spend a quiet summer at his grandmother’s home on the Navajo reservation, but he ends up on a magical quest to save a Holy Being.

**J M JOCELYN**
*The Body Under the Piano*
What was Agatha Christie, the “Queen of Crime,” doing as a 12-year-old? Solving murders, of course, with her Belgian friend Hector!

**J M RIVERA**
*The Hotel Whodunit*
A movie is being filmed at the Florida resort where girl detective Goldie Vance lives, when a priceless prop goes missing.

**J M RIVERA**
*Beetle & the Hollowbones*
This action-packed inclusive fantasy features Beetle, a goblin who must use her new magical abilities to rescue her ghost friend.

**J SIMON**
*Anti/Hero*
Two tween superheroes accidentally switch bodies. They must work together to switch back while juggling school and family.

**J RIESS**
*Dungeon Critters*
Fantastic art and pun-filled dialogue make this fantasy swashbuckling animal adventure really stand out.

**J STURGES**
*Girl Haven*
Gender-questioning Ash travels to a magical realm where only girls are allowed. What does that mean for Ash?

**J WANG**
*Stargazing*
Drawing from her own childhood, Wang’s graphic novel features perfectionist Christine and her free-spirited best friend Moon.

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*There are sequels or more in series.*