

RECOMMENDED READS, MOVIES & MORE!

10 Historical
Fiction Novels
About Women

**PLUS OUR
TOP 10**

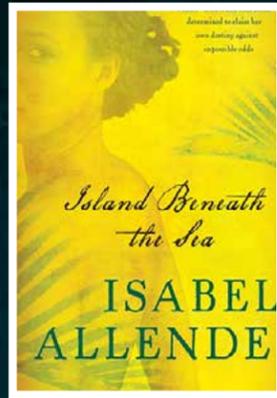
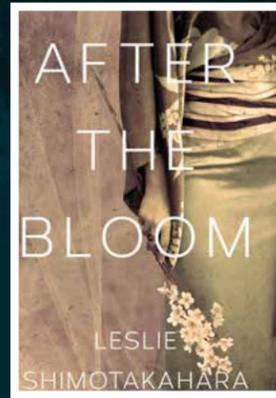
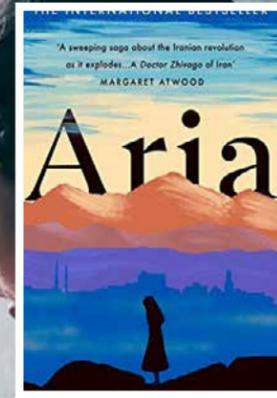
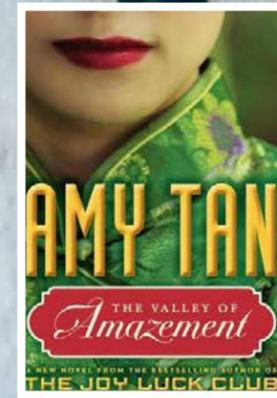
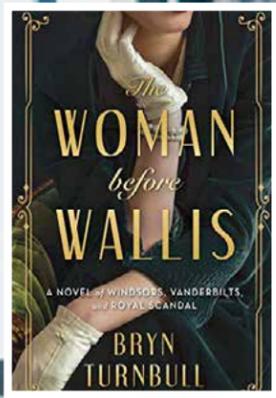
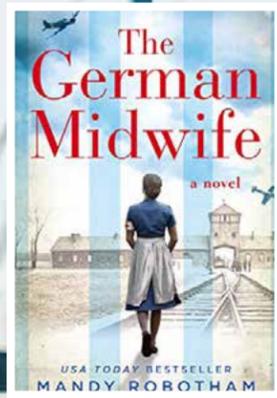
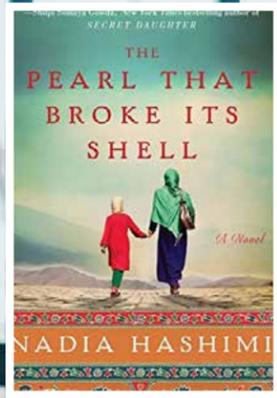
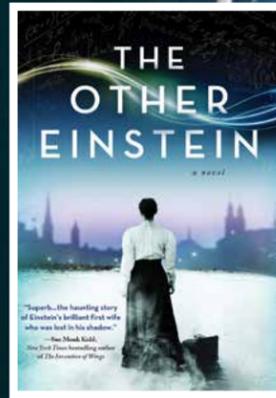
binge-worthy
sitcoms; YA books;
middle grade novels
& MORE!



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MAY 2021





10 Historical Fiction Novels About Women

Sweeping historical fiction about the lives of women across time and continents.

[The Other Einstein](#)

by Marie Benedict
Mitza Maric, wife of Albert Einstein, was a brilliant physicist whose achievements were historically overshadowed by her husband's. A compelling story of a woman trying to find a place for herself in a world dominated by men.

[Love and Ruin](#)

by Paula McLain
Journalist Martha Gellhorn must choose between her career and her relationship with famous writer Ernest Hemingway in this compelling story of one woman's drive for success and independence.

[The Pearl That Broke Its Shell](#)

by Nadia Hashimi
In this spell-binding tale, two women a century apart find freedom through the Afghan custom of bacha posh, which allows girls to dress and live as a boy until puberty. A story of courage and chasing your dreams.

[The German Midwife](#)

by Mandy Robotham
When Anke Hoff is chosen to deliver Eva Braun's baby, she must choose between sacrificing the life of an innocent child or serving the Reich. A gut-wrenching "what if" story of one woman's difficult choice.

[The Woman Before Wallis](#)

by Bryn Turnbull
When a family scandal sends Thelma back home to the US, her relationship with Edward, Prince of Wales, is jeopardized as he grows closer to Thelma's close and trusted friend, Wallis Simpson. Perfect for fans of The Crown.

[The Valley of Amazement](#)

by Amy Tan
In this sweeping novel of family secrets, courtesan Violet searches for love and a place in the world, while Lucia, the mother who abandoned her, searches for redemption.

[Aria](#)

by Nazanine Hozar
Set during the Iranian Revolution, this gripping coming-of-age tale is the story of an orphaned girl named Aria, whose life is influenced by three very different women.

[Dominicana](#)

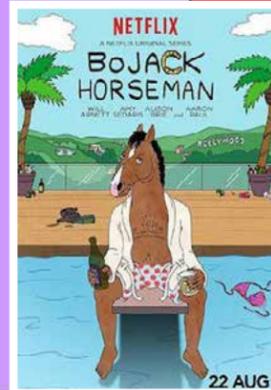
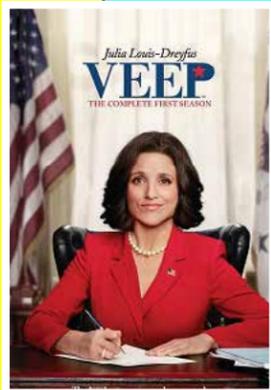
by Angie Cruz
In 1965, fifteen-year-old Ana marries Juan and moves to New York City, hoping her family can soon join her. When she finds herself growing closer to Juan's brother Cesar, she must choose between love and duty to family.

[After the Bloom](#)

by Leslie Shimotakahara
In 1980s Toronto, Rita Takemitsu's search for her missing mother reveals some shocking family secrets, including her mother's time in a Japanese internment camp during World War II.

[Island Beneath the Sea](#)

by Isabel Allende
In this heartbreaking, beautifully written novel, a young slave named Tété escapes the violence of the Haitian Revolution to find a life of love and freedom.



10 Binge-Worthy Sitcoms to Watch

A perfect diversion for those stuck at home in need of something funny to watch.



Workin' Moms - Season One

A group of new moms struggle to balance careers, marriage, dating, and motherhood in this comedy set in Toronto.

Veep - Season One

A comedy series following the personal turmoil's, political fires, and juggles between the private and public life of recently elected Vice President Selina Meyer.

Barry - Season One

Barry, a hitman from the Midwest travels to Los Angeles to kill his next target, only to get caught up in L.A.'s theatre scene.

Brooklyn Nine-nine - Season One

A comedy series following the exploits of the loveable and eccentric detectives of the NYPD's 99th precinct.

The Good Place - Season One

After passing away Eleanor has found she has made it to the "Good Place", a town for those who have been good throughout their lives to live out eternity. The only catch is they have the wrong Eleanor.

Kim's Convenience - Season One

The Kim's, a Korean-Canadian family, delicately balances raising their kids in a new culture while managing to run a convenience store in this Toronto based sitcom.

BoJack Horseman - Season One

In this tragicomedy BoJack Horseman, a washed-up alcoholic and former sitcom star of the 1990's hit show "Horsin' Around" plans his return to celebrity relevancy through writing a memoir.

Insecure - Season One

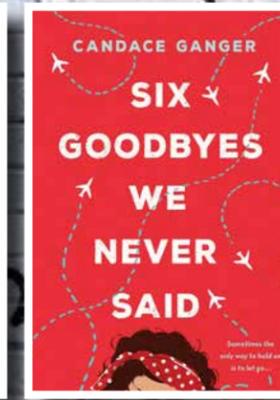
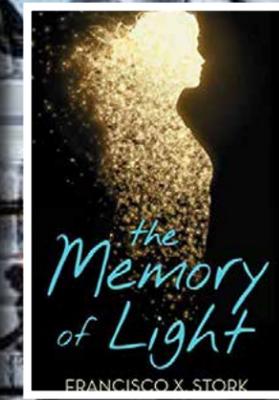
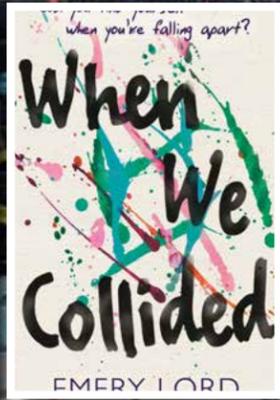
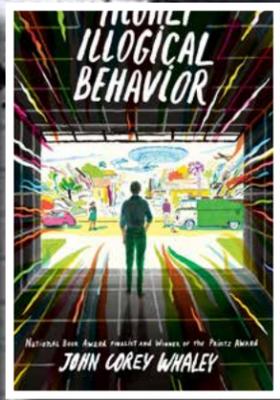
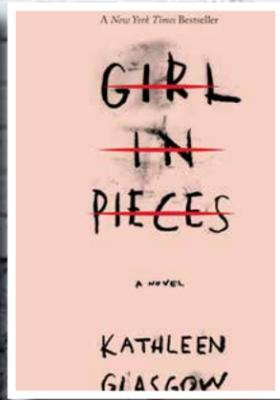
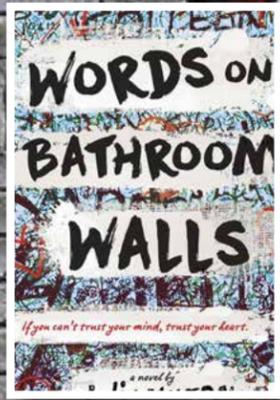
A comedy series following the friendship of two African-American women, and their uncomfortable experiences, racy tribulations, and difficulties navigating through young-adulthood.

Grace and Frankie - Season One

After learning their husbands have been lovers for years, Grace and Frankie learn to overcome their differences in an attempt to face their new uncertain future together.

Silicon Valley - Season One

In this parody of Silicon Valley culture, a group of software engineers attempt to build their own company to revolutionize technology.



10 YA Novels Exploring Mental Health

These books explore mental health in young adulthood, providing comfort & affirmation during hard & difficult times.

Words on Bathroom Walls

by Julia Walton

Narrated through a series of journal entries, this frank and inspiring novel chronicles the life of a young adult named Adam, and his struggle to treat his schizophrenia after receiving an experimental treatment.

Girl in Pieces

by Kathleen Glasgow

Seventeen year-old Charlie's life is in pieces. Following a series of difficult losses and a suicide attempt, Charlie has found solace in a self-destructive coping mechanism, self-harm.

Highly Illogical Behavior

by John Corey Whaley

Sixteen year-old Solomon hasn't left his house due to crippling anxiety and agoraphobia since the seventh grade. When an outgoing classmate knocks on his door with an assignment to 'cure' him, new possibilities arise

When We Collided

by Emery Lord

While trying to keep everything together after the death of his dad, Jonah, falls for the vivacious new girl in town, Vivi. However, their relationship is strained by emotional ups and downs due to Vivi's bipolar disorder.

Every Last Word

by Tamara Ireland Stone

Sixteen year-old Sam struggles to hide her OCD from her friends. After hanging out with a new group, Sam finds herself wanting to open up about her dark thoughts.

The Memory of Light

by Francisco X. Stork

Recovering from a suicide attempt, sixteen year-old Vicky, relies on the support of new friends made at the hospital. When forces separate them Vicky reels backwards into the life that pushed her to suicide.

Six Goodbyes We Never Said

by Candace Ganger

New neighbours Naima and Dew have both recently lost parents and struggle with mental health issues. As Naima navigates through life with OCD and Dew struggles with his own social anxiety, the two eventually gravitate towards each other.

Sad Perfect

by Stephanie Elliot

An evocatively told story about a teenage girl, Pea, and her struggle to overcome an eating disorder and mental health issues.

Optimists Die First

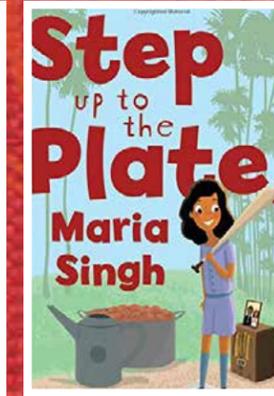
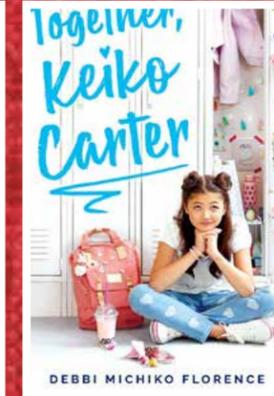
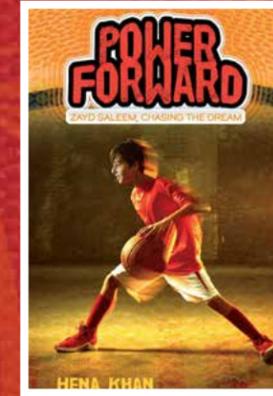
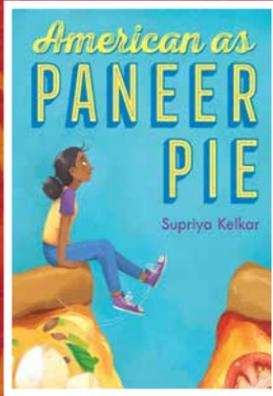
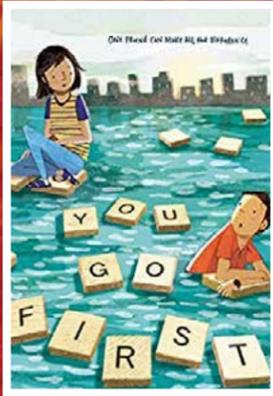
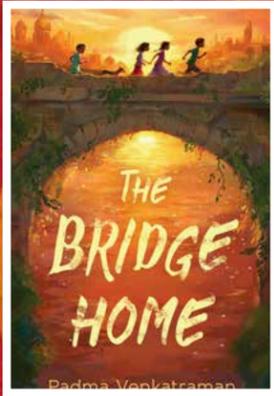
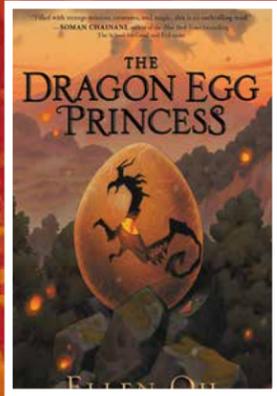
by Susin Nielsen-Fernlund

After the death of her younger sister, Petula, has become anxious and worried about everything, landing her in Youth Art Therapy (YART) at school. When new student Jacob joins the group, a friendship quickly develops, leading to something more.

Little & Lion

by Brandy Colbert

A moving exploration of mental illness, sexuality, and friendships. While back home from boarding school, Suzette learns of her brother's diagnosis of bipolar disorder, leading her to take on the role of his protector .



10 Middle Grade Novels for Asian Heritage Month

The Dragon Warrior

by Katie Zhao

Twelve-year-old Faryn Liu must complete a dangerous quest to fulfill her destiny as a warrior and bring honour to her family. A fast-paced, action-packed novel full of humour and heart.

The Dragon Egg Princess

by Ellen Oh

In this richly imagined story inspired by Korean mythology, three young people must work together to save their world from an evil force that lives within a magical forest.

The Bridge Home

by Padma Venkatraman

Four children struggle to survive the streets of Chennai in this emotional, heartbreaking novel about poverty, class, determination, and friendship.

You Go First

by Erin Entrada Kelly

Charlotte and Ben, long-distance friends who connect over online Scrabble, help each other navigate the turmoil of middle school, including bullying and family drama, in this heartfelt novel.

American as Paneer Pie

by Supriya Kelkar

Lekha has always hidden her Indian culture at school in order to fit in, but when her family is the target of racism, she must learn to speak out.

Power Forward

by Hena Khan

Zayd Saleem dreams of being the first Pakistani-American kid to make it to the NBA, despite his parents' disapproval. A story full of humour and heart, perfect for sports fans.

All the Ways Home

by Elsie Chapman

After losing his mother in a car accident, Kaede travels to Japan to reconnect with his estranged father and half-brother. A moving story about grief, family, and the meaning of home.

Keep It Together, Keiko Carter

by Debbi Michiko Florence

Keiko's friends are fighting, her mom is working long hours, and her sister is sneaking out. A relatable book about the pressures of middle school.

Step up to the Plate, Maria Singh

by Uma Krishnaswami

In 1945, Maria dreams of playing softball in the first ever girls' team at her school, while her parents battle discrimination in their struggle to keep their farm. Maria must learn to step up and use her voice in a world that is often unfair.

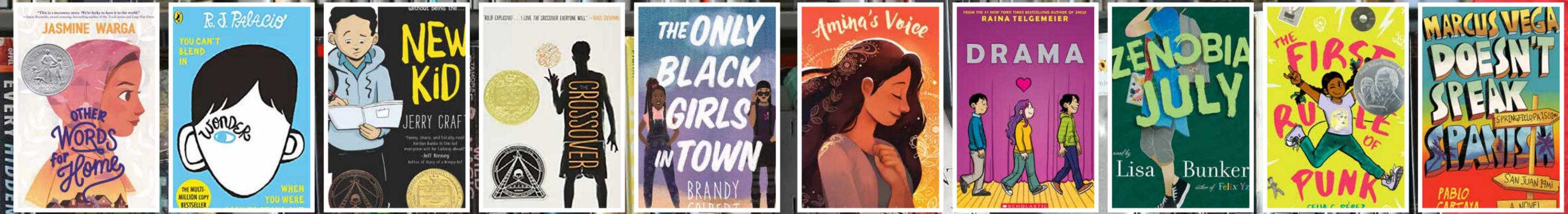
The House That Lou Built

by Mae Respicio

Lou longs for her own space away from her family, but her plans to build a tiny house on land she inherited from her father go awry when it turns out the land is up for auction. A warm and endearing novel about the meaning of home.

10 Diverse Middle Grade Reads

Diverse novels intended for middle grade readers (aged 8-12 years) but can be enjoyed by all!



Other Words for Home

When things in her home country of Syria turn volatile, Jude moves with her mother to America leaving her father and brother behind. She now has to adjust to life in her new home, with new friends and this new found identity of being Middle Eastern.

by Jasmine Warga

Wonder

August Pullman was born with a facial difference that has prevented him from going to a mainstream school. Starting 5th grade at Beecher Prep, he wants nothing more than to be treated as an ordinary kid—but his new classmates can't get past Auggie's extraordinary face.

by R. J. Palacio

New Kid

Seventh grader Jordan Banks loves drawing cartoons about his life. But his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade.

by Jerry Craft

The Crossover

Josh Bell his twin brother Jordan are awesome on the basketball court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood, he's got mad beats, too, that tell his family's story in verse, in this fast and furious middle grade novel of family and brotherhood.

by Kwame Alexander

The Only Black Girls in Town

Beach-loving surfer Alberta has been the only black girl in town for years. When the bed and breakfast across the street finds new owners, Alberta is ecstatic to learn the family is black-and they have a 12-year-old daughter just like her.

by Brandy Colbert

Amina's Voice

Amina has never been comfortable in the spotlight. Amina feels the pressure to fit in and begins to question if she has to hide who she truly is.

by Hena Khan

Drama

Callie loves theatre but she can't really sing. Instead she's the set designer for the drama department's stage crew, and this year she's determined to create a set worthy of Broadway on a middle-school budget.

by Raina Telgemeier

Zenobia July

When someone anonymously posts hateful memes on her school's website, Zenobia knows she's the one with the abilities to solve the mystery, all while wrestling with the challenges of a new school, a new family, and coming to grips with presenting her true gender for the first time.

by Lisa Bunker

The First Rule of Punk

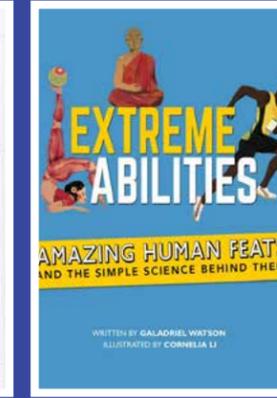
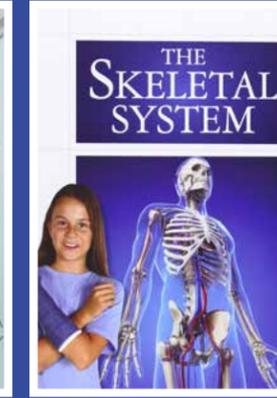
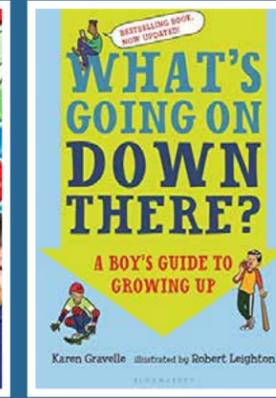
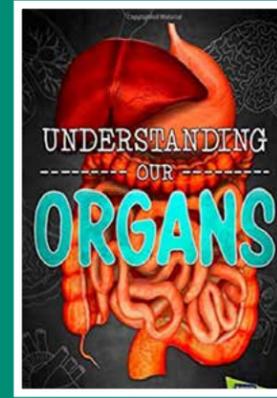
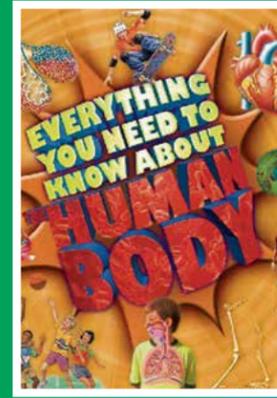
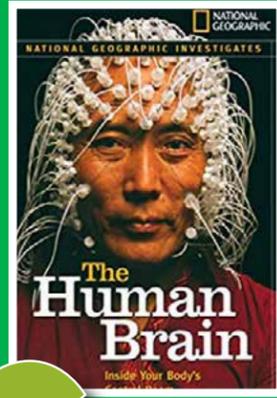
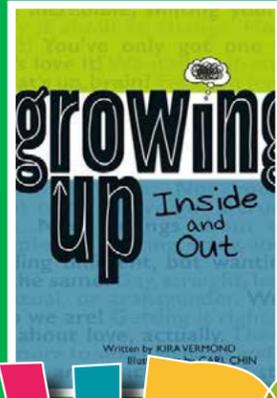
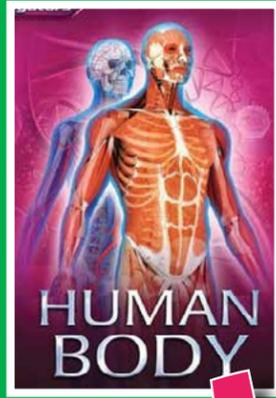
Find out how Cookie Monster celebrates Earth Day in this informative picture book on what makes the earth special.

by Celia C. Pérez

Marcus Vega Doesn't Speak Spanish

Marcus Vega is six feet tall, 180 pounds, and the owner of a premature mustache. When you look like this and you're only in the eighth grade, you're both a threat and a target.

by Pablo Cartaya



10 KIDS Books about the Human Body

Insightful books for children & pre-teens about the human body, growing up & puberty.

Human Body

A visually spectacular guide to the inner workings of the human body that includes DNA, muscles, blood vessels--and more.

by Miranda Smith

Growing Up, Inside and Out

A book about what boys and girls experience during puberty. It tackles how boys' and girls' emotions change during puberty rather than just what happens to body parts (although that's in here, too).

by Kira Vermond

The Human Brain

The book introduces young readers to the inspiring men and women who are making incredible advances in the world of brain science.

by Kathleen Simpson

Everything You Need to Know About the Human Body

This book explores topics such as parts of the body, food and digestion, the brain and the senses, the organs, movement, and growing and changing.

by Patricia Ann Macnair

Understanding Our Organs

Heart, lungs, kidneys, stomach--all these organs keep our bodies working, but what really goes on inside them? This book explores beneath the surface to find out how our organs work.

by Lucy Beevor

Time for Kids X Why Z your Body

This book will be the ultimate answer book for how we're made, how we communicate, why we act the way we do, and why everyone is different... yet everyone is so much the same.

by Mark Shulman

What's Going on Down There?

This book focuses on how boys experience puberty. Also, topics such as body image, sexual harassment and using social media safely.

by Karen Gravelle

I've Got My Period. So What?

A funny and informative book for young girls about periods. It answers questions such as "what is menstruation and why does it cause terrible cramps? Why do I feel so emotional?"

by Clara Henry

The Skeletal System

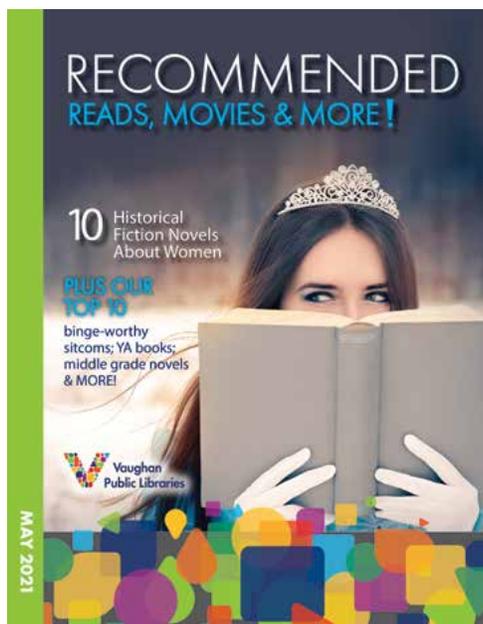
Presents an overview of the skeletal system, including key parts of the system and their jobs, how to keep the system healthy, and fun facts.

by Susan Heinrichs Gray

Extreme Abilities

Extreme Abilities is a fun and fascinating survey of simple explanations of anatomy, physics, and other sciences that explain how amazing the human body is and how it works.

by Galadriel Watson



RECOMMENDED

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