



# A Curious Child's Summer Reading List, 9-12



developed by [Books4theCuriousChild.com](http://Books4theCuriousChild.com)

## **Mikis and the Donkey\***

by Bibi Dumon Tak

Mikis stands up to his grandfather to help his donkey stay alive; on Greek island.

## **Kelsey Green, Reading Queen**

by Claudia Mills

Third grader Kelsey takes on the challenge personally when her principal challenges the entire school to read 2,000 books in April.

## **Mountain Dog**

by Margarita Engle

Tony leaves an abusive life and learns love and respect with uncle and Gabe, a rescue dog. Told using poems and two voices.

## **Where the Mountain Meets the Moon**

by Grace Lin

A young girl and her dragon encounter several 'impossible' challenges while searching for how she can change her family's fortune.

## **Ortega**

by Maureen Fergus

Gorilla Ortega can talk and enrolls in school. Wanting to make friends leads him to join others to secretly create a film in a haunted factory.

## **Words with Wings\***

by Nikki Grimes

Except for English, Gabby is not the best student, but things change when she inspires her teacher to introduce a new project.

## **Echo**

by Pam Munoz Ryan

From Germany to both US coasts, we follow five intriguing young characters re-shaped by a harmonica's musical spell.

## **HISTORY**

### **The Girl from the Tar Paper School**

by Teri Kanefield

Fifteen-year-old Barbara launches a strike, demanding equal education for blacks schooled in a tar paper building. Precursor to Brown v. Board of Education case.

## **Brown Girl Dreaming\*\*\***

by Jacqueline Woodson

Walk in the shoes of Jacqueline Woodson in the 60's and feel the joy of freedom and the confusion of racism poking at her as a young girl unable to respond, but knowing it's wrong, just plain wrong. Insightful. Moving.

## **CONFIDENCE BUILDER**

### **I Think, I Am! Teaching Kids the Power of Affirmations**

by Louise L. Hay and Kristina Tracy

Introduction to affirmations; explanations deal with kid's everyday situations.

## **POETRY**

### **Child of Faerie Child of Earth**

by Jane Yolen

On Hallow night's eve, a faerie and earth child meet, and though they are from differing lands, they are attracted to each other and soon become friends; written in old English rhyme.

### **Once Upon A Twice**

by Denise Doyen

Written with nonsense words and rhyming verse, we learn what happens to Jam Boy who does not follow the rules. Nonsense poetry at its best.

### **The Table Where Rich People Sit**

by Byrd Baylor

A young girl thinks her parents are crazy saying they are rich, when they are dirt poor. She learns to see another perspective. Also check out **I'm in Charge of Celebrations** and other Byrd Baylor titles.

### **Dark Emperor & Other Poems of the Night\***

by Joyce Sidman

Learn why night creatures prefer the night and thrive in the darkness, how the moon makes light, and how trees use the night to recover. Science a la poetry.

### **Julie Andrews' Collection of Poems, Songs, and Lullabies**

by Julie Andrews and Emma Walton Hamilton

Ms Andrews, through her passion for music, selects poems and songs that bring joy to the reader's ear.

\*Award winning books