



Around the World: Asia & Africa Book List

Enjoy these featured and supplemental titles from our [2024 Summer Reading Program!](#)

This year we are traveling to Africa and Asia through stories, and we've compiled some of our *favorite* books. Usually this list is exclusively for our summer reading participants, but this year was too good not to share with all of you!

These are the featured (“anchor”) and supplemental titles for [Around the World: Asia & Africa, our 2024 Summer Reading Program.](#)

How to choose from these amazing books?

1. Choose 1-3 global resource titles to help round out your program. These include resources for prayer, interesting information on different regions, and more.
2. Choose a continent to “travel to” through your books! From there, choose a few books that best fit the ages of the children in your family.

Titles are listed as follows with a page break between for easy printing:

- 🌍 Global Titles (listed as “anchor” (featured) titles and supplemental titles)
- 🌍 Asia Titles (listed as “anchor” (featured) titles and supplemental titles)
- 🌍 Africa Titles (listed as “anchor” (featured) titles and supplemental titles)

Where applicable, titles are linked to Redeemed Reader reviews as of this printing (5/20/24). An updated list will be available when the program begins for all summer reading participants.

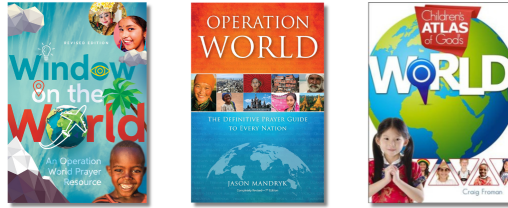
Get your ticket today! To find out more about [Around the World: Asia & Africa](#), go [here](#).

To buy these books through our summer book fair with Storyglory Kids, [go here](#) (bonus: use our coupon code for 15% off your purchase: Redeemed15). If you purchase your books before May 31, you can also use your purchase order number to save 50% off your summer reading registration!



GLOBAL RESOURCES

CHOOSE ONE (OR MORE!)



Window on the World (will work for most ages),
Operation World (for families with mostly teens),
and/or *Children's Atlas of God's World* (for families with littles)

GLOBAL RESOURCES

Anchor Titles: these are our top recommendations and more critical to the program than the supplemental. Consider the anchor titles to be “library builders,” books worth adding to your home library. **Supplemental titles** are good ones to look for at your local library (or borrow from friends) before buying, although we heartily recommend them to you!

*indicates titles available through our [Storyglory Kids Summer Book Fair!](#) Use code Redeemed15 to get 15% off through June 30!

Anchor Titles

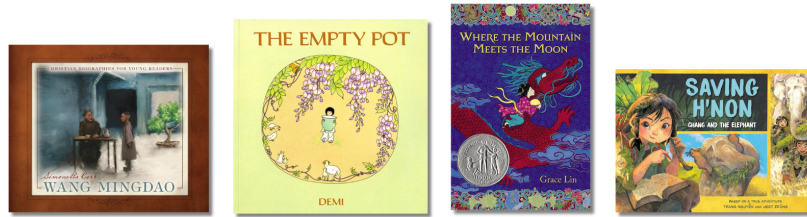
- ✿ [Window on the World](#) from Operation World (ages 5-10)*
- ✿ [Children's Atlas of God's World](#) (ages 5-10)*
- ✿ [Operation World: The Definitive Prayer Guide to Every Nation](#) (ages 10+)*
- ✿ [Epic](#) by Tim Charlies (all ages; a title from our Faith & Fortitude summer reading, but if you missed it, try it this year!)*

Supplemental Titles

- ✿ [If the World Were 100 People](#) by Jackie McCann (picture book; all ages)*
- ✿ [A World of Praise](#) by Deborah Lock (picture book; all ages)*
- ✿ [Children Just Like Me: Food Like Mine](#) by DK Publishing (picture book with fun recipes and food trivia; all ages)
- ✿ [Around the World](#) by Matt Phelan (graphic novel; ages 10-15)*
- ✿ [Around the World in 80 Days](#) by Jules Verne (ages 8-15)*
- ✿ [What the World Eats](#) by Faith D'Aluisio and Peter Menzel (fascinating! Ages 8-15; see also *Material World* by the same authors)

ASIA: ANCHOR BOOKS

CHOOSE ONE (OR MORE!)



Wang Mingdao by Simonetta Carr (church history), *The Empty Pot* by Demi (folktale),
Where the Mountain Meets the Moon by Grace Lin (ages 8-14),
Saving H'Non: Chang and the Elephant by Trang Nguyễn and Jeet Zdūng (ages 8-12; graphic novel)

ASIA RESOURCES

Anchor Titles: these are our top recommendations and more critical to the program than the supplemental. Consider the anchor titles to be “library builders,” books worth adding to your home library. **Supplemental titles** are good ones to look for at your local library (or borrow from friends) before buying, although we heartily recommend them to you!

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Anchor Titles

- 🌟 *Wang Mingdao* by Simonetta Carr (missionary biography; ages 5-15)*
- 🌟 *The Empty Pot* by Demi (picture book; ages 5-10; see supplemental titles below for more picture books!)*
- 🌟 *Saving H'Non: Chang and the Elephant* by Trang Nguyễn and Jeet Zdūng (nonfiction/graphic novel; ages 8-12)*
- 🌟 *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* by Grace Lin (ages 8-14; see also *Starry River of the Sky* and *When the Sea Turned to Silver* by the same author)*
- 🌟 *Brother's Keeper* by Julie Lee (ages 12-15)*
- 🌟 *Red Butterfly* by A. L. Sonnischen (novel in verse; ages 12-15)*

ASIA: EXTRA BOOK OPTIONS

A SAMPLING OF OTHER POSSIBILITIES



Supplemental Titles - Picture Books and Easy Readers

- 🌟 *The Tale of the Mandarin Ducks* by Katherine Paterson (picture book)*
- 🌟 *Lon Po Po* by Ed Young (picture book; retelling of Little Red Riding Hood)
- 🌟 *Yeh-Shen: A Cinderella Story from China* by Ai-Ling Louie (picture book)
- 🌟 *Take Me Out to the Yakyu* by Aaron Meshon (picture book)
- 🌟 *Grandma and the Great Gourd (a Bengali folktale)* by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni (picture book)
- 🌟 *Stone Soup* by Jon Muth (picture book)
- 🌟 *One Grain of Rice* by Demi (picture book; see also *The King's Chessboard* for another version of this famous folk tale)
- 🌟 *The Story of Little Babaji* by Helen Bannerman and illustrated by Marcello
- 🌟 *The Story of Ping* by Marjorie Flack
- 🌟 *Once a Mouse* by Marcia Brown
- 🌟 *Dodsworth in Tokyo* by Tim Egan (fun easy reader series; see other titles about Dodsworth)*
- 🌟 *Ling and Ting: Not Exactly the Same!* by Grace Lin (easy reader series)
- 🌟 *Everest: The Remarkable Story of Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norway* by Alexandra Stewart (picture book biography; ages 8-12)*

Supplemental Titles - Middle Grades and Teens

- 🌟 *Into the Jungle: Stories for Mowgli* by Katherine Rundell (India; all ages; 8-12 as an independent read)*
- 🌟 *The Jungle Book* by Rudyard Kipling (India; ages 8-12)*
- 🌟 *Tiger Boy* by Mitali Perkins (Sundarban Islands; ages 8-12)*
- 🌟 *Rickshaw Girl* by Mitali Perkins (Bangladesh; ages 8-12)
- 🌟 *Bronze and Sunflower* by Cao Wenxuan (China; ages 8-12)

- ✪ China Through Time by DK Publishing (China; ages 8-14)
- ✪ All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys' Soccer Team by Christina Soontornvat (Thailand; nonfiction; ages 8-15)*
- ✪ The Many Assassinations of Samir, the Seller of Dreams by Daniel Nayeri (Silk Road; ages 8-15)*
- ✪ Chinese Menu by Grace Lin (Chinese; ages 10+)
- ✪ Heart of a Samurai by Margi Preus (Japan; ages 10-15)*
- ✪ A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park (Korea; ages 10-15)*
- ✪ Mulan: Before the Sword by Grace Lin (Chinese; especially for those who are fans of *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon!*; ages 10-15)
- ✪ The Night Diary by Veera Hiranandini (India/Pakistan; ages 12-15)*
- ✪ Dragonfly Eyes by Cao Wenxuan (China; ages 12+)
- ✪ In the Shadow of the Sun by Anne Sibley O'Brien (ages 12+)
- ✪ Bamboo People by Mitali Perkins (Burma; ages 12-15)*
- ✪ Everything Sad Is Untrue by Daniel Nayeri (Iranian-American; ages 12+)*
- ✪ Girl Under a Red Moon by Da Chen (China; ages 14+)
- ✪ The Red Palace by June Hur (Korea; murder mystery; ages 15+)*
- ✪ Every Falling Star by Sungju Lee (Korea; ages 15+)
- ✪ Blossom and Firefly by Sherri L. Smith (Japan; ages 15+)
- ✪ Missionary Bios about people such as Eric Liddell, Gladys Aylward, Hudson Taylor, and more (the book fair has several options!)*

Video Resources

- ✪ *Mulan* (1998 animated version; all ages) and/or *Mulan* (2020 live action version; ages 10+) would make a great discussion starter when paired with the book *Mulan: Before the Sword!*
- ✪ *Rickshaw Girl* (2021) is excellent, but best reserved for ages 10+ (the book can be enjoyed by younger readers)
- ✪ *Chariots of Fire* (1981) is a perfect accompaniment to any book about Eric Liddell

AFRICA: ANCHOR BOOKS

CHOOSE ONE (OR MORE!)



African Heroes by Jerome Gay, Jr. (church history), *Too Small Tola* by Atinuke (chapter book series),
Anna Hibiscus by Atinuke (chapter book series),
A Chameleon, a Boy, and a Quest by J. A. Myrhe (ages 8-14),.

AFRICA RESOURCES

Anchor Titles: these are our top recommendations and more critical to the program than the supplemental. Consider the anchor titles to be “library builders,” books worth adding to your home library. **Supplemental titles** are good ones to look for at your local library (or borrow from friends) before buying, although we heartily recommend them to you!

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Anchor Titles

- 🌱 [African Heroes](#) by Jerome Gay, Jr. (picture book nonfiction about church history; ages 5-10)*
- 🌱 [Too Small Tola](#) by Atinuke (chapter book; ages 4-8)*
- 🌱 [Anna Hibiscus](#) by Atinuke (chapter book; ages 4-8)*
- 🌱 [A Chameleon, a Boy, and a Quest](#) by J. A. Myrhe (Rwendigo Tales #1; ages 8-15; note considerations in review for younger end)*
- 🌱 *Cry, the Beloved Country* by Alan Paton (ages 15+)*

AFRICA: EXTRA BOOK OPTIONS

A SAMPLING OF OTHER POSSIBILITIES



Ages 5-10:
The Lion and the Mouse by Jerry Pinkney,
Nya's Long Walk by Linda Sue Park,
Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters by John Steptoe

Ages 10-14:
A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park,
The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind
 (Young Readers Version) by William Kamkwamba

Ages 15+:
The Queen of Katwe by Tim Crothers,
Running for My Life by Lopez Lomond,
Cry, the Beloved Country by Alan Paton

Supplemental Titles - Picture Books and Chapter Books

- ✿ *Nya's Long Walk* by Linda Sue Park (coordinates with *A Long Walk to Water*, below; picture book; ages 5-10)*
- ✿ *Room for Everyone* by Naaz Khan (picture book; all ages)
- ✿ *The Lion and the Mouse* by Jerry Pinkney (picture book; all ages)*
- ✿ *Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters* by John Steptoe (picture book; ages 5-10)*
- ✿ *Catch That Chicken!* by Atinuke (delightful picture book)
- ✿ *B Is for Baby* by Atinuke (perfect for preschoolers following along!)
- ✿ *Baby Goes to Market* by Atinuke (another preschool-friendly title)
- ✿ *Busy-Busy Little Chick* by Janice L. Harrington (picture book)
- ✿ *Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears* by Verna Aardema (picture book)
- ✿ *I Just Want to Say Goodnight* by Rachel Isadora (picture book)
- ✿ *One Plastic Bag: Isatou Ceesay and the Recycling Women of the Gambia* by Miranda Paul (picture book nonfiction)
- ✿ *The No. 1 Car Spotter* by Atinuke (chapter book series)
- ✿ *Africa, Amazing Africa* by Atinuke (large format picture book nonfiction; ages 5 and up)
- ✿ *A Plan for the People: Nelson Mandela's Hope for His Nation* by Lindsey McDivitt (picture book nonfiction; ages 6-12)
- ✿ *Fire on the Mountain* by Jane Kurtz (lovely folktale! All ages)

Supplemental Titles - Middle Grades and Teens

- ✿ [A Bird, a Girl, and a Rescue](#) by J. A. Myrhe (Rwendigo Tales #2; ages 8-15; note considerations in review for younger end)*
- ✿ [A Forest, a Flood, and an Unlikely Star](#) by J. A. Myrhe (Rwendigo Tales #3; ages 8-15; note considerations in review for younger end)*
- ✿ [A Fever, a Flight, and a Fight for the World](#) by J. A. Myrhe (Rwendigo Tales #4; ages 8-15; note considerations in review for younger end)*
- ✿ [The Hyena Scientist](#) by Sy Montgomery (nonfiction; ages 8+)
- ✿ [Akissi: Tales of Mischief](#) by Marguerite Aboutet and Mattieu Sapin (graphic novel; ages 7-12)
- ✿ [When Stars Are Scattered](#) by Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohammed (graphic novel; age 8-15)
- ✿ [A Long Walk to Water](#) by Linda Sue Park (ages 10-15)*
- ✿ [The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind](#) (Young readers version) by William Kamkwamba (ages 10-15)*
- ✿ [Auma's Long Run](#) by Eucabeth Odhiambo (ages 12+; note considerations in review)
- ✿ [The Door of No Return](#) by Kwame Alexander (novel in verse; ages 12+)
- ✿ [Buried Beneath the Baobab Tree](#) by Adobe Tricia Nwaubani (ages 15+; note considerations in review)
- ✿ [Running for My Life](#) by Lopez Lomong (Olympics connection in this true story! Ages 14+)*
- ✿ [The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency](#) by Alexander McCall (ages 15+)*
- ✿ [The Queen of Katwe](#) by Tim Crothers (ages 15+)*

Video Resources

- ✿ [The Queen of Katwe](#) (the movie is excellent! Read our review)

