DIY Book Club: May 2020

Adult Fiction

Find monthly adult fiction titles that our librarians recommend for discussion:

The Alice Network

Kate Quinn

In an enthralling new historical novel from national bestselling author Kate Quinn, two women—a female spy recruited to the real-life Alice Network in France during World War I and an unconventional American socialite searching for her cousin in 1947—are brought together in a mesmerizing story of courage and redemption.

Subjects: World War 1, War & Military, Espionage

Page count: 560

Find this book on CountyCat and Hoopla. Find the reading guide here.
Trudy works nights in a linen factory, avoiding romance and sharing the care of her four-year-old niece with Trudy's mother, Claire. Claire still pines for Trudy's father, a St. Lawrence Seaway construction worker who left her twenty years ago. Claire believes in true love. Trudy does not. She's keeping herself to herself. But when Jules Tremblay, aspiring daredevil, walks into the Jubilee restaurant, Trudy's a goner.

Subjects: Ontario, Small towns, Daredevils
Page count: 264

Find this book on Hoopla. Find the reading guide here.
Delve into the magical, unforgettable world of James Herriot, the world’s most beloved veterinarian, and his menagerie of heartwarming, funny, and tragic animal patients. For over forty years, generations of readers have thrilled to Herriot’s marvelous tales, deep love of life, and extraordinary storytelling abilities. For decades, Herriot roamed the remote, beautiful Yorkshire Dales, treating every patient that came his way from smallest to largest, and observing animals and humans alike with his keen, loving eye.

Subjects: Veterinarians, England, Biography
Page count: 440
Find this book on CountyCat and Hoopla. Find the reading guide here.
I Contain Multitudes

Ed Yong

This book lets us peer into the world of microbes — not as germs to be eradicated, but as invaluable parts of our lives — allowing us to see how ubiquitous and vital microbes are: they sculpt our organs, defend us from disease, break down our food, educate our immune systems, guide our behavior, bombard our genomes with their genes, and grant us incredible abilities.

Subjects: Human body, Microbiology, Microorganisms
Page count: 368
Find this book on CountyCat and Hoopla. Find the reading guide here.

YA Books

Find monthly teen-friendly titles that our librarians recommend for discussion:
The Strange and Beautiful Sorrows of Ava Lavender

Leslye Walton

Born with bird wings, Ava Lavender is well aware that love has long made fools of her family. When pious Nathaniel Sorrows mistakes her bird wings for angel wings, 16-year-old Ava faces the man’s growing obsession, which comes to a head with the rain and feathers that fly through the air during a nighttime summer solstice celebration.

Subjects: Teenage Girls, Fantasy
Page count: 320
Find this book on CountyCat and Hoopla. Find the reading guide here.
The Poet X

Elizabeth Acevedo

Xiomara Batista feels unheard and unable to hide in her Harlem neighborhood. Ever since her body grew into curves, she has learned to let her fists and her fierceness do the talking.

Subjects: Poets, Harlem
Page Count: 384

Find this book on CountyCat and Hoopla. Find the reading guide here.

Children Books

Find monthly child-friendly titles that our librarians recommend for discussion:
**Stick and Stone**

Beth Ferry

Stick and Stone are both lonely until Pinecone’s teasing causes one to stick up for the other, and a solid friendship is formed.

Page count: 48  
Suggested ages: Birth-9  
Lexile: 250  
AR: 1.2

Find this book on [CountyCat](#) and [Hoopla](#). Find the reading guide [here](#).
Mrs. Dole Is Out of Control!

Dan Gutman

Second grade graduation turns into a full-blown spectacle when an overzealous PTA president pulls out all the stops for A.J. and his classmates on the last day of school.

Page count: 112
Suggested ages: 7-10
Lexile: 610
AR: 3.9

Find this book on CountyCat and Hoopla. Find the reading guide here.
Inside Out & Back Again

Thanh hà Lai

Through a series of poems, a young girl chronicles the life-changing year of 1975, when she, her mother, and her brothers leave Vietnam and resettle in Alabama.

Page count: 288  
Suggested ages: 8-12  
Lexile: 800  
AR: 4.8

Find this book on CountyCat and Hoopla. Find the reading guide here.
Walk Two Moons

Sharon Creech

After her mother leaves home suddenly, thirteen-year-old Sal and her grandparents take a car trip retracing her mother’s route. Along the way, Sal recounts the story of her friend Phoebe, whose mother also left.

Page count: 304
Suggested ages: 8-12
Lexile: 770
AR: 4.9

Find this book on CountyCat and Hoopla. Find the reading guide here.