



Children's Defense Fund-Texas Banned Books We Love 2023 #NationalReadingMonth Book List

WEEK 1 (March 1-7)

Kindergarten – 2nd Grade

Separate is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez and Her Family's Fight for Desegregation by Duncan Tonatiuh

Heather Has Two Mommies by Lesléa Newman

Multiple Ages (Kindergarten – 5th Grade)

I Am Every Good Thing by Derrick Barnes, Illustrated by Gordan C. James

3rd Grade – 5th Grade

Count on Katherine: How Katherine Johnson Saved Apollo 13

by Helanine Becker, Illustrated by Dow Phumiruk

Hurricane Child by Kacen Callendar

6th Grade – 8th Grade

Forged by Fire by Sharon M. Draper

The House You Pass On the Way by Jacqueline Woodson

9th Grade – 12th Grade

Monster by Walter Dean Myers

WEEK 2 (March 8-14)

Kindergarten – 2nd Grade

Mae Among the Stars by Roda Ahmed and illustrated by Stadia Burrington

Julián Is a Mermaid by Jessica Love

Multiple Ages (Kindergarten – 5th Grade)

Knock Knock: My Dad's Dream For Me by Daniel Beaty, Illustrated by Bryan Collier

3rd Grade – 5th Grade

Ivy Aberdeen's Letter to the World by Ashley Herring Blake

14 Cows for America by Carmen Agra Deedy and Wilson Kimeli Naiyomah.
Illustrated by Thomas Gonzalez

6th Grade – 8th Grade

The Moon Within by Aida Salazar

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson

9th Grade – 12th Grade

Darkness Before Dawn by Sharon M. Draper

All Boys Aren't Blue by George M. Johnson

WEEK 3 (March 15–21)

Kindergarten – 2nd Grade

This Day in June by Gayle Pittman

Smokey Night by Eve Bunting, Illustrated by David Diaz

3rd Grade – 5th Grade

Sadako & The Thousand Paper Cranes by Eleanor Coerr,
Illustrated by Ed Young

Gracefully Grayson by Ami Polonsky

6th Grade – 8th Grade

Discovering Wes Moore by Wes Moore

Queer, There and Everywhere: 23 People Who Changed the World
by Sarah Prager

9th Grade – 12th Grade

Felix Ever After by Kacen Callender

Piecing Me Together by Renee Watson

WEEK 4 (March 22–28)

Kindergarten – 2nd Grade

Those Shoes by Maribeth Boelts, Illustrated by Noah Z. Jones

Marisol McDonald Doesn't Match by Monica Brown, Illustrated by
Sara Palacios

3rd Grade – 5th Grade

Sonia Sotomayor by Jonah Winter, Illustrated by Edel Rodriguez

Melissa by Alex Gino

6th Grade – 8th Grade

The Watsons Go to Birmingham by Christopher Paul Curtis

9th Grade – 12th Grade

Panic by Sharon M. Draper

Sister Outsider by Audre Lord

WEEK 5 (March 29–April 4)

Kindergarten – 2nd Grade

Something Happened In Our Town by Marianne Celano and Marietta Collins, Illustrated by Jennifer Zivion

Best Best Colors by Eric Hoffman

3rd Grade – 5th Grade

The Breakaways by Cathy G. Johnson

In Our Mother's House by Patricia Polacco

6th Grade – 8th Grade

Rainbow Revolutions: Power, Pride and Protest in the Fight for Queer Rights by Jamie Lawson

The 1619 Project: Born on the Water by Nikole Hannah-Jones and Renee Watson, Illustrated by Nikkolas Smith

9th Grade – 12th Grade

Romiette and Julio by Sharon M. Draper

Cemetery Boys by Aiden Thomas

SOURCES

[PEN America Banned Booklist](#)

[The Reading Bug 2022 Banned and Challenged Books](#)

[Evanston Public Library List](#)