



# Reading in the Land of Heroes

## Middle Grade Readers



The theme this week for our Summer Reading Program is The Land of Heroes!!! We are featuring books this week that include characters such as traditional and non-traditional superheroes, animals, first responders, and more. The titles featured below are geared toward middle grade readers and can be found on Hoopla or Libby either as an audiobook, eBook, or both. To find more titles, please search the Handley Regional Library System catalog using the search term #youthlandofheroes or go to [bit.ly/youthlandofheroes](http://bit.ly/youthlandofheroes)--many of the titles listed can also be found on Libby and/or Hoopla as well!

**Flora & Ulysses** by Kate DiCamillo--When a lonely and hungry squirrel is sucked into Mrs.

Tickham's Ulysses Super Suction vacuum cleaner, he is shot out into the backyard of young Flora, who resuscitates him. When he wakes, the squirrel discovers he has brand new thoughts in his head, can speak like humans, and sort of likes Flora. Naming him Ulysses, Flora suggests that he might have superpowers now! Not only is Ulysses transformed by the incident, but Flora, a cynic since the divorce of her parents, just might be opening up her heart again. This book can be found on both **Hoopla** as an eBook and on **Libby** as an audiobook and eBook.

**The Hero Revealed** by William Boniface--In the town of Superopolis, everyone has a superpower. Everyone, that is, except Ordinary Boy. But things are not so super in Superopolis these days with the evil Professor Brain-Drain on the loose! To make matters worse, Ordinary Boy and his friends are thrown into the middle of a baffling mystery. Forget the regular superheroes. In a city where everyone is extraordinary, this just might be a job for . . . Ordinary Boy. This book can be found on **Hoopla** as an eBook.

**Courageous Canine** by Kelly Milner Halls--A variety of true stories about animals who have helped to rescue humans from danger and death--such as Lilly the pit bull who saved her owner from a train, or two pods of dolphins who saved swimmers from sharks. This book can be found on **Libby** as an eBook.

**Miles Morales, Spider-Man** by Jason Reynolds--Teen Miles Morales, the current Spider-Man, worries that his spidey-sense is broken. A misunderstanding gets him suspended from school and makes him doubt himself and his abilities. After all, his father and uncle were once criminals. He begins having nightmares and his spidey-sense continues to buzz in history class where he listens to his teacher talk about the benefits of slavery. Then his scholarship at his private school is threatened, and Miles's investigations uncover a plot that puts all he loves at risk. This book can be found on **Libby** as an eBook and an audiobook.

**Hero On a Bicycle** by Shirley Hughes--Florence, Italy, 1944: the Nazi's have taken over the city; the Allies march steadily up from the south; and 13-year-old Paolo Crivelli and his sister, Costanza, search for a way to help the Partisan resistance. Their father is missing—presumably fighting with the Partisans—while their mother reluctantly agrees to let escaped POWs hide in their home. But what can two kids with just a bicycle between them do to fight an army? This book is found on **Hoopla** as an eBook.

**Public School Superhero** by James Patterson--Kenny Wright is a kid with a secret identity. In his mind, he's Stainlezz Steel, super-powered defender of the weak. In reality, he's a chess club devotee known as a "Grandma's Boy," a label that makes him an easy target for bullies. Kenny wants to bring a little more Steel to the real world, but the question is: can he recognize the real strength and goodness inside himself? Or will peer pressure force him to make the worst choice of his life? This book can be found on **Libby** as an audiobook.

**Black Panther: The Young Prince** by Ronald Smith--Twelve-year-old T'Challa is content spending his days learning how to one day rule his nation, Wakanda. But trouble in his homeland leads his father, the reigning Black Panther, to send him to Chicago where he must assimilate into American life alongside his best friend M'Baku. Hiding his true identity becomes increasingly difficult when strange things start happening at his middle school. And he'll have to step into his destiny as a future superhero in order to stop an ancient evil. This book can be found on **Libby** as an eBook.