



BIKEY BOOKS

Summer Reading List for High School

Learn more at alamedacountysr2s.org

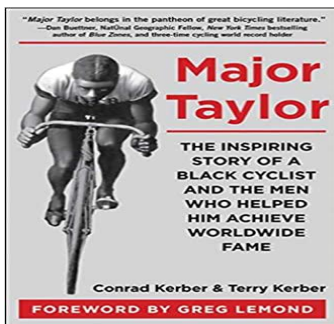


**Safe Routes
to Schools**

Alameda County
Transportation Commission

When school is out, you can go anywhere with a good book. Here's a list of good books with a great topic: bikes! Read these stories and get motivated to ride all summer long.

1. **Major Taylor: The Inspiring Story of a Black Cyclist and the Men Who Helped Him Achieve Worldwide Fame** By Conrad Kerber & Terry Kerber (2016)



“Before Magic Johnson, before Muhammad Ali, before Jesse Owens, there was Major Taylor...” (Bob Roll, NBC cycling analyst and former professional cyclist).

In the wake of the Tour de France's fallen heroes, the story of one of history's most legendary cyclists provides a much-needed antidote. In 1907, the world's most popular athlete was not Cy Young or Ty Cobb. It was a black bicycle racer named “Major” Taylor.

2. **Along for the Ride** By Sarah Dessen (2009)



“Maybe you don't know how to ride a bike? If so, you can relate to Sarah Dessen's, *Along for the Ride...*” (Sharon Rawlins, Youth Services Consultant, New Jersey State Library).

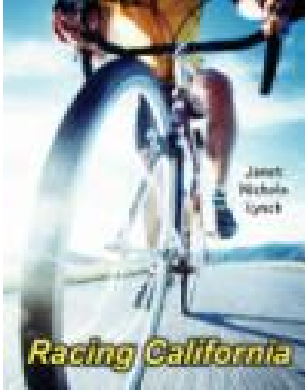
Auden, who is about to start college in the fall, decides to escape her control freak professor mom to spend the summer with her novelist father, his new young wife, and their brand-new baby. Over the course of the summer, Auden tackles many new projects, learning to ride a bike, making real connections with peers, facing the emotional fallout of her parents' divorce, distancing herself from her mother, and falling in love with Eli, a fellow insomniac bicyclist recovering from his own traumas.



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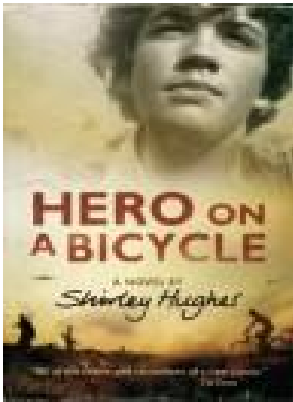
3. **Racing California**
By Janet Nichols Lynch (2012)



Looking forward to the end of the school year and start of summer?

Evan is about to graduate when he meets Dash Shipley, a Tour de France winner who recruits him to join his Amgen Tour of California racing team even though his parents and girlfriend are against it. Evan feels conflicted about what he should do, but he eventually accepts the invitation and gains more experience than he ever expected.

4. **Hero on a Bicycle**
By Shirley Hughes (2013)



Interested in historical fiction?

Meet 13-year-old Paolo Crivelli, his older sister Constanza, and their mother Rosemary as they struggle to survive the German occupation in their family's villa outside Florence, Italy in 1944. Paolo's nighttime bicycle rides frighten his mother and sister, and he encounters more than he expects when he runs into partisans who are determined to stop the Nazi hold on the region. As the allies approach, each Crivelli must make choices that put them all in danger.

5. **The White Bicycle**
By Beverly Brenna (2012)



Taylor Jane Simon is a 19-year-old who has Asperger's Syndrome and who travels with her family to the south of France for the summer. She is struggling with her difficult mother, a confusing job, new family members and a friendship with a mentor figure. Taylor draws on memories of her past as well as a dream about going someplace on a white bicycle to try and make sense of the present in this heart-warming and inspiring coming-of-age story.

[Enjoy these and other reading recommendations](#), have fun and keep it positive!

List compiled by Sharon Rawlins, The HUB, Young Adult Library Services Association.
<http://www.yalsa.ala.org/thehub/>