



First Grade Suggested Summer Reading List



Note: The following books are only suggestions. Please feel free to add any books that are appropriate for your reader. The staff in the children's area of the public library will also have many wonderful suggestions for you.

Research has shown that the single greatest factor in predicting reading success is whether a child is read to when young. Here are some titles to get you started! Please note that the reading level of the books suggested varies. If your child is already reading, have him or her read a page of the book aloud to you to see if it is a good fit. If they struggle with more than a few words on the page, it is probably too difficult, but the book would still be a great book to read aloud to your child.

Fun Books to Share

- *And I Mean It, Stanley* by Crosby Bonsall
- Arthur series by Marc Brown
- *A Bad Case of the Stripes* by David Shannon
- Berenstain Bear series by Jan and Stan Berenstain
- Clifford series by Norman Bridwell
- *Dinosaur Time* by Peggy Parish
- *The Eye Book* by Theo LeSieg
- Franklin series by Paulette Bourgeois
- Froggy series by Jonathan London
- *Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr. Seuss
- *Hi! Fly Guy* by Tedd Arnold
- *How I Became a Pirate* by Melinda Long
- Junie B. Jones series by Barbara Park
- Little Critter series by Mercer Mayer
- *Morris the Moose* by Bernard Wiseman
- Nate the Great series by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat
- *Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister
- *The Very Busy Spider* by Eric Carle

Learning to Read Series

- Hello Reader!
- I Can Read Books
- Puffin Easy-to-Read
- Step Into Reading Levels 1–4

Alphabet Books

- *Animalia* by Graeme Baese
- *The Icky Bug Alphabet Book* by Jerry Pallotta
- *Z Was Zapped* by Chris Van Allsburg

Math in Picture Books

- *How Much Is a Million?* by David M. Schwartz
- *One Potato: A Counting Book of Potato Prints* by Diana Pomeroy
- *Ten Sly Piranhas: A Counting Story in Reverse, (A Tale of Wickedness—and Worse!)* by William Wise
- *When Sheep Cannot Sleep* by Satoshi Kitamura

Classics to Read to a First Grader

- *Leo the Late Bloomer* by Robert Kraus
- *The Little House* by Virginia Lee Burton
- *Make Way for Ducklings* by Robert McCloskey
- *When Will I Read?* by Miriam Cohen

Caldecott Awards and Honor Books

- *Alphabet City* by Stephen Johnson
- *Ashanti to Zulu: African Traditions* by Margaret Musgrove
- *The Hello, Goodbye Window* by Norton Juster and Chris Raschka
- *Owen* by Kevin Henkes
- *The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg
- *A Story, A Story* by Gail E. Haley

Enjoy!



Third Grade Suggested Summer Reading List



Note: The following books are only suggestions. Please feel free to add any books that are appropriate for your reader. The staff in the children's area of the public library will also have many wonderful suggestions for you.

Research has shown that the single greatest factor in predicting reading success is whether a child is read to when young. Here are some titles to get you started! Please note that the reading level of the books suggested varies. If your child is already reading, have him or her read a page of the book aloud to you to see if it is a good fit. If they struggle with more than a few words on the page, it is probably too difficult, but the book would still be a great book to read aloud to your child.

School Stories

- *Kirsten Learns a Lesson: A School Story* by Janet Beeler Shaw
- *Ramona Quimby Age 8* by Beverly Cleary

Animal Stories

- *The Adventures of Paddington* by Michael Bond (book and tape series)
- *Babe: The Gallant Pig* by Dick King-Smith
- *Catwings* by Ursula K. Le Guin
- *The Lion's Whiskers: An Ethiopian Folktale* by Nancy Raines Day
- *Rats on the Roof and Other Stories* by James Marshall

Books About Friends

- *The Candy Corn Contest* by Patricia Reilly Giff
- *Pinky and Rex* by James Howe

Historical Fiction

- *Ben and Me* by Robert Lawson
- *Changes for Addy* by Connie Rose Porter (and other American Girl books)
- *If You Grew Up with George Washington* by Ruth Belov Gross
- *Kate Shelley and the Midnight Express* by Margaret K. Wetterer
- *Kibitzers and Fools: Tales My Zayda Told Me* by Simms Taback
- *Pink and Say* by Patricia Polacco
- *Snowflake Bentley* by Jacqueline Briggs Martin
- *Teammates* by Peter Golenbock

Folktales

- *Iktomi and the Berries: A Plains Indian Story* by Paul Goble
- *Mirandy and Brother Wind* by Patricia C. McKissack

- *Raven: A Trickster Tale from the Northwest* by Gerald McDermott
- *The Talking Eggs* by Robert D. San Souci

Great Series Books

- Amelia Bedelia series by Peggy Parish
- American Girl series
- Arthur series by Marc Brown
- Berenstain Bears series by Jan and Stan Berenstain
- Boxcar Children by Gertrude Chandler Warner
- Encyclopedia Brown by Donald J. Sobol
- Eyewitness Science Explorers
- Henry and Mudge series by Cynthia Rylant
- Horrible Harry series by Suzy Kline
- Little House series by Laura Ingalls Wilder
- Nancy Drew Notebooks by Carolyn Keene early series
- Pee Wee Scouts by Judy Delton
- Polk Street School by Patricia Reilly Giff

Award Winners

- *The Cat Who Went to Heaven* by Elizabeth Jane Coatsworth
- *Doctor De Soto* by William Steig
- *How Much Is a Million?* by David M. Schwartz
- *Jumanji* by Chris Van Allsburg
- *Mercy Watson to the Rescue* by Kate DiCamillo
- *Mirette on the High Wire* by Emily Arnold McCully
- *Prehistoric Pinkerton* by Steven Kellogg
- *Rabbit Hill* by Robert Lawson
- *The Village of Round and Square Houses* by Ann Grifalconi

Enjoy!



Fourth Grade Suggested Summer Reading List



Note: The following books are only suggestions. Please feel free to add any books that are appropriate for your reader. The staff in the children's area of the public library will also have many wonderful suggestions for you.

Research has shown that the single greatest factor in predicting reading success is whether a child is read to when young. Here are some titles to get you started! Please note that the reading level of the books suggested varies. If your child is already reading, have him or her read a page of the book aloud to you to see if it is a good fit. If they struggle with more than a few words on the page, it is probably too difficult, but the book would still be a great book to read aloud to your child.

School Stories

- *4B Goes Wild* by Jamie Gilson
- *Harriet, the Spy* by Louise Fitzhugh
- *My Teacher Fried My Brains* by Bruce Coville
- *Ramona and Her Father* by Beverley Cleary
- *Sideways Stories from Wayside School* by Louis Sachar

Mystery and Adventure Stories

- *The Castle in the Attic* by Elizabeth Winthrop (Challenging independent read)
- *Culpepper's Cannon* by Gary Paulsen
- *Encyclopedia Brown Gets His Man* by Donald J. Sobol
- *Julian, Secret Agent* by Ann Cameron

Sports Stories

- *Baseball Fever* by Johanna Hurwitz
- *Benjy the Football Hero* by Jean Van Leeuwen
- *Bobby Baseball* by Robert Kimmel Smith
- *Dog on Third Base* by Constance Hiser
- *Gold Medal Rider* by Bonnie Bryant
- *Tall Man in the Pivot* by Matt Christopher (There are many other sports stories by this author.)

Historical Fiction

- *The Courage of Sarah Noble* by Alice Dalgleish
- *The Hundred Dresses* by Eleanor Estes
- *The Hundred Penny Box* by Sharon Bell Mathis
- *Little House in the Big Woods* by Laura Ingalls Wilder
- *The Well* by Mildred D. Taylor (Challenging independent read)

Fantasy and Science Fiction

- *Aliens Ate My Homework* by Bruce Coville
- *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C. S. Lewis (Challenging independent read)

Series Books

- *The Babysitter's Club* by Ann M. Martin
- *Boxcar Children* by Gertrude Chandler Warner
- *Cam Jansen* by David A. Adler
- *Goosebumps* by R. L. Stine
- *The Hardy Boys* by Franklin W. Dixon
- *Harry Potter* by J. K. Rowling
- *Marvin Redpost series* Louis Sachar
- *Nancy Drew Mysteries* by Carolyn Keene
- *A Series of Unfortunate Events* by Lemony Snicket
- *The Stories that Julian Tells* by Ann Cameron

Enjoy!



Second Grade Suggested Summer Reading List



Note: The following books are only suggestions. Please feel free to add any books that are appropriate for your reader. The staff in the children's area of the public library will also have many wonderful suggestions for you.

Research has shown that the single greatest factor in predicting reading success is whether a child is read to when young. Here are some titles to get you started! Please note that the reading level of the books suggested varies. If your child is already reading, have him or her read a page of the book aloud to you to see if it is a good fit. If they struggle with more than a few words on the page, it is probably too difficult, but the book would still be a great book to read aloud to your child.

School Stories

- *Amazing Grace* by Mary Hoffman
- *Arthur's Prize Reader* by Lillian Hoban
- *The Day Jimmy's Boa Ate the Wash* by Trinka Hakes Noble
- *Fish Face* by Patricia Reilly Giff
- Junie B. Jones series by Barbara Park
- *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* by Kevin Henkes
- *Miss Nelson Is Missing* by Harry Allard
- Polk Street Gang series by Patricia Reilly Giff

Books About Friends

- *A Bargain for Frances* by Russell Hoban
- *The Beast in Ms. Rooney's Room* by Patricia Reilly Giff
- *Fox on the Job* by James Marshall
- *Frog and Toad Together* by Arnold Lobel
- *Horrible Harry and the Green Slime* by Suzy Kline
- *Pinky and Rex* by James Howe

Historical Fiction

- American Girls series
- *Deputy Dan and the Bank Robbers* by Joseph Rosenbloom
- *Kamishibai Man* by Allen Say

Classics to Read Aloud

- *Alice in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll
- *Just-so Stories* by Rudyard Kipling
- *Paddington Bear* by Michael Bond
- *Winnie the Pooh* by A. A. Milne
- *The Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum

Caldecott Awards and Honor Books

- *The Funny Little Woman* by Arlene Mosel
- *Many Moons* by James Thurber
- *The Ox-Cart Man* by Donald Hall
- *The Story of Jumping Mouse* by John Steptoe
- *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble* by William Steig
- *When I Was Young in the Mountains* by Cynthia Rylant

Learning to Read Stories

- Berenstain Bears series by Jan and Stan Berenstain
- Cam Jansen series by David A. Adler
- Hello Reader!
- I Can Read Books
- Junie B. Jones series by Barbara Park
- Puffin Easy-to-Read
- Step Into Reading Levels 1-4
- *The Stories Julian Tells* by Ann Cameron

Enjoy!



Kindergarten Suggested Summer Reading List



Note: The following books are only suggestions. Please feel free to add any books that are appropriate for your reader. The staff in the children's area of the public library will also have many wonderful suggestions for you.

Research has shown that the single greatest factor in predicting reading success is whether a child is read to when young. Here are some titles to get you started!

Books About Me

- *I Like Me!* by Nancy L. Carlson
- *I Like to Be Little* by Charlotte Zolotow
- *The Mixed-Up Chameleon* by Eric Carle
- *My Five Senses* by Aliki
- *Owen* by Kevin Henkes
- *When I Get Bigger* by Mercer Mayer

Family Stories

- Just Me Books by Mercer Mayer
- *Mama Do You Love Me?* by Barbara M. Joesse

Predictable Books

(Stories with a pattern using rhyme or rhythm.)

- *Curious George* by H. A. Rey
- *Each Peach Pear Plum* by Janet and Allan Ahlberg
- *The Gingerbread Boy* by Paul Galdone
- *Gregory the Terrible Eater* by Mitchell Sharmat
- *Goodnight Moon* by Margaret Wise Brown
- *Millions of Cats* by Wanda Gág
- *What's in Fox's Sack?* by Paul Galdone

Beginning, Middle, and End Concept

- *Bony-Legs* by Joanna Cole
- *A Camping Spree with Mr. Magee* by Chris Van Dusen
- *Love You Forever* by Robert Munsch
- *Rosie's Walk* by Pat Hutchins
- *The Runaway Bunny* by Margaret Wise Brown

Color and Counting Books

- *Each Orange Had Eight Slices: A Counting Book* by Paul Giganti Jr.
- *Fish Eyes: A Book You Can Count On* by Lois Ehlert
- *Frog Counts to Ten* by John Liebler
- *Inch by Inch* by Leo Lionni
- *Is it Red? Is it Yellow? Is it Blue?* by Tana Hoban
- *Planting a Rainbow* by Lois Ehlert
- *Ten Bears in My Bed: A Goodnight Countdown* by Stanley Mack
- *Ten Little Fish* by Audrey Wood
- *26 Letters and 99 Cents* by Tana Hoban

Caldecott Winners and Honor Books

- *Color Zoo* by Lois Ehlert
- *Madeline* by Ludwig Bemelmans
- *More, More, More Said the Baby* by Vera B. Williams
- *Officer Buckle and Gloria* by Peggy Rathman
- *Swimmy* by Leo Lionni
- *Tops and Bottoms* by Janet Stevens

Mother Goose and Nursery Rhymes

- *James Marshall's Mother Goose* by James Marshall
- *My Very First Mother Goose* by Iona Opie and Rosemary Wells
- *Tomie dePaola's Mother Goose* by Tomie dePaola

Folktales and Fairy Tales

- *Chicken Little* by Steven Kellogg
- *Cinderella* by Marcia Brown
- *The Hare and the Tortoise* by Brian Wildsmith
- *Henny Penny* by H. Werner Zimmermann
- *The Little Red Hen* by Margot Zemach
- *The Three Bears* by Paul Galdone
- *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* by Peter Christen Asbjornsen
- *Three Little Pigs* by James Marshall
- *The Three Little Pigs* by Rodney Peppé
- *The Ugly Duckling* by Hans Christian Andersen

Stories in Rhyme

- *All the Colors of the Earth* by Sheila Hamanaka
- *Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain* by Verna Aardema
- *Miss Spider's Tea Party* by David Kirk

Friends

- *Benjamin and Tulip* by Rosemary Wells
- *We Are Best Friends* by Aliki
- *Who Will Be My Friends?* by Syd Hoff

Fabulous Science Books

- *Cars and How they Go* by Joanna Cole
- *Eyewitness Juniors Amazing Frogs and Toads* by Barry Clarke
- *Magic School Bus On the Ocean Floor* by Joanna Cole

Enjoy!



Fifth Grade Suggested Summer Reading List



Note: The following books are only suggestions. Please feel free to add any books that are appropriate for your reader. The staff in the children's area of the public library will also have many wonderful suggestions for you.

Research has shown that the single greatest factor in predicting reading success is whether a child is read to when young. Here are some titles to get you started! Please note that the reading level of the books suggested varies. If your child is already reading, have him or her read a page of the book aloud to you to see if it is a good fit. If they struggle with more than a few words on the page, it is probably too difficult, but the book would still be a great book to read aloud to your child.

Great Reads

- *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E. L. Konigsberg
- *Granny Torrelli Makes Soup* by Sharon Creech
- *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen
- *Holes* by Louis Sachar
- *Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli
- *Mick Harte Was Here* by Barbara Park
- *Wringer* by Jerry Spinelli

Mystery and Adventure

- *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O'Dell
- *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* by Avi (Challenging independent read)

Newbery Medal and Honor Books

- *Afternoon of the Elves* by Janet Taylor Lisle
- *Catherine, Called Birdy* by Karen Cushman
- *Dragon's Gate* by Laurence Yep (Challenging independent read)
- *The Ear, the Eye, and the Arm* by Nancy Farmer
- *Homesick, My Own Story* by Jean Fritz
- *Missing May* by Cynthia Rylant
- *The Watsons Go to Birmingham* by Christopher Paul Curtis

Historical Fiction

- *Black Stallion* by Walter Farley (Challenging independent read)
- *Bull Run* by Paul Fleischman
- *Code Talker: A Novel About the Navajo Marines of World War Two* by Joseph Bruchac
- *Sarah Bishop* by Scott O'Dell

Fantasy and Science Fiction

- *The BFG* by Roald Dahl
- *Harry Potter* by J. K. Rowling
- *The High King* by Lloyd Alexander (Very challenging independent read)
- *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C. S. Lewis
- *Lizard Music* by Daniel Pinkwater
- *Redwall* by Brian Jacques (Challenging independent read)
- *A Swiftly Tilting Planet* by Madeleine L'Engle

Humorous Stories

- *Freaky Friday* by Mary Rodgers
- *Matilda* by Roald Dahl
- *Skinnybones* by Barbara Park

Enjoy!

Summer Reading List



Before Entering First Grade

Asher: *Too Many Frogs* c2005 *animals, humor*

Each night Froggie interrupts Rabbit's cozy home for a read-aloud story.

Bailey: *Stanley's Party* c2003 *dogs, humor*

When a dog's owners leave for the evening, he gets into a lot of mischief.

Bloom: *A Splendid Friend Indeed* c2005 *friendship*

A polar bear and a goose learn to get along and be friends.

Brett: *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* c1987 *fairy tale*

This favorite fairy tale features a young girl who enters the home of three bears who are not at home.

Bruel: *Bad Kitty* c2005 *alphabet book*

Finding that there is no food in the house, a kitty chooses to be very bad.

Carle: *Mister Seahorse* c2004 *animals, fiction*

Mrs. Seahorse lays her eggs, after which Mr. Seahorse carries the eggs through the sea, greeting other fish fathers.

Cronin: *Dooby, Dooby, Moo* c2004 *animal humor*

Duck organizes the farm animals for a talent show at the county fair. The first prize is a trampoline.

Cronin: *Diary of a Fly* c2005 *insect, humor*

While keeping a diary, the young fly records how hard it is to be an insect.

Fleming: *The First Day of Winter* c2005 *counting, rhyming, diversity*

In the first ten days of winter a child brings a snowman to life in a style similar to The Twelve Days of Christmas.

Hoffman: *Amazing Grace* c1991 *ethnic diversity*

Grace is told by a fellow classmate that she can't play Peter Pan in the school play because of her skin color, but she learns she can do anything she tries to do.

Lester: *Hooway for Wodney Wat* c1999 *fantasy, abilities awareness*

Students in Rodney's class make fun of him, because he can't pronounce his name properly; but it is his speech problem that helps to punish the class bully.

McKinley: *One Smile* c2002 *kindness*

While walking through the park with her mother, a child smiles at a discouraged stranger and sets off a chain of events that spreads kindness and comes full circle.

Numeroff: *Beatrice Doesn't Want To* c2004 *realistic fiction, humor*

Beatrice Doesn't Like to Read, but a librarian changes her attitude during a story session in this humorous, well illustrated book.

Prelutsky: *Me I Am* c2007 *poetry*

A book of poem for children celebrating being an individual.

Rathmann: *Officer Buckle and Gloria* c1995 *safety, fiction*

When Officer Buckle delivers safety speeches at a local elementary school, the students don't listen until his police dog Gloria accompanies him.

Scotton: *Russell the Sheep* c2005 *animals, fiction*

Russell experiments with many different ways to fall asleep.

Seuss: *The Cat in the Hat* c1957 *classic*

On a rainy day, two children are visited by a cat who shows them games and tricks.

Shannon: *A Bad Case of Stripes* c1998 *individuality, fiction*

A girl who is always concerned about what others think of her wakes up one day to discover she is covered with stripes.

Summer Reading List



Before Entering Second Grade

Cannon: *Crickwing* c2000 *insects, fiction*

Crickwing the cockroach saves the day for the leaf-cutter ants when their forest enemies attack them.

Crews: *Below* c2006 *fiction*

When Jack drops his action figure into a mysterious hole, he has to devise a rescue.

Ernst: *Sylvia Jean, Drama Queen* c2005 *fantasy animals, humor*

Although Sylvia Jean owns plenty of costumes, she struggles to come up with a costume for the big party.

Hoberman: *You Read to Me, I'll Read to You: Very Short Stories to Read Together* c2001 *rhyming stories*

This collection of short, rhythmic stories and cheerful art is designed to be read out loud by both child and adult.

James: *Dear Mr. Blueberry* c1991 *letter writing*

A teacher and his young student correspond with each other concerning an imaginary whale in the little girl's pond.

Lobel: *Frog and Toad stories* *classics*

Each of the frog and toad stories include several short tales about two very good friends.

Mayer: *Little Critter stories* *fantasy, animals*

Little Critter is a small creature who is amazingly like a young human boy. His adventures take place with different members of his family who expose him to daily life experiences.

McKissack: *Flossie and the Fox* c1986 *folklore, ethnic diversity*

In this African American folk tale, a fox who is known for stealing eggs encounters a young girl who continues to deny that he is a fox without a lot of proof.

McKissack: *The Honest-to-Goodness Truth* c2000 *character, ethnic diversity*

A young girl promises not to ever lie but then discovers that there are times that one actually should not tell the entire truth.

McNaughton: *Once Upon an Ordinary School Day* c2004 *school story*

Mr. Gee, the new teacher, changes "ordinary" when he challenges all the children to use their imaginations.

Numeroff: *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie and sequels* c1985 *cumulative tales*

When a mouse requests a cookie, a cycle of events occurs that brings the reader full circle.

Pallotta: *Dory Story* c2000 *sea story, fiction*

Danny's ocean adventures are completely enchanting, even if they take place in the bathtub.

Parish: *Amelia Bedelia stories* *classics, fiction*

Amelia Bedelia, who is a housekeeper, is very literal minded when others give her

directions; the results are hilarious.

Pearson: *Ordinary Mary's Extraordinary Deed* c2002 *kindness, fiction*

When young Mary secretly leaves berries on a lady's porch, the kindness is multiplied many times over by others.

Peterson: *Don't Forget Winona* c2004 *historical fiction*

In the 1930s during the days of the dust bowl in Oklahoma and the Great Depression, a young girl tells about her family's experiences on Route 66 heading toward California.

Polacco: *Aunt Chip and the Triple Creek Dam Affair* c1996 *TV, reading, fiction*

Since the invasion of television, no one can remember how to read.

Rylant: *Henry and Mudge stories* *family, dogs, humor*

A young boy named Henry and his dog Mudge share many adventures with Henry's parents and other important people in his life.

Schachner: *Skippyjon Jones* c2003 *humor*

This Siamese kitten spends his "time-out" imagining himself as "El-Skippito" who comes to the rescue of some Chihuahuas.

Stevens: *And the Dish Ran Away With the Spoon* c2001 *nursery rhymes*

From the Mother Goose nursery rhyme, Dish and Spoon run away. Concerned about the fate of the rhyme, Cat, Cow and Dog set out to find them.

Waber: *The House On East 88th Street* c1962 *crocodiles, classic*

When Lyle the Crocodile appears in the bathtub of the Primm family, the family is very upset; but Lyle soon wins their hearts.

Woodson: *The Other Side* c2001 *friendship, ethnic diversity*

A fence divides a town where two girls - one white and one black - sit and gradually become acquainted.

Summer Reading List



Before Entering Third Grade

Banks: *Max's Words* c2006 fiction

Max wants to start a collection since his brothers collect coins and stamps. Max decides to collect words and discovers the importance of how words are put together to create stories.

Bridges: *Ruby's Wish* c2002 historical fiction, ethnic diversity

During the 1800s in China, when few girls learn to read and write, Ruby fervently desires to attend university with all the males in her family.

Bunting: *One Green Apple* c2006 historical fiction, ethnic diversity

Farah is new to the U.S. and her class. She feels alone until she goes on a field trip and realizes things are alike everywhere.

Christelow: *Where's the Big Bad Wolf* c2002 folk and fairy tale

Every time the three pigs get in trouble the big bad wolf is nowhere to be found.

Cox: *Butterfly Buddies* c2001 friendship, school story

In this transition to chapter book story, two students working together on a project study the metamorphosis of a caterpillar to a butterfly and learn how important it is to feel accepted.

Curtis: *The Bat Boy and His Violin* c1998 sports, music, ethnic diversity

Reginald loves to play his violin, but Papa wants him to be outdoors more and enlists him as the bat boy for the baseball team Papa manages. Reginald plays his violin in the dugout, and the team improves.

Demi: *One Grain of Rice: A Mathematical Folktale* c1997 folklore, math

A clever village girl outsmarts a selfish raja as one grain of rice doubles each day and becomes millions of grains of rice.

DiCamillo: *Mercy Watson to the Rescue* c2005 animal, fantasy, humor

Cute little pig Mercy is happy until the lights turn off at night, and she decides to join her owners in their bed.

Goble: *The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses* c1978 folklore, ethnic diversity

In this folk tale, a Native-American girl prefers to live with the wild horses with which she feels happy and free, even though she loves her people.

Grindley: *Dear Max* c2004 fiction

Max begins writing letters to his favorite author, D. J. Lucas. Together they share the problems of being a 9-year-old who is being bullied and a famous author who is having trouble with her next book.

Holm: *Babymouse* c2005 graphic fiction, friendship, imagination

A little mouse with a big imagination learns about true friendship and popularity.

Johnson: *Just Like Josh Gibson* c2007 sports fiction, historical fiction

A grandmother recounts the story of the day she was allowed to play in a baseball game, even though she was a girl.

Kerrin: *Martin Bridge: Ready for Takeoff!* c2005 fiction

Martin means well, but his ideas don't always turn out as expected. In three stand-alone chapters, Martin deals with issues at home and school.

Pinkney: *The Ugly Duckling* c1999 *fairy tale*

This adaptation of the Hans Christian Andersen classic portrays an unhappy year for an ugly duckling who eventually grows up and transforms into a beautiful swan.

Preller: *Jigsaw Jones series* *mystery*

Jigsaw Jones and his friend Mila put together pieces of information to solve various mysteries.

Stilton: *The Geronimo Stilton series* *mice, fantasy, mystery*

Geronimo Stilton is a mouse newspaper editor and journalist who travels the world to chase important interviews but winds up in the middle of adventures that involve solving intriguing mysteries.

Tunnell: *Mailing May* c1997 *historical fiction*

Five-year-old May wishes to visit her grandmother, but the train is too expensive. May's father and cousin concoct a clever means of sending the child after all.

Warner: *Only Emma* c2005 *fiction*

Emma's mother loses her job, so Emma becomes the new kid in the school and neighborhood. An only child, Emma's life changes when a four year old comes for a visit.

Willey: *Clever Beatrice* c2001 *folklore*

In this folk tale, a clever young girl matches her wits against a rich giant and wins all his gold, saving her family from poverty.

Wyeth: *Something Beautiful* c2002 *fiction*

A young girl finds just how many different forms beauty can take when she searches her urban neighborhood.



Before Entering Fourth Grade

Birney: *The World According to Humphrey* c2005 *fiction, humor*

Humphrey, a classroom hamster, surveys his surroundings and finds ways to help the children in the class.

Birney: *The Seven Wonders of Sassafras Springs* c2005 *fiction*

Set in 1923, a 12 year old boy is inspired to find wonders in his small town after reading about the Seven Wonders of the World.

Clements: *Lunch Money* c1994 *school, humor*

Hart is a popular boy who sometimes "goofs off". When he hits the music teacher with a rubber band, he is put in charge of the holiday concert. Both Hart and his teacher learn lessons.

Curtis: *Mr. Chickee's Funny Money* c2005 *mystery, ethnic diversity*

Is the quadrillion dollar bill with a picture of soul singer James Brown that Steven Carter receives as a gift from his elderly blind neighbor real money? Steven, his friend Russell, and Russell's dog Zoopy decide to investigate.

Duffey: *Hey, New Kid!* c1996 *school story*

Jeremy worries about attending a new school, but he decides to make the best of it by reinventing himself in order to impress other students in his class.

Feelings: *Soul Looks Back in Wonder* c1993 *poetry, ethnic diversity*

Thirteen African American poets celebrate their heritage in their words and colorful illustrations created by Tom Feelings.

Fleming: *The Fabled Fourth Graders of Aesop Elementary School* c2007 *fiction, school*

Mr. Jupiter becomes the 4th grade teacher of an unruly class with surprising results.

Grimes: *Talkin' About Bessie* c2002 *biography, ethnic diversity*

How Bessie Coleman became the first African-American woman to become a licensed pilot as told by her family and friends.

Gutman: *My Weird School series* *school, humor*

A fun series of books about school life that appeal to reluctant readers.

Howe: *It Came From Beneath the Bed* c2002 *humor, fantasy*

Uncle Harold, who wrote books about Bunnica, helps Howie, his dachshund nephew to write a story in which he saves the world from a science experiment gone wrong.

Hurwitz: *Fourth Grade Fuss* c2004 *school story*

Julio and his friends enjoy their fourth grade activities - the yard sale, ice skating, and a surprise party; but the students get serious when they have to study for end-of-the-year statewide tests.

Kehret: *Shelter Dogs: Amazing Stories of Adopted Strays* c1999 *animals, non-fiction*

Tells the story of 8 dogs who were saved from the animal shelter and went on to

better lives.

MacDonald: *No More Nasty* c2001 *humor, school story*

An unruly fifth grade class receives a new perspective on learning from a substitute teacher who just happens to be Simon's Great Aunt Matilda.

McDonald: *Judy Moody* c2000 *humor, school story*

On the first day of school, third grader Judy snaps out of her bad mood when she receives an assignment to create a collage all about herself.

Noble: *The Last Brother* (Tales of Young America series) c2006 *historical fiction*

Gabe becomes a bugler in the Civil War to protect his only surviving brother.

Pennypacker: *Clementine* c2006 *fiction, series*

Clementine is a funny, energetic, third grader with a talent for getting in trouble and a heart of gold.

Roy: *A to Z Mysteries* *series, mystery stories*

Elementary schoolers Dink, Josh, and Ruth Rose work together to solve mysteries.

San Souci: *The Dangerous Snake and Reptile Club* c2004 *friendship, fiction*

Brothers Bobby, Danny, and Mike decide to display the treasures they find on vacation and start a club with their friends.

Strickland: *When Mack Came Back* c2000 *family, historical fiction*

During World War II in rural Georgia, Maury's older brother Ben enlists in the army, leaving Maury to care for Ben's injured puppy and deal with their angry father.

Various authors: *My America series* *historical fiction*

These fiction stories are written in diary format and depict everyday children living during various time in American history.

Summer Reading List



Before Entering Fifth Grade

Barry: *Peter and the Starcatchers* c2004 *contemporary fantasy*

Peter and a group of fellow orphans assist Molly, a Starcatcher, in guarding a trunk of “mysterious star substance” that has the ability to keep people young and let fly.

Collins: *Gregor the Overlander* c2003 *fantasy fiction*

Gregor and his two-year sister fall down a shaft in the basement and find a world of giant insects and rats. They become part of a huge battle.

DiCamillo: *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* c2006 *fantasy*

Edward Tulane is a selfish, thoughtless toy rabbit until he loses the little girl who loves him.

Foreman: *Summer of the Skunks* c2002 *historical fiction*

Ten-year-old Jill lives with her family on a southern farm in the late 1940s.

Gorman: *Dork in Disguise* c1999 *school story*

When highly intelligent Jerry moves to a new town, he sets out to change his image from “dork” to “cool.”

Gutman: *Baseball Card Adventure* *sports, historical fiction*

A series of books where Joe travels back in time and meets famous players.

Hannigan: *Ida B: --and Her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster, and (Possibly) Save the World* c2004 *realistic fiction, school story*

Happy fourth grader Ida, who is home-schooled, enjoys playing in her family's apple orchard, until her mother is diagnosed with breast cancer and the financially strapped family must sell part of the orchard and enroll Ida in public school.

Hunter: *Into the Wild* c2003 *animal fiction*

Four clans of wild cats share a forest. One clan decides to change “hunting rites” and their peace is challenged

Lasky: *The Capture (Guardians of Ga'Hoole series)* c2003 *fantasy*

Soren, a barn owl, is knocked from his nest by his older brother and taken to St. Aggie's, a school for orphaned owls. He befriends Gylfie, an elf owl, and the two set out to save all owls from the perils of the school.

Martin: *Main Street series* *realistic fiction*

A series about two young girls orphaned when their parents die in a car accident. They go to live with their grandmother in Camden Falls, Mass., a small town filled with a variety of characters.

Norman: *My Feet Are Laughing* c2006 *poetry*

16 poems told by a young girl about her Harlem neighborhood.

Peck: *A Year Down Yonder* c2000 *humor, historical fiction*

In 1937, during the Great Depression, Mary Alice lives with her very unusual grandmother in rural Illinois.

Seidler: *Toes* c2004 *animals, fiction*

Ridiculed because of his seven toes on each paw, this kitten runs away and finds a struggling musician who needs him.

Smith: *Bone* c2004 *graphic novel*

Three cousins leave their home of Boneville. On their journey they meet royalty, dragons, and monsters as they try to return home.

Soto: *Baseball in April and Other Stories* c1990 *ethnic diversity*

These short stories focus on young Hispanics growing up in California.

Strasser: *Help!* series *fantasy, humor*

Jake Sherman switches bodies with various people and creatures, including his gym teacher, principal, the family dog and even the first day of summer camp!

Stewart: *The Mysterious Benedict Society* c2007 *fiction, adventure*

Four children are secretly spies as students in the Learning Institute for the Enlightened.

They have to avoid being brainwashed by Mr. Curtain, one of the owners of the school.

This is a mystery you will be eager to see unfold.

Wright: *The Wish Master* c2000 *realistic fiction*

Corby and his mother travel to Wisconsin for the summer to take care of his sick grandmother; then, he meets a local boy who takes him to the Wish Master.

Various authors: *Dear America* series *historical fiction*

Skurzynski: *Mysteries in Our National Parks* series *mystery, adventure*



Before Entering Sixth Grade

Blackwood: *The Shakespeare Stealer* c1998 *historical fiction/mystery*

Widge, a likeable orphan, finds himself in the middle of an adventure to steal and copy the play HAMLET from Shakespeare. He soon discovers that life in the Globe Theatre is much better than the other places he has apprenticed.

Broach: *Shakespeare's Secret* c2005 *mystery*

Hero moves into a new town and finds she is living in an old house with an unusual past. With the help of the police chief's son and her neighbor, Hero tries to unravel the mystery.

Carbone: *Stealing Freedom* c1998 *historical fiction/diversity*

This story is based on the true experiences of a young slave girl who escapes to Canada on the Underground Railroad.

Creech: *The Wanderer* c2000 . *adventure*

Told through journal writings, Sophie and her cousin, Cody, share the experiences of their journey on a sailboat, The Wanderer, from Connecticut to England with six crew members, including her uncles and cousins.

Cushman: *The Ballad of Lucy Whipple* c1996 *historical fiction*

Lucy isn't happy when her mother moves the family from New England to California for the Gold Rush.

Di Camillo: *The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess, Some Soup, and a Spool of Thread* c2003 *fantasy*

Tale of a tiny mouse with huge ears, a princess that he loves, a servant girl who wishes to be a princess and a rat named Roscuro who yearns for soup.

Funke: *Inkheart* c2003 *fantasy*

A girl and her father, a bookbinder who can "read" fictional characters into real life, are abducted by one of the characters, who tries to force them into his service.

Giff: *Nory Ryan's Song* c2000 *historical fiction*

Twelve-year-old Nory Ryan helps her family and neighbors survive during the 1845 potato famine in Ireland.

Golding: *The Secret Within* c2002 *realistic fiction*

Carly's domineering father has a painful family secret that causes Carly to face danger and seek freedom at night.

Haddix: *Double Identity* c2005 *mystery*

Bethany becomes curious about her past when her parents unexpectedly disappear after leaving her with an aunt who she did not know existed. As the story unravels, the conclusion uncovers a shocking secret.

Hesse: *Music of the Dolphins* c1996 *realistic fiction*

The thoughts of a young girl, who was raised by dolphins from 4 years old after a plane crash, are recorded by a scientist as she is reintroduced to a civilized way of life.

Holm: *Penny from Heaven* c2006 *historical fiction* Newbery Honor winner
In New Jersey during the summer of 1953, eleven-year-old Penny, living with her mother and maternal grandparents, learns the truth about her father's death and about her upbringing after she has a serious accident.

Isaacs: *Torn Thread* c2000 *historical fiction*
During World War II, twelve year-old Eva, living in Poland at the time, is sent by her father to a Nazi labor camp in Czechoslovakia, where her sickly sister has been taken.

Kehret: *Abduction!* c2004 *adventure, contemporary realistic fiction* Thirteen-year-old Bonnie, on a quest to find her kidnapped brother and his dog, becomes a victim of the kidnapper as well.

Levine: *Hana's Suitcase: A True Story* c2002 *biography*
The director of a newly opened Holocaust museum in Japan and her students become intrigued with a suitcase from a concentration camp found among the museum's artifacts. The story of a Czech girl, Hana Brady, a victim of the Holocaust, unfolds through the search for information about a suitcase.

Paratore: *The Wedding Planner's Daughter* c2005 *humor, romance*
A twelve-year-old girl, whose mother is a wedding planner, wishes for her mother to marry.

Ryan: *Esperanza Rising* c2000 *historical fiction, diversity*
During the Great Depression, Esperanza and her mother are forced from their wealthy home in Mexico to Southern California where they work in harsh conditions.

Smith: *Peak* c2005 *adventure, coming-of-age*
Fourteen-year-old Peak Marcello's goal is to become the youngest person to reach the top of Mt. Everest.

Selznick: *The Invention of Hugo Cabret: A Novel in Words and Pictures* c2007 *adventure, mystery* 2008 Caldecott Medal Winner
When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toyseller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

Whelan: *Angel on the Square* c2001 *historical fiction*
In 1913 Russia, World War I and the revolution bring unwanted changes into twelve-year-old Katya's life after she joins her mother in the household of Tsar Nicholas II.
