

Summer Reading List

Students Entering 1st Grade

By maintaining an active literacy life over the summer, you ensure your child the best start to the next grade level! ☺ Happy Reading and Writing!

IMPORTANT NOTE TO PARENTS: PLEASE DON'T BECOME CONCERNED OVER READING LEVELS

- In Elementary school, each child is developing on their own continuum, and it is useless to assess your child's strengths as a reader by his/her reading level alone. To develop strength as a reader, *children need lots of time to read lots of books* that are "just right" for their abilities.

FAQ: WILL HAVING MY CHILD READ HARDER BOOKS HELP THEM GET STRONGER AT READING?

Nope! *Exactly the opposite can happen!*

- It is **critically** important that children ***not*** read books that are too difficult for them. Research has shown that reading books that are at the "frustration level" can actually stunt a readers' growth, or send them backwards in their development.
- When in doubt, help your child select books that feel "friendly/familiar" to other books they have enjoyed. Also, check out series books - many of the books in this packet are part of a series. Not only is it fun to follow familiar characters through new adventures and experiences, but reading through a book series can help readers grow!

FAQ – MY CHILD REALLY CAN READ HARDER BOOKS THROUGH – AND WANTS TO! THEY CAN READ ALL THE WORDS ON THE PAGE WITHOUT MAKING MISTAKES. THEY EVEN SEEM TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON THE IN STORY. ARE YOU SURE I SHOULDN'T GIVE THEM MUCH HARDER BOOKS?

*Good question, but **proceed with caution!***

- "Harder books" often deal with themes and issues that are more mature. These texts, while perhaps "readable" or "decodable" by your child, may not be developmentally appropriate for your child's age. Also, please keep in mind that just because readers can read each word on the page smoothly and without error, does not mean that they are able to comprehend the sophisticated themes and layered plot lines that these texts may contain.
- If your child is desperate to read a harder book, read it aloud together! ☺ Their ability to comprehend a story by listening to it read aloud is much higher than their ability to understand it alone. Plus, it's a lovely way to bond with your child over your shared love of reading!

Have a safe and happy summer!

Please help your child select books that you are 100% confident your child can read independently *with ease*, and that are clearly written for readers the age of your child. You will see the results of this important, careful book selection work in September! ☺

GREAT WEBSITES FOR CHILDREN'S BOOKS: <http://www.hornbookguide.com>, <http://www.chcbooks.org/readinglists/>, <http://www.nsta.org/publications/ostb/> and <http://www.nsta.org/recommends/>

| <u>LEVEL A - TITLE</u> | <u>AUTHOR</u> | <u>FICTION</u> | <u>NONFICTION</u> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Do You Want to be My Friend | Carle, Eric | X | |
| Going To Grandma's Farm | Franco, Betsy | X | |
| I Can Write | Williams, Rozanne L. | X | |
| I Need A Little Help | Schulz, Kathy | X | |
| Look What I Can Do | Aruego, Jose | X | |
| Moving Day | Kittinger, Jo S | X | |
| Opposites | Wildsmith, Brian | X | |
| Play Ball! | Levy, Janey | X | |
| School Is Cool! | Adams, Colleen | X | |
| What Can I Be | Meister, Cari | X | |
| Autumn Leaves | Saunders-Smith, Gail | | X |
| Chickenpox | Gordon, Sharon | | X |
| Come See My Bugs | Williams, Rozanne L. | | X |
| The Dog | Williams, Rozanne L. | | X |
| Eating Apples | Saunders-Smith, Gail | | X |
| Globes | Nelson, Robin | | X |
| How To Make A Mudpie | Williams, Rozanne L. | | X |
| I Can Read | Williams, Rozanne L. | | X |
| I Like Colors | Williams, Rozanne L. | | X |
| I See Patterns | Williams, Rozanne L. | | X |

| <u>LEVEL B - TITLE</u> | <u>AUTHOR</u> | <u>FICTION</u> | <u>NONFICTION</u> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| A Big Surprise | Butler, Kristi T. | X | |
| Buttons, Buttons | Williams, Rozanne L. | X | |
| Fun With Hats | Malka, Lucy | X | |
| Have You Seen My Cat? | Carle, Eric | X | |
| Have You Seen My Duckling? | Tafari, Nancy | X | |
| Honk! | Smith, Sue | X | |
| I Need You | Murphy, Patricia J. | X | |
| A Lunch With Punch | Kittinger, Jo S. | X | |
| Monday With Meg | Braidich, Victoria | X | |
| Patty's Pictures | Kernan, Elizabeth | X | |
| Animal Babies | Sundance, Eds | | X |
| Animals Need Water | Selwyn, Josephine | | X |
| Here is My Cat | Williams, Rozanne L. | | X |
| How's The Weather? | Williams, Rozanne L. | | X |
| I See Colors | Williams, Rozanne L. | | X |
| Mothers | Schafer, Lola M. | | X |
| Our Pumpkin | Keeler, Renee | | X |
| Things I Do With My Friends | Sundance, Eds | | X |
| Wings | Mitchell, Melanie S. | | X |

| <u>LEVEL C - TITLE</u> | <u>AUTHOR</u> | <u>FICTION</u> | <u>NONFICTION</u> |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Bugs! | McKissack, Patricia | X | |
| Cat And Dog | Williams, Rozanne L. | X | |
| Gabby's Big Game | Sheehan, P.J. | X | |
| I Went Walking | Williams, Rozanne L. | X | |
| Joshua James likes Trucks | Petrie, Catherine A. | X | |
| Pancakes For Breakfast | dePaola, Tomie | X | |
| A rainbow Of My Own | Freeman, Don | X | |
| Sam And Jack: Three Stories | Moran, Alex | X | |
| Silly Sally | Franco, Betsy | X | |
| What I see | Leller, Holly | X | |
| Can You Read A Map? | Williams, Rozanne L. | | X |
| Do You Think It's Funny When....? | Rourke, Eds | | X |
| Flying | Crew, Donald | | X |
| Getting Ready For School | Sundance, Eds | | X |
| How Many? | Williams, Rozanne L. | | X |
| I am Special | Cochrane, Tom | | X |
| I Eat Leaves | Vandine, JoAnn | | X |
| Rain | Kalan, Robert | | X |
| Spots, Feathers And Curly Tails | Tafari, Nancy | | X |
| Trucks | Saunders-Smith, Gail | | x |

| <u>LEVEL D - TITLE</u> | <u>AUTHOR</u> | <u>FICTION</u> | <u>NONFICTION</u> |
|---|---------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| The Chick And The Duckling | Ginsburg, Mirra | X | |
| Footprints In The Snow | Benjamin, Cynthia | X | |
| The Good Bad Cat | Antle, Nancy | X | |
| Mary Wore Her Red Dress And Henry Wore His Green Sneakers | Peek, Merle | X | |
| The Mess | Jensen, Patricia | X | |
| School Bus | Crews, Donald | X | |
| Sleepy Dog | Ziefert, Harriet | X | |
| Snow Joe | Greene, Carol | X | |
| Things I like | Browne, Anthony | X | |
| Wheels! | Cobb, Annie | X | |
| Bears, Bears, Everywhere | Millios, Rita | | X |
| Friends And Family | Rourke, Eds | | X |
| I Can Make Colors | Rourke, Eds | | X |
| I Can't Sleep | Graves, Kimberlee | | X |
| In The Park | DK, Eds | | X |
| I Live In The Desert | Holland, Gini | | X |
| Long Ago And Today | Williams Rozanne L. | | X |
| Mammal Moms And their Young | Rourke, Eds | | X |
| What's The Weather Like Today | Williams Rozanne L. | | X |
| Where Are You Going? | Graves, Kimberlee | | X |

| <u>LEVEL E - TITLE</u> | <u>AUTHOR</u> | <u>FICTION</u> | <u>NONFICTION</u> |
|--|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| All By Myself | Mayer, Mercer | X | |
| Days Of Adventure | Swanson-Natsues, Lyn | X | |
| Five Little Monkeys Jumping On The Bed | Christelow, Eileen | X | |
| Get Lost Becka | Simon, Shirley | X | |
| Hot Rod Harry | Petrie, Catherine A. | X | |
| It Looked Like Split Milk | Shaw, Charles G. | X | |
| Monkey See, Monkey Do | Gave, Marc | X | |
| Sunshine, Moonshine | Armstrong, Jennifer | X | |
| Wake Up, Sun! | Harrison, David Lee | X | |
| Where's Spot? | Hill, Eric | X | |
| 1 Is For 1 | Wheatley, Nadia | | X |
| Animal Babies | Hamsa, Bobbie | | X |
| Bears, Bears Everywhere | Connelly, Luella | | X |
| Firefighter | Groman, Jacqueline | | X |
| Fishy Tales | DK Eds | | X |
| How Can I Help? | Williams, Rozanne L. | | X |
| Let's Take Care Of the Earth | Williams, Rozanne L. | | X |
| Meet The Dinosaurs | DK Eds | | X |
| Sink Or Float? | Graves, Kimberlee | | X |
| Springtime Addition | Fuller, Jill | | X |

SUGGESTED SERIES READ-ALOUDS

| | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Hello Reader Books | Multiple Authors |
| Bob Books | Bobby Lynn Maslen |
| Step into Reading | Multiple Authors |
| Clifford | Norman Bridwell |
| Arthur | Marc Brown |
| Frog and Toad | Arnold Lobel |
| Poppleton | Cynthia Rylant |
| Little Bear | Maurice Sendak |
| Froggy | Jonathan London |
| Biscuit | Alyssa Satin Capucilli |
| Fluffy | Katie McMullan |
| Henry and Mudge | Cynthia Rylant |
| Franklin | Paulette Bourge |

Need suggestions for beach reading or books to bring to camp? Check out these hand-picked titles that are ideal for the season. ☺

Picture Books

***Thunder-Boomer!* written by Shutta Crum, illustrated by Carol Thompson (Clarion)**

A satisfying picture book captures all the drama and power of a summer storm even as it rewards readers with a smaller-scale, homey story. Grade level: K–3. 32 pages.

***Poetrees* written and illustrated by Douglas Florian (Beach Lane/Simon)**

The popular poet-illustrator celebrates the utility and diversity of trees in poems and freely rendered multimedia art. Grade level: K–3. 48 pages.

***Pond Circle* written by Betsy Franco, illustrated by Stefano Vitale (McElderry)**

Accompanied by creative oil paintings on wood, Franco's cumulative text builds excitement in this exploration of the food chain in a pond. Grade level: Preschool–2. 32 pages.

***My Garden* written and illustrated by Kevin Henkes (Greenwillow)**

Pastel-colored sweets and a random collection of everyday items fill a little girl's imaginary garden. Grade level: Preschool–2. 32 pages.

***Sky Magic* selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins, illustrated by Mariusz Stawarski (Dutton)**

Striking and boldly colored images fuel this collection of poetry dedicated to the sky, from day to night. Grade level: K–3. 32 pages.

***Hooray for Summer!* written and illustrated by Kazuo Iwamura (NorthSouth)**

In this old-fashioned picture book translated from the Japanese, three little squirrel children play outside until a sudden thunderstorm blows in. Grade level: K–3. 28 pages.

***Ready for Anything!* written and illustrated by Keiko Kasza (Putnam)**

Despite the nice weather, melodramatic Raccoon ponders what could go wrong if he and his friend Duck go on a picnic. Grade level: K–3. 32 pages.

***Killer Ants* written by Nicholas Nirgiotis, illustrated by Emma Stevenson (Holiday)**

Nirgiotis brings readers into the ant world via its scariest inhabitants but also includes plenty of fascinating information and colorful close-up illustrations. Grade level: K–3. 32 pages.

***The Patterson Puppies and the Rainy Day* written and illustrated by Leslie Patricelli (Candlewick)**

The puppy siblings cure their rainy day blues by throwing an indoor beach bash. Grade level: K–3. 40 pages.

***The Lion & the Mouse* illustrated by Jerry Pinkney (Little, Brown)**

Pinkney's detailed pencil and watercolor art beautifully conveys Aesop's fable of kindness rewarded. Grade level: K-3. 40 pages.

***All the World* written by Liz Garton Scanlon, illustrated by Marla Frazee (Beach Lane/Simon)**

Simple rhyming text and spacious illustrations tell the story of a West Coast family's day, which concludes with a celebration. Grade level: K-3. 40 pages.

***Robot Zot!* written by Jon Scieszka, illustrated by David Shannon (Simon)**

Household appliances become the fierce opponents of Robot Zot during his quest to save his betrothed, a lady toy cell phone. Grade level: K-3. 40 pages.

***Henry Aaron's Dream* written and illustrated by Matt Tavares (Candlewick)**

In this picture book biography, Tavares describes Aaron's rise from a boy who "didn't have a bat" to a baseball star. Grade level: 1-5. 40 pages.

***The Circus Ship* written and illustrated by Chris Van Dusen (Candlewick)**

Humorous illustrations and poems from a variety of perspectives reinvent the true story of a circus shipwreck. Grade level: K-3. 40 pages.