



Summer Reading

Dear Parents,

Every child should read 20-30 minutes per day. Studies show that children who read only an average amount fall behind avid readers by many points on standardized tests each year. This book list encompasses book titles that are popular with kids entering 2nd grade. It is a good place to start your summer reading, but it is only the beginning. Your child is welcome to read titles that are not on this list or other titles by authors on this list. Knowing how to choose a book that is 'just right' for you is part of being a good reader. Choose a book that you can read and is of interest to you. This reading list was developed as a one-page handout that you can easily use as a resource.

- Reading every day increases vocabulary, spelling, and comprehension. Reading to your child is equally important, as it gives all readers access to higher levels of literature. We encourage you to commit to reading to your child daily and for your child to also read texts on his or her level daily.
- Light reading (comic books, children's magazines, and series) improves a child's reading skills dramatically if done regularly. When a child reads below their level with these types of books they build fluency. Rereading is also good for building fluency.
- The research is clear that children who don't read during the summer can lose up to three months of reading progress and that loss has a cumulative, long-term effect (Reading Rockets, 2011)

Parent Tips

- * Join a reading program in your neighborhood
- * Book Swap – Organize a Summer Book Swap for the summer
- * Pair Fiction and Nonfiction Books – Ex. *Stellaluna* by Janell Cannon and *Bats* by Gail Gibbons
- * Use Summer Fun to Build Background Knowledge

The Museum School model is built on the idea of making connections to the real world and building background knowledge. Interesting experiences give kids a wider framework for new information they might encounter in texts. When kids have many experiences to draw on, they have a better chance with making a connection with what they read!

Fiction

Charlie Parker Played Be Bop by Chris Raschka
Ish by Peter Reynolds
Mouse Soup by Annabel Lobel
The Dot by Peter Reynolds
Koala Lou by Mem Fox
Love You Forever by Robert Munsch
When the Relatives Came by Cynthia Rylant
Chester the Worldly Pig by Bill Peet
When I was Young in the Mountains by Bill Peet
The True Story of the Three Little Pigs by A. Wolf
Brave Irene by William Steig
Jumanji by Chris VanAllsburg
Owl Moon by Jane Yolen
The Kissing Hand by Audrey Penn
Noisy Nora by Rosemary Wells
There's a Nightmare in My Closet by Mercer Meyer
The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats
Chester's Way by Kevin Henkes
Corduroy by Don Freeman
Clocks and More Clocks by Pat Hutchins

Series

(Mo Willems) "Piggie and Elephant" Series
(Arnold Lobel) "Frog and Toad" Series
(ADLER) "Young Cam Jansen" Series
(BARROWS) "Ivy + Bean" Series
(BLUME) "The Pain and the Great One" Series
(KLINE) "Horrible Harry" Series
(RYLANT) "Henry and Mudge" Series
(OSBORNE) "Magic Tree House" Series
(PARK) "Junie B. Jones" Series
(PARRISH) "Amelia Bedelia" Series
(ZION) "Harry the Dirty Dog" Series
(Cole) "Magic School Bus" Series
(Wheeler) "Nate the Great" series

Poetry

Honey I Love by Eloise Greenfield
Lunch Money and Other Poems About School by Carol Shields
Falling Up by Silverstein Shel
What I Did Last Summer by Jack Prelutsky
Falling Down the Page: A Book of List Poems by Georgia Heard
Laugh-eteria: Poems and Drawings for Sale by Jack Prelutsky

Nonfiction

The Planets in our Solar System by Franklyn Branley
Telephones, Televisions, and Toilets by Melvin and Gilda Berger
What Makes Day and Night by Franklyn Branley
Tornadoes by Gail Gibbons
The Moon Book by Gail Gibbons
Bats by Gail Gibbons
The Reasons for Seasons by Gail Gibbons
How do you Know it's Fall? by Allen Fowler
How do you Know it's Summer? By Allen Fowler
It Could Still be a Mammal by Allen Fowler
Squanto and the First Thanksgiving by Joyce Kessel

Fairy Tales

The Mitten by Jan Brett
The Hare and the Tortoise by LaFontaine
Town Mouse, Country Mouse by Jan Brett
Caps for Sale by Slobodkina
Streganona by Tomie de Poala
The Three Billy Goats Gruff by Janet Stevens

