

Summer Reading List

Students Entering 3rd 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.cbcbooks.org/readinglists/>, <http://www.nsta.org/publications/ostb/> and <http://www.nsta.org/recommends/>

<u>LEVEL J - TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>FICTION</u>	<u>NONFICTION</u>
Beezy (series)	McDonald, Megan	X	
Danny And The Dinosaur (series)	Hoff, Syd	X	
Bear (series)	Asch, Frank	X	
Henry And Mudge (series)	Rylant, Cynthia	X	
Little Bear (series)	Minarik, Else L	X	
Curious George (series)	Rey, Margaret	X	
Poppleton (series)	Rylant, Cynthia	X	
Fox (series)	Marshall, Edward	X	
Mr. Putter and Tabby (series)	Rylant, Cynthia	X	
The Snowy Day	Keats, Ezra Jack	X	
Mouse Soup, Owl at Home, etc	Lobel, Arnold	X	
There's An...	Mayer, Mercer	X	
Where The Wild Things Are	Sendak, Maurice	X	
Bugs! Bugs! Bugs!	Dussling, Jennifer		X
Celebrating Chanukah: Eight Nights	Kupperstein, Joel		X
Celebrating Chinese New Year: Nick's New Year	Drew, Rosa		X
Dinosaur Dinners	Davis, Lee		X
Estimating: How Many Gollywomples?	Burstein, John		X
Going By Bus	Ashley, Susan		X
Guinea Pigs	Macken, JoAnn Early		X
Slinky, Scaly Snakes	Dussling, Jennifer		X
The Statue Of Liberty	Penner, Lucille Recht		X
Veterinarian	Gorman, Jacqueline		X

<u>LEVEL K - TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>FICTION</u>	<u>NONFICTION</u>
Arthur's Early Chapter Books (series)	Hoban, Lillian	X	
Clifford (series)	Brickwell, Norman	X	
Golly Sisters (series)	Byars, Betsy	X	
Frog And Toad (series)	Lobel, Arnold	X	
If You Give a Mouse a... (series)	Numeroff, L	X	
Madeline (series)	Bemelmens, Ludwig	X	
Little Bill (series)	Cosby, Bill	X	
Nate The Great (series)	Sharmat, Marjorie W.	X	
Camp Knock Knock (series)	Douglas, Ann	X	
Three Days On A River In A Red Canoe	Williams, Vera B.	X	
Betsy Ross And the Silver Thimble	Greene, Stephanie		X
Chicken Aren't The Only Ones	Heller, Ruth		X
Dinosaur Time	Parish, peggy		X
The Emperor's Egg	Jenkins, Martin		X
Fire Fighter	Royston, Angela		X
First Flight: The Story Of Tom Tate And The Wright Brothers	Shea, George		X
A Girl Named Helen Keller	Lundell, Margo		X
Keep The Lights Burning, Abbie	Roop, Peter And Connie		X
Looking At Maps And Gobles	Bredeson, Carmen		X

<u>LEVEL L - TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>FICTION</u>	<u>NONFICTION</u>
Amelia Bedelia (series)	Parish, Peggy	X	
Cam Jansen (series)	Adler, David A,	X	
Geroge And Martha (series)	Marshall. James	X	
Judy Moody (series)	McDonald, Megan	X	
Miss Nelson Books (series)	Allard, Harry	X	
Pinky And Rex (series)	Howe, James	X	
Black Lagoon (series)	Thaler, Mike	X	
Ginger Brown (series)	Wyeth, Sharon	X	
Deputy Dan (series)	Rosenbloom, Joseph	X	
Horrible Harry (series)	Kline, Suzy	X	
Song Lee (series)	Kline, Suzy	X	
The Bravest Dog Ever: The True Story Of Balto	Standford, Natalie		X
Dinosaur Days	Milton, Joyce		X
Dolphin	Morris, Robert Ada		X
From Flower to Honey	Nelson, Robin		X
From Idea to Book	Marshall. James		X
Hungry, Hungry Sharks	Cole, Joanna		X
The Snow Walker	Wetterer, Margaret K.		X
Thinking About Ants	Brenner, Barbara		X
Whales: The Gentle Giants	Milton, Joyce		X
What's It like To Be A Fish?	Pfeffer, Wendy		X

<u>LEVEL M - TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>FICTION</u>	<u>NONFICTION</u>
Alexander and the...(series)	Viorst, Judith	X	
Arthur (series)	Brown, Marc	X	
Sports Stories (series)	Christopher, Matt	X	
Bailey School Kids (series)	Dadey, Debbie	X	
Polk Street School (series)	Giff, Patricia Reilly	X	
Magic Treehouse (series)	Osborne, Mary Pope	X	
Junie B Jones (series)	Park, Barbara	X	
Russell (series)	Hurwitz, Johanna	X	
Berenstain Bears (series)	Berenstain, S and J	X	
Mary Marony (series)	Kline, Suzy	X	
Freckle Juice	Blume, Judy	X	
Molly's Pilgrim	Cohen, Barbara	X	
The One In The Middle Is The Green Kangaroo	Blume, Judy	X	
Too Many Tamales	Soto, Gary	X	
Abe Lincoln's Hat	Brenner, Martha		X
Buddy, The First Seeing Eye Dog	Moore, Eva		X
Five True Dog Stories	Davidson, Margaret		X
George Washington's Mother	Fritz, Jean		X
How A House Is Built	Gibbons, Gail		X
Kate Shelley And The Midnight Express	Wetterer, Margaret K.		X
A Picture Book Of Rosa Parks	Adler, David A.		X
Titanic: the Disaster That Shocked The World	Dubowski, Mark		X

<u>LEVEL N - TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>FICTION</u>	<u>NONFICTION</u>
A-Z Mysteries (series)	Roy, Ron	X	
Amber Brown (series)	Danziger, Paula	X	
Encyclopedia Brown (series)	Sobel, David	X	
The Stories Julian Tells (series)	Cameron, Ann	X	
Herbie Jones (series)	Kline, Suzy	X	
Chicken Sunday	Polacco, Patricia	X	
The Chocolate Touch	Catling, Patrick Skene	X	
How to Be Cool in the 3 rd Grade	Douglas, Ann	X	
My Name Is Maria Isabel	Ada, Alma F.	X	
Shoeshine Girl	Bulla, Clyde R.	X	
All Pigs Are Beautiful	King-Smith, Dick		X
Helen Keller: Courage In the dark	Hurwitz, Johanna		X
How A Book Is Made	Aliki		X
Jackie Robinson And the Story Of All-Black Baseball	O'Connor, Jim		X
Just A Few Words, Mr. Lincoln	Fritz, Jean		X
Louis Braille, The Boy Who Invented Books For The Blind	Davidson, Margaret		X
My Great-Aunt Arizona	Houston, Gloria		X
Pompeii - Buried Alive!	Kunhardt, Edith		X
Shark Attack!	Dubowski, Cathy East		X
The Titanic: Lost.....And Found	Donnelly, Judy		X

<u>LEVEL O - TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>FICTION</u>	<u>NONFICTION</u>
Babysitters Club (series)	Martin, Ann M	X	
Baseball Saved Us	Mochizuki, Ken	X	
The Boxcar Children (series)	Warner, Gertrude C.	X	
Chocolate Fever	Smith, Robert K.	X	
Class Clown, Class President, Baseball Fever	Hurwitz, Johanna	X	
The Courage Of Sarah Noble	Dalgliesh, Alice	X	
Aldo Applesauce (series)	Hurwitz, Johanna	X	
Henry (series)	Cleary, Beverly	X	
The Mouse And the Motorcycle (series)	Cleary, Beverly	X	
Pippi Longstocking (series)	Lindgren, Astrid	X	
Ramona (series)	Cleary, Beverly	X	
Ant Cities	Dorros, Arthur		X
Baseball's Best: Five True Stories	Gutelle, Andrew		X
Corn Is Maize	Aliki		X
How My Family Lives In America	Kuklin, Susan		X
I Am Rosa Parks	Parks, Rosa with Jim Haskins		X
Is there Life In Outer Space?	Branley, Franklyn M.		X
The Story Of Ruby Bridges	Coles, Robert		X
Ten True Animal Rescues	Betancourt, Jeanne		X
What's The Big Idea, Ben Franklin?	Fritz, Jean		X
Space Station Plot and Other Cases	Simon, Seymour		X
Gigantic Ants and Other Cases	Simon, Seymour		X

<u>LEVEL P - TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>	<u>FICTION</u>	<u>NONFICTION</u>
Hank the Cowdog (series)	Erickson, John	X	
Fantastic Mr. Fox, The Twits,	Dahl, Roald	X	
Magic School Bus (series)	Joanna Cole	X	
Time Warp Trio (series)	Scieszka, Jon	X	
Wayside School (series)	Sachar, Louis	X	
Flat Stanley (series)	Brown, Jeff	X	
Skinnybones (series)	Park, Barbara	X	
Bunnica (series)	Howe, James	X	
Best School Year Ever	Robinson, B	X	
Best Enemies	Leverich, Kathleen	X	
Tar Beach	Ringgold, Faith	X	
Through Grandpa's Eyes	MacLachlan, Patricia	X	
Andrew Carnegie: Builder Of Libraries	Simon, Charman		X
Balto And The Great Race	Kimmel, Elizabeth C.		X
Brainstorm	Tucker, Tom		X
Dinosaur Bones	Aliki		X
The Land I Lost	Huynh, Quang Nhuong		X
The Magic School Bus Lost in The Solar System	Cole, Joanna		X
Rosa, Parks	Greenfield, Eloise		X
Tut's Mummy Lost.... And Found	Donnelly, Judy		X
Water Buffalo Days	Huynh, Quang Nhuong		X
What Are You Figuring Now? A Story About Benjamin Baneker	Ferris, Jeri		X

Summer Reading

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**

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.

***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**

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**

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.

***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.