

THE FABULOUS SUMMER READING LIST!!!!

SOME FAVORITE BOOKS FROM THE LOWER SCHOOL LIBRARY Summer 2006

Listed below are some well-loved books that may interest you for summer reading. These are just a sample of some of the titles and authors available, and we have tried to avoid suggesting books with which everyone is already completely familiar. (Dr. Seuss and J.K. Rowling, for example, are not on our list.) There are, of course, many, many more choices at the Public Library and in bookstores. Start your own list! Happy reading!

Love, Amy, Rebecca, and Stephanie

The lower school library now has a website!

Learn about the library! View some library projects by the kids! Read some book reviews! Review last year's fabulous summer reading list!. Visit the site at **www.saintannsny.org**, and click on **departments**.

Don't forget to visit **www.factsforlearning.com** over the summer!
(username = **stanns112**; password= **facts**)

Some Stupendous Picture Books

Sky Boys by Deborah Hopkinson and James Ransome

This gorgeous book about the construction of the Empire State Building commemorates the building's 75th anniversary.

Double Pink by Kate Feiffer

The Scrambled States of America by Laurie Keller

It's a Dog's New York by Susan Roth

Lost in the Woods by Carl Sams

Beautiful nature photographs taken by the author help tell this sweet animal story.

The Araboolies of Liberty Street by Sam Swope

This book gets a rave review from Katya, the art teacher.

The Snow Princess by Ruth Sanderson

This book has been enormously popular this year, and Sabrina says "I like every single one of the books this author wrote."

The Hello, Goodbye Window by Norton Juster and Chris Raschka

This year's Caldecott medal winner

A Story for Bear by Dennis Haseley

This beautiful book, by a Saint Ann's parent, was a huge hit in David and Elizabeth's class.

Mr. Rabbit and the Lovely Present by Charlotte Zolotow

Diary of a Spider by Doreen Cronin

A Giraffe and a Half by Shel Silverstein

This book always has the kindergartners in stitches!

Diary of a Wombat by Jackie French

This is always the hit of the year in the first grade!

Fast Food and others by Saxton Freymann and Joost Elffers

The War Between the Vowels and the Consonants

by Priscilla Turner

Wild About Books by Judy Sierra

Some More Amazing Picture Books: by Author

(These folks wrote tons of great books. We've only listed samples)

David Wisniewski (**The Warrior and the Wise Man**)

This author is also one of the most amazing illustrators we know.

Jan Brett (**The Umbrella, Fritz and the Beautiful Horses**)

David and Elizabeth's class loved listening to her books this year.

Don Freeman (**Corduroy, Norman the Doorman**)

Bill Peet (**Cowardly Clyde, Capyboppy**)

Eric A. Kimmel (**The Hero Beowulf, Don Quixote and the Windmills**)

This author does wonderful adaptations of adult classics.

Patricia Polacco (**Aunt Chip and the Great Triple Creek Dam Affair**)

Julius Lester (**John Henry, Sam and the Tigers**)

Demi (**One Grain of Rice, The Empty Pot**)

We read these gloriously illustrated books out loud all the time.

Mo Willems (**Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!**)

Robert San Souci (**Young Arthur**)

Bonnie and Adam's class can't get enough of his tales!

Cartoon and Comic Books

When the kids want something fun and relaxing to go with their reading books, these clever books fit the bill!

Little Lit: Strange Stories for Strange Kids *and others*

edited by Art Spiegelman

Can You Find it? *series* by Judith Cressy

These beautiful search-and-find books are published by the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Babymouse *series* by Jennifer and Matthew Holm

Look-Alikes *series* by Joan Steiner

The Adventures of Tintin *series* by Hergé

We're thrilled that this classic series has finally been reprinted and is easily available online.

Asterix the Gaul *series* by Rene Goscinny

Some Excellent I-Can-Read Books

***Biscuit series** by Alyssa Satin Capucilli

***See Otto series** by David Milgrim

***Tiny the Snow Dog series** by Cari Meister

***I Love You, Dear Dragon and others** by Margaret Hillert

Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa by Erica Silverman

Minnie and Moo series by Denys Cazet

Fox on Stage and others by James Marshall

Zachary R. was really disappointed when he realized he'd run out of Fox books to read!

Iris and Walter series by Elissa Haden Guest

The Teacher of the Black Lagoon and sequels by Mike Thaler

Henry and Mudge and other series by Cynthia Rylant

Super Fly Guy and others by Tedd Arnold

Even third graders will stand in line for this one!

Commander Toad series by Jane Yolen

Jesse and Savannah's class loved these funny books!

Danny and the Dinosaur and others by Syd Hoff

Pearl and Wagner series by Kate McMullan

Miffy in the Hospital and others by Dick Bruna

Laila O. and John W. highly recommend this author.

* indicates great books for beginning readers

Some Fabulous *Non-Fiction I-Can-Read* Books

Amazing Gorillas!, Tigers, and others by Sarah L. Thompson

These excellent books are from the Wildlife Conservation Society.

See More Readers series by Seymour Simon

Clam-I-Am! (All About the Beach) by Tish Rabe, and other non-fiction titles from *The Cat in the Hat's Learning Library*

Math-terpieces and others by Greg Tang

This book combines fun problem-solving with an introduction to art history.

Some Super I-Can-Read Challenges

First Flight: The Story of Tom Tate and the Wright Brothers

by George Shea

Spooky America: Four Real Ghost Stories by Lori Haskins

Clara and the Bookwagon by Nancy S. Levinson

Hopscotch Hill School series by Valerie Tripp

Mercy Watson to the Rescue by Kate DiCamillo

Some Much-Loved Shorter Chapter Books

The Secrets of Droon *series* by Tony Abbott

Time Warp Trio *series* by Jon Scieszka

Bunnicula *and sequels* by James Howe

Marvin Redpost *series* by Louis Sachar

Barkley's School for Dogs *series* by Marcia T. Jones

Franny K. Stein *series* by Jim Benton

This new series has been a huge hit with 1st through 3rd grades this year.

Judy Moody *series* by Megan McDonald

Ali P. recommends this series because "they're really funny and not about normal things."

Jake Drake *series* by Andrew Clements

Ghostville Elementary *series* by Marcia T. Jones

Omri read every book in this series and says "it's very interesting because it has many things that we don't know for sure are alive."

Horrible Harry *series* by Suzy Kline

Kids who enjoy this series about a mischievous American boy...

Horrid Henry *series* by Francesca Simon

... will enjoy this series about a similar British boy!

Dragon Slayer's Academy *series* by Kate McMullan

Legend of Spud Murphy by Eoin Colfer

Tales from the Odyssey *series* by Mary Pope Osborne

My Weird School *series* by Dan Gutman

Casey says "I think people who like funny, weird, and interesting things would enjoy this series."

Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle *series* by Betty MacDonald

Some Wonderful Longer Chapter Books

No Flying in the House by Betty Brock

Laurie and Paul's class and Laura and Jin-A's class adored this magical read-aloud story.

The Last of the Really Great Whangdoodles by Julie Edwards

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate DiCamillo

This is the newest book by the Newbery award winning author of **The Tale of Desperaux**.

The Giggler Treatment by Roddy Doyle

Lucas H. said "I love little creatures that are mischievous!"

I, Jack by Patricia Finney

This hysterical book is "written" by Jack the dog.

I, Freddy and sequels by Dietlof Reiche

Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH by Robert C. O'Brien

There are also 2 excellent sequels written by Jane L. Conly.

Ben and Me by Robert Lawson

Rebecca G., a real Ben Franklin fan, enjoyed this book that's "based on his true story with the perspective of a mouse."

A Barrel of Laughs, A Vale of Tears by Jules Feiffer

***The Wright 3** by Blue Balliett

"It's a mystery, involves art and puzzles, and has actual history in it," raves Aidan L.

***Inkheart and The Thief Lord** by Cornelia Funke

Eliza F. described **Inkheart** as "bubbling over with breathtaking suspense and mean characters.

You never want to stop reading!"

***Molly Moon's Incredible Book of Hypnotism** by Georgia Byng

***Each Little Bird that Sings** by Deborah Wiles

***Harriet the Spy and sequels** by Louise Fitzhugh

Maisie C. recommends this "funny, mischievous book," as does Hannah T., who has read the whole series this year!

Some Classics Not to Be Missed

Ballet Shoes and others by Noel Streatfeild

The Twenty-One Balloons by William Pene du Bois

A Bear Called Paddington and sequels by Michael Bond

Betsy-Tacy series by Maud Hart Lovelace

This lovely series, set in early 1900s Minnesota and based on the author's life, is one of Rebecca's all-time favorites.

***Caddie Woodlawn** by Carol Ryrie Brink

***A Wrinkle in Time** by Madeline L'Engle

***Little Women** by Louisa May Alcott

Caroline M. can't get enough of this book, and Suzanne B. adds "This book proves you don't need money to be happy."

Out of the Mouths of Babes

Books we bought because the kids told us we should!

***Leon and the Spitting Image** by Allen Kurtzweil

Margaret P. thinks this book is "really good for people to read."

***Gregor the Overlander** by Suzanne Collins

Eli R. encouraged us to get the **Underland Chronicles** because they are "funny with a ton of action. You would not like this book if you are phobic to rats or cockroaches. Otherwise, you will love them."

***The Wainscott Weasel and others** by Tor Seidler

This author comes highly recommended by Gavin Y.

***The King of Shadows** by Susan Cooper

"Travel through time to Shakespeare's time, into an atmosphere totally different from modern day America," says Katrina N.

***Measle and the Wrathmonk and sequels** by Ian Ogilvy

Margaret G-S. loved these books which are "very magical, but at the same time slightly realistic."

Some Fabulous Chapter Book Series

All-of-a-Kind Family series by Sydney Taylor

Kiki says this series is "happy, joyful, active, sweet and sad."

Hank the Cowdog series by John R. Erickson

The Spiderwick Chronicles by Tony DiTerlizzi

Eli B. says these books are "filled with the exciting and juicy adventures of three kids whose calm lives get changed into dangerous ones."

Horace Splattly series by Lawrence David

Geronimo Stilton series by Geronimo Stilton

Nicolas S. said he could not stop reading these books.

Lily Quench series by Natalie Jane Prior

Hank Zipzer series by Henry Winkler and Lin Oliver

***Myth-o-Mania series** by Kate McMullan

Lief and Daniel's class devoured these books this year!

Tynan C-R. says it's because of "the crazy humor" in these mixed-up myths.

***The Great Brain series** by John D. Fitzgerald

This smart and funny series, about a boy who outsmarts both kids and adults, is one of Amy's favorites.

***The Edge Chronicles** by Paul Stewart and Chris Riddell

"These books have strange creatures, like muglumps and flesh-eating plants," says Anya Dom.

***Chronicles of Prydain** by Lloyd Alexander

The third grade enjoyed the first book, **The Book of Three**, in library story, and some of them have gone on to read other books in the series.

***Guardians of Ga'Hoole series** by Kathryn Lasky

***Warriors series** by Erin Hunter

Gideon M. describes these books as "filled with mystery and suspense!"

Some Marvelous Chapter Book Authors

(They wrote many great books. We've listed a sample for each.)

Elizabeth Enright (**The Melendy Quartet, Gone-Away Lake**)

Margot says **Then There Were Five** is "filled with excitement, adventure and eye-popping events, but has a soft tone."

Eva Ibbotson (**Dial-a-Ghost**)

Isabel B. loves these books, and described **The Star of Kazan** as "fun, full of adventure, and it has lots of twists!"

Dan Gutman (**The Kid who Ran for President**)

Bruce Coville (**Jennifer Murdley's Toad**)

Emily Rodda (**Fairy Realm series, Rowan of Rin series**)

Both of these series have been hugely popular this year.

Edward Eager (**Half Magic, Knight's Castle**)

We see how great this author really is every year when we read **Seven-Day Magic** to the third grade!

E. Nesbit (**The Phoenix and the Carpet**)

The ultimate writer of classic fantasy, she is praised by Edward Eager as his own inspiration.

Andrew Clements (**The School Story, Frindle**)

A great choice for those who enjoy realistic fiction.

Tamora Pierce (**Song of the Lioness Quartet, Circle of Magic**)

Violet says of Pierce's books "It's different magic from most books."

Authors All Your Kids Can Share

These authors have written many fabulous books at different reading and interest levels. Some of them you may recognize from earlier sections of this list!

Andrew Clements: Picture Books (**Big Al**)
I Can Read (**Brave Norman, a True Story**)
Shorter Chapter Books (**Jake Drake series**)
Longer Chapter Books (**The Landry News**)

Cynthia Rylant: Picture Books (**The Whales**)
I Can Read (**Henry and Mudge, Poppleton**)
Shorter Chapter Books (**Cobblehill Cousins**)
Longer Chapter Books (**Missing May**)

David A. Adler: Picture Books (**Mama Played Baseball**)
I Can Read (**My Dog and the Birthday Mystery**)
Biographies (**A Picture Book of Abraham Lincoln, etc.**)
Shorter Chapter Books (**Cam Jansen mysteries**)
Longer Chapter Books (**Andy Russell series**)

Jean Craighead George: Picture Books (**Nutik, the Wolf Pup**)
Longer Chapter Books (**Julie of the Wolves**)
Non-Fiction (**The Moon of the Bears**)

Jon Scieszka: Picture Books (**Math Curse**)
Fairy Tales (**The Frog Prince, Continued**)
Shorter Chapter Books (**Me oh Maya!**)
Website : www.guysread.com

Some Marvelous Mysteries

At the I-Can-Read level:

Nate the Great series by Marjorie Sharmat

High Rise Private Eyes series by Cynthia Rylant

Derek W. and Henry K. have devoured these books!

Invisible Inc. series by Elizabeth Levy

Sophie B. really enjoyed reading this exciting series.

At the Blue-Green level (shorter chapter books)

A to Z Mysteries and **Capital Mysteries series** by Ron Roy

Celia F. is one of many kids who have read almost all the books in the A to Z series this year!

Third Grade Detectives series by George Stanley

Jigsaw Jones series by James Preller

At the Blue level (longer chapter books)

Encyclopedia Brown series by Donald J. Sobol

The Boxcar Children series by Gertrude Warner

This classic series is enjoying a renaissance with our first and second graders.

Chet Gecko Mysteries series by Bruce Hale

***The Hall Family Chronicles** by Jane Langton

This excellent series is by a well-known mystery writer for adults.

***The Trolley to Yesterday and others** by John Bellairs

***The Westing Game** by Ellen Raskin

A Newbery award winner

Some Super Sports Books

Picture books:

Girl Wonder by Deborah Hopkinson

Satchel Paige by Lesa Cline-Ransome

Shoeless Joe and Black Betsy and The Shot Heard 'Round the World

by Phil Bildner

Roberto Clemente, Pride of the Pittsburgh Pirates by Jonah Winter

Chapter books:

Baseball Fever by Johanna Hurwitz

World Series and others by John Tunis

Satch and Me and others by Dan Gutman

Dorling Kindersley Sports Readers

by various authors

Double Play at Short and others by Matt Christopher

Connor H. says this author "brings sports to life and is extremely funny, not magical, and not too fictional."

Three amazing chapter books about sports...and other things.

In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson by Bette Bao Lord

An excellent book about playing and watching baseball, this is also a fascinating piece of historical fiction set in Brooklyn.

The Great Brain at the Academy by John D. Fitzgerald

Part of a fabulous and funny series about life in 1890s Utah, this book describes the invention and spread of basketball.

Summerland by Michael Chabon

This challenging adventure story starts on an ordinary baseball field, but the games the heroes have to play and win are anything but ordinary.

This Year's New Craze: Biographies!

We read biographies aloud in the library this year to the 2nd and 3rd graders. The kids enjoyed them very much, and the library's biography section suddenly became very popular!

The *second graders* listened to the *A Picture Book of...* series of biographies by David A. Adler. They learned about:

George Washington	Benjamin Franklin	Thomas Jefferson
Simon Bolivar	Paul Revere	Sacagawea
Harriet Tubman	Frederick Douglass	Abraham Lincoln
Helen Keller	Eleanor Roosevelt	Thomas A. Edison
Jesse Owens	Jackie Robinson	Thurgood Marshall
Rosa Parks	John F. Kennedy	Martin Luther King, Jr.

Other picture book biographies we recommend:

Starry Messenger: Galileo Galilei and others by Peter Sis
Minty, a Story of Young Harriet Tubman by Alan Schroeder
Happy Birthday, Martin Luther King, Jr. by Jean Marzollo
Sundiata, Lion King of Mali by David Wisniewski
Duke Ellington by Andrea Davis Pinkney
John, Paul, George & Ben by Lane Smith

The *third graders* listened to one of these two fabulous biographies:

The Story of Madame Curie by Alice Thorne
Lincoln, a Photobiography by Russell Freedman

In addition, we recommend these chapter books:

Bill Peet, an Autobiography by Bill Peet
Eleanor Roosevelt, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and The Wright Brothers by Russell Freedman
Something Out of Nothing: Marie Curie and Radium
by Carla McClafferty

There are many good biography series written for children, both in picture book and chapter book format. Here are some recommendations at all different levels.

Picture Books:

A Picture Book of Florence Nightingale *and others*
by David A. Adler

Getting to Know the World's Greatest Composers *and Artists*
series by Mike Venezia

I Can Read Books

Mark Twain at Work! *and others in the Childhood of*
Famous Americans: Ready to Read *series*

Amelia Earhart *and others in the First Biographies series*

Shorter Chapter Books

John F. Kennedy: The Making of a Leader *and others in the*
Time for Kids Biographies *series*

Rosa Parks *and others in the History Maker Bios series*

Abraham Lincoln: Lawyer, Leader, Legend *and other Dorling*
Kindersley Reader Biographies

Longer Chapter Books

Lou Gehrig, One of Baseball Greatest *and others in the*
Childhood of Famous Americans *series*

Leonardo da Vinci, Young Artist, Writer, and Inventor *and*
others in the Childhood of World Figures series

Eleanor Roosevelt *and others in the DK Biography series*

Joe DiMaggio *and others in the Sports Heroes and Legends series*