

# THE FABULOUS SUMMER READING LIST!!!!!!

## SOME FAVORITE BOOKS FROM THE LOWER SCHOOL LIBRARY Summer 2008

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. There are, of course, many, many more choices at the Public Library and in bookstores. Start your own list. Happy reading!

Love,

Amy & Rebecca

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### **The lower school library 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](http://www.saintannsny.org), and click on **departments**.

Don't forget to visit [www.factsforlearning.com](http://www.factsforlearning.com) over the summer.  
(username = **stanns112**; password= **facts**)

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## Some Stupendous Picture Books

**The Boy Who Was Raised by Librarians** by Carla Morris

**Dogs and Cats** by Steve Jenkins

Whatever your preference, this true book will please you.

**Flotsam** by David Wiesner

Visually intriguing, this is last year's Caldecott medal winner.

**All Pigs are Beautiful** by Dick King-Smith

A satisfying choice for pig lovers.

**Help Me, Mr. Mutt!** by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel

Funny, funny, funny!

**Love and Roast Chicken** by Barbara Knutson

A humorous trickster tale from the Andes Mountains.

**The Rabbits' Wedding** by Garth Williams

Controversial when it first came out in 1958—and you won't believe why!

**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

**Toy Boat** by Randall de Seve

A beautiful story by a Saint Ann's parent.

**Dog and Bear: Two's Company** by Laura Vaccaro Seeger

**Arnie the Doughnut** by Laurie Keller

3<sup>rd</sup> grader Isabel A. and kindergartener Benjamin A. love to share this hilarious story!

**The Flying Bed** by Nancy Willard

**Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal** by Paul Fleischman

A worldwide Cinderella story.

## **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.

**Helen Lester (Tacky the Penguin)**

**Steve Jenkins (What Do you Do When Something Wants to Eat You?)**

Visually captivating non-fiction.

**Oliver Jeffers (Lost and Found, The Incredible Book-Eating Boy)**

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

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

**Yangsook Choi (Behind the Mask, Peach Heaven)**

This Korean author is one of our favorites.

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

**Mwenye Hadithi (Greedy Zebra, Hot Hippo)**

**Jon Scieszka (Math Curse, Squids Will Be Squids)**

We love this versatile Brooklyn author, who is the newly appointed National Ambassador of Young Children's Literature and the creator of the website [www.guysread.com](http://www.guysread.com).

## **Amy and Rebecca's Top 6 New Read-Alouds**

**Hondo and Fabian and Fabian Escapes** by Peter McCarty

The sweetest dog and cat friends you'll ever meet!

**Library Lion** by Michelle Knudsen

**Hippo? No, Rhino!** by Jeff Newman

**That Rabbit Belongs to Emily Brown** by Cressida Cowell

**The Pigeon Wants a Puppy!** by Mo Willems

Even our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are in love with this hilarious book!

## Some Excellent I-Can-Read Books

\***Elephant and Piggie series** by Mo Willems

\***See Otto series** by David Milgrim

\***Puppy Mudge series** by Cynthia Rylant

\***Read and Play: Noisy Animals and others** by Jim Pipe

This true beginning reader series has been a huge hit!

**Super Fly Guy and others** by Tedd Arnold

These books "fly" off the shelves!

**Pup and Hound series** by Susan Hood

**Miffy the Ghost and others** by Dick Bruna

**Robert the Rose Horse** by Joan Heilbroner

**Pearl and Wagner series** by Kate McMullan

**Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa series** by Erica Silverman

**Squirrelly Gray** by James Kochalka

**Amazing Gorillas!, Amazing Dolphins! and others**

by Sarah L. Thomson and the Wildlife Conservation Society

**Cinderella and other fairy tale readers** from Picture Window Books

**The Librarian from the Black Lagoon and sequels** by Mike Thaler

**Grapes of Math and others** by Greg Tang

Mind-stretching math riddles.

**The Bookstore Burglar and others** by Barbara Maitland

**Commander Toad series** by Jane Yolen

\* indicates great books for beginning readers

## Some Super I-Can-Read Challenges

**Mercy Watson series** by Kate DiCamillo

Allison D. loves this series, and says it's "really funny and really good."

**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

**Runaway Radish** by Jennie Haas

A great choice for all our horse lovers.

**Upstairs Mouse, Downstairs Mole** by Wong Herbert Yee

Cheerful stories of friendship in the mold of **Frog and Toad**.

**Boo's Dinosaur** by Betsy Byars

**Stories of Ponies and others** from Usborne Young Reading

**Super Storms, Amazing Aircraft and other See More Readers**

by Seymour Simon, an excellent non-fiction writer.

## Some Fantastic Shorter Chapter Books

**Clementine** and **The Talented Clementine** by Sara Pennypacker

The long-awaited **Clementine's Letter** is out now, too!

**The Jamie & Angus Stories** *and sequel* by Anne Fine

**Trolls, Go Home!** *and sequels* by Alan MacDonald

**Time Warp Trio** *series* by Jon Scieszka

Keep an eye out for his new graphic novels as well.

**Bunnicula** *and sequels* by James Howe

**Keeker and the Sneaky Pony** *series* by Hadley Higginson

**Ivy and Bean** *series* by Annie Barrows

The 4<sup>th</sup> book is just out.

**Beast Quest** *series* by Adam Blade

Isaac G., Bruno F., and Jake S. highly recommend this adventurous series.

**Franny K. Stein** *series* by Jim Benton

**Tashi** *series* by Anna & Barbara Fienberg

Popular from the kindergarten on up.

**Judy Moody** *series* by Megan McDonald

**Being Teddy Roosevelt** by Claudia Mills

**Puppy Place** *series* by Ellen Miles

These charming dog stories have been a hit in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.

**Ruby Lu, Brave and True** *and sequel* by Lenore Look

**Henrietta, There's No One Better** by Martine Murray

**Tales from the Odyssey** *series* by Mary Pope Osborne

**Marvin Redpost** *series* by Louis Sachar

**Gooney Bird Greene** *series* by Lois Lowry

**My Weird School** *series* by Dan Gutman

**Only Emma** *and sequels* by Sally Warner

## Some Wonderful Longer Chapter Books

**The Invention of Hugo Cabret** by Brian Selznick

Half of this wonderfully lengthy adventure is told in Selznick's amazing, Caldecott-winning illustrations.

**B is for Betsy and others** by Carolyn Haywood

**The Year of the Dog** by Grace Lin

**Dear Max and Bravo, Max!** by D. J. Lucas, aka Sally Grindley

**The World According to Humphrey and sequels** by Betty Birney

Caitlyn K. and Tucker H. are really interested in these excellent hamster stories!

**The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane** by Kate DiCamillo

**The Giggler Treatment** by Roddy Doyle

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

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

**Rabbit Hill** by Robert Lawson

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

**One Beastly Beast** by Garth Nix

**\*Samuel Blink and the Forbidden Forest** by Matt Haig

Julian G. highly recommends this captivating read.

**\*Cornelia and the Audacious Escapades of the Somerset Sisters**

by Lesley M.M. Blume

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

**\*The Penderwicks** by Jeanne Birdsall

Now there's a sequel, too!

**\*The Manny Files** by Christian Burch

**\*The Fabled Fourth Graders of Aesop Elementary School**

by Candace Fleming

## Some Fabulous Chapter Book Series

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

The 2<sup>nd</sup> graders have been devouring this lovely New York series.

**Santa Paws series** by Nicholas Edwards

**I, Freddy series** by Dietlof Reiche

**Geronimo Stilton series** by Geronimo Stilton

**Secrets of the Dripping Fang series** by Dan Greenburg

**Nicholas series** by Rene Goscinny

This classic French school series has finally been translated into English!

**The Misadventures of Benjamin Bartholomew Piff series**

Oliver Y. loves this series by Jason Lethcoe and says

"if you like action fiction, you'd definitely like these a lot."

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

Many 3<sup>rd</sup> graders love this series of wacky, 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

\***Warriors series** by Erin Hunter

\***Fablehaven series** by Brandon Mull

\***Chronicles of Prydain** by Lloyd Alexander

The 3<sup>rd</sup> graders adored **The Book of Three**, which we read in library story.

## Some Marvelous Chapter Book Authors

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

Elizabeth Enright (**The Melendy Quartet, Thimble Summer**)

Eva Ibbotson (**The Haunting of Granite Falls**)

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

Jenny Nimmo (**Charlie Bone series, The Magician Trilogy**)

This author's fantasy stories have been a huge hit in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

Esther Averill (**Hotel Cat, Jenny and the Cat Club**)

Rebeca is so excited that these favorites are finally back in print!

Avi (**The End of the Beginning, Poppy, The Fighting Ground**)

Edward Eager (**Seven-Day Magic, Knight's Castle**)

Hannah B-V. especially recommends **Half Magic**.

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.

Alexander McCall Smith (**Akimbo and the Lions**)

Dick King-Smith (**The Water Horse, George Speaks**)

Jenny and Ali's class loves **Lady Lollipop**, the story of a smart pig.

Lloyd Alexander (**Time Cat, Chronicles of Prydain**)

One of our very favorite authors.

## 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

**Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle *series*** by Betty MacDonald

**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.

**The Wind in the Willows** by Kenneth Grahame

**Winnie-the-Pooh *series*** by A. A. Milne

**A Little Princess** by Frances Hodgson Burnett

**Understood Betsy** by Dorothy Canfield Fisher

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

**\*A Proud Taste for Scarlet and Miniver** by E. L. Konigsberg

A medieval adventure based on the life of Eleanor of Aquitaine.

**\*Around the World in 80 Days *and others*** by Jules Verne

These amazing adventures are still fresh and exciting.

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

**\*Little Women** by Louisa May Alcott

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\*\*Want even more suggestions? Check out the list put out by the  
Bank Street Children's Book Committee  
(which includes Amy and Rebecca),

**The Best Children's Books of the Year, 2008 edition,**  
for sale online at [www.bankstreetbooks.com](http://www.bankstreetbooks.com) or in the Lower School Library in the fall.\*\*

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## **Because The Kids Asked for Them...**

**...We added these books to the library collection!**

### **The Diary of a Wimpy Kid *series* by Jeff Kinney**

The demand for these has been amazing—we don't know how the kids are going to wait until January for the 3<sup>rd</sup> book!

### **Main Street *series* by Ann M. Martin**

Jojo A. recommended these to us, and they have been hugely popular.

### **Bone *series* by Jeff Smith**

We ordered these graphic novels at popular request, and have rarely seen them since!

### **The Title of This Book Is Secret by Pseudonymous Bosch**

Oscar P. encouraged us to get this entertaining "adventure book with 2 villainous bad guys."

### **The Sisters Grimm *series* by Michael Buckley**

Sisters solve fairy tale mysteries in this series recommended by Sadie K., who says that "they're really similar to other fairy tales, but really different, too."

### **Pickle-Chiffon Pie by Jolly Roger Bradfield**

We're so glad Julia C. told us about this clever, funny fairy tale; classes from kindergarten to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade have loved it!

## Some Marvelous Mysteries

At the I-Can-Read level:

**Bones and the Dinosaur Mystery series** by David Adler  
**High Rise Private Eyes series** by Cynthia Rylant  
**Invisible Inc. series** by Elizabeth Levy

At the Blue-Green level (shorter chapter books)

**A to Z Mysteries** and **Capital Mysteries series** by Ron Roy  
Leo P. especially loves the **A to Z Mysteries** because  
"they have a whole lot of mystery in them."  
**Third Grade Detectives series** by George Stanley  
**Jack Russell, Dog Detective series** by D. & S. Odgers

At the Blue level (longer chapter books)

**Encyclopedia Brown series** by Donald J. Sobol  
**The Boxcar Children series** by Gertrude Warner  
Laila O. loved these books this year!  
**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

**Ballpark** by Lynn Curlee

**The Shot Heard 'Round the World and The Greatest Game Ever Played**  
by Phil Bildner

**Hey Batta Batta Swing! The Wild Old Days of Baseball**  
by Sally Cook and James Charlton

### Chapter books:

**The Team series** by David Bedford

A robot, a mad scientist, and a soccer team—what could go wrong?

**Safe at Home and Slam Dunk** by Sharon Robinson

This author is the daughter of Jackie Robinson!

**Barnstormers series** by Loren Long and Phil Bildner

**Honus & Me and other Baseball Card Adventures**  
by Dan Gutman

**Dorling Kindersley Sports Readers series**

**Lives of the Athletes** by Kathleen Krull

**\*World Series and others** by John Tunis

*Two 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.

## **Biographies!**

We read biographies aloud in the library to the 2<sup>nd</sup> graders.  
The kids enjoy them and learn a lot, and our  
biography section suddenly becomes very popular!

### Picture Books:

**John, Paul, George & Ben** by Lane Smith

**Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom**  
by Carole Boston Weatherford

**The Tree of Life: Charles Darwin *and others*** by Peter Sis

**Dizzy *and others*** by Jonah Winter

**Wilma Unlimited** by Kathleen Krull

**How We Are Smart** by W. Nikola-Lisa

### Shorter Chapter Books:

**Will You Sign Here, John Hancock? *and others*** by Jean Fritz  
Funny and full of information—you can't go wrong!

**Getting to Know the U.S. Presidents *and other series***  
by Mike Venezia

**Eleanor Roosevelt: First Lady of the World *and others in the  
Time for Kids Biographies series***

**Elizabeth and the Royal Pony *and others*** by Joan Holub

### Longer and More Challenging Chapter Books:

**Who Was Amelia Earhart? *and others in the Who Was...? series***  
**Sacagawea, American Pathfinder *and others in the  
Childhood of Famous Americans series***

**Bill Peet, an Autobiography** by Bill Peet

**Lincoln, a Photobiography *and others*** by Russell Freedman  
A Newbery medal-winning biographer for children.

**The Many Rides of Paul Revere *and others*** by James Cross Giblin

**Lives of the Presidents *and other collections*** by Kathleen Krull

And last, but not least...

## **Books For More than Just Reading**

**The Secret Knowledge of Grownups: Books 1 and 2**

by David Wisniewski

**Babymouse series** by Jennifer and Matthew Holm

**Look-Alikes series** by Joan Steiner

**The Adventures of Tintin series** by Herge

**Asterix the Gaul series** by Rene Goscinny

**Bone series** by Jeff Smith

**Graphic Library Books series**

Exciting history and biography in graphic novel format.

**Dragonology, Egyptology, Wizardology, Pirateology**

We can't keep these gorgeous books on the shelf!

**Encyclopedia Prehistorica, Wizard of Oz and others** by Robert Sabuda

Exquisite pop-ups by an amazing artist.

**Treasure Hunt Mazes and others** by Roger Moreau

**Best Ever Paper Airplanes** by Norman Schmidt

**Ed Emberley's Drawing Books**

**Little Lulu series** by John Stanley

These classics are back, and Susie's class devoured them!

**Star Wars Visual Dictionaries** by David West Reynolds

**Guinness Book of World Records 2008**

**Robot Dreams and Chicken and Cat** by Sara Varon

These clever wordless books are surprisingly touching.

**Stories to Solve series** by George Shannon

Jesse's class loved these tricky logic puzzles.