



Summer Reading Suggestions 2016

Selected by: Jean Sand – Matthew Thornton School • Leslie Schilling – South School
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PICTURE BOOKS (EVERYBODY BOOKS)

Beaty, Andrea. **Rosie Revere, Engineer** (2013)

A young aspiring engineer must first conquer her fear of failure.

Cronin, Doreen. **Bloom** (2016)

When the glass kingdom begins cracking, the king and queen fail in their quest to get help from the fairy Bloom, who can work great magic but was banished because of her muddy boots and messiness, so they send Genevieve, an ordinary girl who will do what it takes to save the day.

de la Peña, Matt. **Last Stop on Market Street** (2015)

A young boy rides the bus across town with his grandmother and learns to appreciate the beauty in everyday things.

Fleming, Candace. **Bulldozer's Big Day** (2015)

Bulldozer wants to invite all of his co-workers to a party to celebrate his special day, but to them it is just another day for scooping, sifting, stirring, and more.

Florian, Douglas. **How to Draw a Dragon** (2015)

Illustrations and easy-to-read, rhyming text guide the reader in drawing scaly, knobby-kneed dragons that fly, play musical instruments, ride bicycles, and more.

Henkes, Kevin. **Waiting** (2015)

An owl, puppy, bear, bunny, and pig wait for marvelous things to happen.

Long, Loren. **Little Tree** (2015)

Little Tree is very happy in the forest, where he is surrounded by other little trees and his leaves keep him cool in the heat of summer, but when autumn comes and the other trees drop their leaves, Little Tree cannot be persuaded to let his go, even after they wither and turn brown.

Mattick, Lindsay. **Finding Winnie: the True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear** (2015)

A fictionalized account of Captain Harry Coleburn's relationship with a bear cub in 1914, which he rescued while on his way to care for soldiers' horses during World War I and became the inspiration for A.A. Milne's Winnie-the-Pooh.

Muth, Jon J. **Zen Socks** (2015)

Stillwater the giant panda and his friends Leo and Molly teach each other about patience, sharing and compassion.

Rosenberg, Liz. **What James Said** (2015)

A little girl ignores her best friend James after she hears rumors that he has been talking about her, but soon realizes that she misses his friendship.

Stead, Philip C. **Ideas Are All Around** (2016)

In search of writing ideas, an author takes a walk with his dog around the neighborhood.

Willems, Mo. **The Thank You Book** (2016)

Piggie is determined to thank everyone she knows, but Gerald thinks she will forget someone important.

YOUNGER READERS



Birney, Betty G. **Humphrey's Really Wheely Racing Day** (2014) **Humphrey's Tiny Tales; Book 1**

When Mandy, one of the students from classroom 26, brings a special hamster-sized racecar to class, it means just one thing—Humphrey is going to be in a hamster race.

Brown, Monica. **Lola Levine Is Not Mean** (2015)

Second-grader Lola has a wonderful family, a great teacher, and the best friend ever, Josh, and they all help her feel better after she is teased and forbidden to play team sports at recess for having accidentally hurt classmate Juan during a soccer game.

Elliott, Rebecca. **Eva's Treetop Festival** (2015) **Owl Diaries; Book 1**

Having a Bloomtastic Festival at school to celebrate spring is a great idea—but Eva Wingdale, a young owl, discovers that it is also a lot of work, and there is nothing wrong with asking her friends for help.

Hale, Shannon. **Princess in Black** (2014)

While having hot cocoa with the Duchess, Princess Magnolia must sneak away to fight monsters as her alter ego the Princess in Black.

O'Donnell, Liam. **The Case of the Snack Snatcher** (2015) **West Meadows Detectives; Book 1**

Hajrah and Myron, an autistic boy, and their class in room 15 investigate when someone breaks into the school cafeteria and steals all of the morning snacks.

Paris, Harper. **Mystery at the Coral Reef** (2015) **Greetings from Somewhere; Book 8**

With help from their cousin Harry, eight-year-old twins Ella and Ethan discover who is illegally taking coral from the reefs near their aunt and uncle's beach house on the shore of Australia's Coral Sea.

West, Tracey. **Rise of the Earth Dragon** (2014) **Dragon Masters; Book 1**

Eight-year-old Drake is snatched up by the King's soldiers and taken to the castle where he is told by the wizard Griffith that he has been chosen to be a Dragon Master like Ana, Rori, and Bo—and his first task will be to discover whether his dragon, Worm, has any special powers.



OLDER READERS

Applegate, Katherine. **Crenshaw** (2015)

A story about a homeless boy and his imaginary friend that proves in unexpected ways that friends matter, whether real or imaginary.

Banks, Tristan. **On the Run** (2015)

Twelve-year-old Ben, who aspires to be a police officer, struggles to do the right thing when his parents suddenly take him and his little sister “on vacation,” and he learns they took a large amount of money that was mistakenly deposited in their bank account.

Barnett, Mac. **The Terrible Two** (2015)

When master prankster Miles Murphy moves to sleepy Yawnee Valley, he challenges the local, mystery prankster in an epic battle of tricks but soon the two join forces to pull off the biggest prank ever seen.

Cottrell Boyce, Frank. **The Astounding Broccoli Boy** (2015)

Rory Rooney likes to be prepared for anything, but when he inexplicably turns green and finds himself in an experimental hospital ward with his nemesis, school bully Tommy-Lee “Grim” Komissky, everyone is baffled but Rory believes he and Grim have become superheroes.

Gephart, Donna. **Death by Toilet Paper** (2015)

Contest-crazed twelve-year-old Ben uses his wits and way with words in hopes of winning a prize that will keep his family from being evicted until his mother can pass her final CPA examination.

Hunt, Linda Mullaly. **Fish in a Tree** (2015)

Ally's greatest fear is that everyone will find out she is as dumb as they think she is because she still doesn't know how to read.

Jamieson, Victoria. **Roller Girl** (2015)

A graphic novel adventure about a girl who discovers roller derby right as she and her best friend are growing apart.

Kibuishi, Kazu. **Firelight** (2016) **Amulet; Book 7**

Emily, Trellis, and Vigo visit Algos Island, where they can access and enter lost memories. They're hoping to uncover the events of Trellis's mysterious childhood-knowledge they can use against the Elf King. What they discover is a dark secret that changes everything. Meanwhile, the Voice of Emily's Amulet is getting stronger, and threatens to overtake her completely.

Nielson, Jennifer A. **A Night Divided** (2015)

When the Berlin Wall went up, Gerta, her mother, and her brother Fritz were trapped on the eastern side where they were living, while her father, and her other brother Dominic were in the West—four years later, now twelve, Gerta sees her father on a viewing platform on the western side and realizes he wants her to risk her life trying to tunnel to freedom.

Rorby, Ginny. **How To Speak Dolphin** (2015)

Since her mother died, twelve-year-old Lily has struggled to care for her severely autistic half-brother, Adam, in their Miami home, but she is frustrated and angry because her oncologist step-father, Don, expects her to devote her time to Adam, and is unwilling to admit that Adam needs professional help—but when Adam bonds with a young dolphin with cancer, Lily is confronted with another dilemma: her family or the dolphin's freedom.

Ryan, Pam Muñoz. **Echo** (2015)

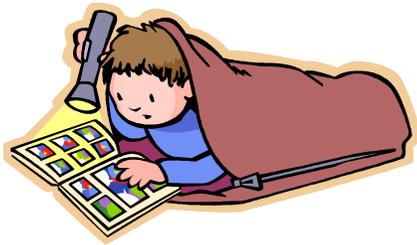
Lost in the Black Forest, Otto meets three mysterious sisters and finds himself entwined in a prophecy, a promise, and a harmonica—and decades later three children, Friedrich in Germany, Mike in Pennsylvania, and Ivy in California find themselves caught up in the same thread of destiny in the darkest days of the twentieth century, struggling to keep their families intact, and tied together by the music of the same harmonica.

Spires, Ashley. **Fluffy Strikes Back: a P.U.R.S.T. Adventure** (2016)

When space aliens invade P.U.R.S.T. headquarters and take agents hostage, it's up to Sergeant Fluffy Vandermere to emerge from behind his desk and save the day.

Vernon, Ursula. **Harriet the Invincible** (2015) **Hamster Princess; Book 1**

Never a conventional princess, Harriet becomes an adventurer after learning she is cursed to fall into a deep sleep on her twelfth birthday, but after two years of slaying ogres, cliff-diving, and more with her riding quail, Mumfrey, things go awry at home and she must seek a prince to set things right.



NON-FICTION



Burleigh, Robert. **Trapped: a Whale's Rescue** (2015)

Text and illustrations look at the rescue of a humpback whale that got trapped in a fishing net.

FitzSimmons, David. **Curious Critters. Marine** (2015)

Photographs of marine animals with text explaining some aspects of their natural histories.

Herman, Gail. **What are the Summer Olympics?** (2016)

Examines the Summer Olympics, discussing the history of the games, facts about the events and the athletes, and more.

Jenkins, Steve. **Egg: Nature's Perfect Package** (2015)

Explore how a simple, often colorful, sometimes surprisingly shaped package, reveals nature's life cycle, unusual animal defensive strategies, parenting behavior, evolution, and more, in this illustrated non-fiction picture book.

Kelly, David A. **Miracle Mud: Lena Blackburne and the Secret Mud that Changed Baseball** (2013)

Describes how baseball player Lena Blackburne revolutionized the way baseballs are prepared using his secret mud.

Messner, Kate. **How to Read a Story** (2015)

A picture book celebration of the act of exploring—and sharing—a book.

Posada, Mia. **Who Was Here?: Discovering Wild Animal Tracks** (2014)

Introduces the types of tracks made by animals from different regions of the world.

Rockliff, Mara. **Mesmerized: How Ben Franklin Solved a Mystery that Baffled All of France** (2015)

Relates the story of Benjamin Franklin's involvement in the early development of the scientific method during a visit to France during the American Revolution to drum up support for the colonists. When asked to determine if the invisible force that Dr. Franz Anton Mesmer claimed he was using to cure patients was genuine, Franklin devised a series of tests that provided the answer in clear results.

Tavares, Matt. **Growing Up Pedro** (2015)

An illustrated biography of Pedro Martinez that describes his childhood and how he became a famous baseball player.

POETRY



Brown, Calef. **Hypnotize a Tiger: Poems About Just About Everything** (2015)

A whimsical collection of nonsense poetry and art by an award-winning creator.

Raczka, Bob. **Wet Cement: A Mix of Concrete Poems** (2016)

Who says words need to be concrete? This collection shapes poems in surprising and delightful ways. Concrete poetry is a perennially popular poetic form because they are fun to look at. But by using the arrangement of the words on the page to convey the meaning of the poem, concrete or shape poems are also easy to write! From the author of the incredibly inventive "Lemonade: And Other Poems Squeezed from a Single Word" comes another clever collection that shows kids how to look at words and poetry in a whole new way

Ruddell, Deborah. **The Popcorn Astronauts: and Other Biteable Rhymes** (2015)

An illustrated collection of whimsical poems about food.

Yoon, JooHee. **Beastly Verse** (2015)

This is an anthology of 16 animal poems for children, illustrated by the graphic artist JooHee Yoon. The authors range from Lewis Carroll to D. H. Lawrence to Anonymous.

National Geographic. **Book of Nature Poetry: More than 200 Poems with Photographs that Float, Zoom and Bloom!** (2015)

With favorites from Langston Hughes, Naomi Shihab Nye, Billy Collins, and more. “When words in verse are paired with the awesomeness of nature, something magical happens!” Beloved former U.S. Poet Laureate J. Patrick Lewis curates an exuberant poetic celebration of the natural world in this stellar collection of nature poems. From trickling streams to deafening thunderstorms to soaring mountains, discover majestic photography perfectly paired with contemporary (such as Billy Collins), classics (such as Robert Frost), and never-before-published works.

“Giving Wings to Children’s Dreams”