

Dear Parents,

Helping your children create a love of reading is one of the greatest gifts you can give to them. Establishing a habit is a shared responsibility between home and school. We want them to become lifetime readers. A child who sees reading as a pleasant and relaxed activity is likely to enjoy it.

The attached list of suggested books represents literature written on a variety of levels. Reading widely from this list will give students a range of experiences with many good titles. While the books on the list are recommended, students may read any book that appeal to them.

We are asking that each child reads 5 books and marks down the title and author and bring the recorded list during the first week of school.

Ideas for Reading with Young Children

- Read aloud to your children, even when they begin to develop the ability to read independently.
- Have children read to you or other children in the family
- Find books on topics your child will enjoy: pets, sports, and outdoor activities.
- Be a reader yourself; children often follow the example of their parents.
- Help your children get their own library cards from the public library and take them to the library often.
- Set aside a special time for reading each day. This time should be seen as fun, not a chore or summer homework.
- Bring many books and magazines along on car trips and vacations.
- Explore reading links on the internet including Newbery, Caldecott, and Nutmeg award winners.
- Visit local bookstores and watch for children's author visits to these stores.

Sincerely,
Second Grade Teachers

Picture Books

Bee Tree	Patricia Polacco
What's with this room?	Tom Lichtenheld
Kapow! Ker-splash	George O'Connor
Chester's Way	Kevin Henkes
Perfect the Pig	Susan Jeschke
Martha (Series)	Susan Meddaugh
Voices in the Park	Anthony Brown

Beginning Readers

The Great Snake Escape	Molly Cox
Aunt Eater (Series)	Doug Cushman
Arthur (Series)	Lillian Hoban
The Littles (Series)	Teddy Slater & John Lawrence Paterson
Mr. Putter and Tabby (Series)	Cynthia Rylant
Nate the Great (Series)	Marjorie Sharmat
Amanda Pig (Series)	Jean Van Leeuwen
Amelia Bedilia (Series)	Peggy Parish
Inspector Hopper (Series)	Doug Cushman
Three by the Sea (Series)	Edward Marshall
Minnie and Moo (Series)	Denys Cazet

Early Chapter Books

How to be Cool in Third Grade	Betsey Duffy
Cam Jansen (Series)	David Adler
Winning Season (Series)	Rich Wallace
Baseball Pals (Series)	Matt Christopher
Pinky and Rex (Series)	James Howe
Martha Bridge (Series)	Jessica Scott Kerrin
Jigsaw Jones (Series)	James Preller
Horrible Harry (Series)	Suzy Kline
Judy Moody (Series)	Megan McDonald
Magic Tree House (Series)	Mary Pope Osborne
Flat Stanley (Series)	Jeff Brown
Marvin Redpost (Series)	Louis Sachar
Secrets of Droon	Tony Abbott

Information, Folktales, and Poetry Books

Fireworks, Picnics, and Flags	James Griblin
Chameleons Are Cool	Martin Jenkins
Splish, Splash	Joan Graham
Why Do (Series)	Joan Holub
Poetry (All Titles)	Douglas Florian

Under the Sea (Series)

Carol K Lindeen

Spacebusters: The Race to the Moon

Philip Wilkinson

Animals Nobody Loves

Seymour Simon

Recess at 20 Below

Cindy Lou Aillaud

Animals in Danger (Series)

Rod Theodorou

Let's Try it Out (Series)

Seymour Simon

Where the Sidewalk Ends

Shel Silverstein