

Summer Reading 2011

Entering

PK-K



Brookline Public Schools Brookline, Massachusetts



The Public Schools of Brookline, Massachusetts

Educational Technology and Library Department

Scott Moore, Director

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

Creating a school-wide culture of reading has always been a priority for the teachers, librarians, and literacy specialists in the Brookline Public Schools. In each school that culture is built and nurtured in myriad ways—through the study of literary elements, read-alouds, book talks, literature circles, genre studies, author visits, evening parent/child book events, independent reading projects, participation in Massachusetts Book Awards and summer reading.

Summer is a perfect time to find books to read for pleasure. This list is a starting point to help you select books that match your interests and includes a variety of titles across many genres, levels, and lengths. Students are encouraged to read at least 5 or 6 books. Our goal is to develop readers who not only *can* read, but who *choose* to read for enjoyment.

Summer reading is also a great opportunity to hone your reading skills and maintain your fluency. According to a recent report from John Hopkins University's Center for Summer Learning children who do not read over the summer actually lose ground in reading proficiency. The report concludes that the effect of reading four or five books during the summer is large enough to prevent a decline in reading scores from spring to fall.

In addition to this list, Brookline's public libraries and bookstores offer a wealth of titles and suggestions to help you find just the right book for your enjoyment.

Explore. Read. Enjoy,

Brookline K-8 School Librarians

Deb Abner, Lincoln School
Rusty Browder, Lawrence School
Colleen Carney, Heath School
Paula Ewenstein, Baker School
Teresa Gallo-Toth, Runkle School
Amanda Kretschmar, Pierce School
Christine McDonnell, Devotion School
Amy Neale, Driscoll School

Scott, Moore, Director of Educational Technology and Libraries.

Downloadable copies of the list are available at <http://brooklinesummerreading.weebly.com/>

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Hot Off the Presses: New and Noteworthy

Aliki. ***Push Button***

Like so many little ones, the boy in this book lives to push buttons--on phones, elevators, toasters, you name it. But when all that button-pushing gives him a sore finger, he discovers that some of the most fun can be had the old-fashioned way.

Baker, Keith. ***LMNO Peas***

Peas take on a whole new personality in this fun alphabet book.

Becker, Bonnie. ***Bedtime for Bear***

When Mouse comes for a sleepover, Bear worries that he will disrupt the silence he needs for a good night's rest.

Henkes, Kevin. ***Little White Rabbit***

While little white rabbit explores, his imagination wanders; what would it be like to be green, or tall, or as still as a stone? But the sight of a cat sends him home in a hurry, where he "doesn't wonder who loves him."

Karas, G. Brian. ***The Village Garage***

This book chronicles the year in the life of a small-town maintenance crew, to endearing effect. A great choice for truck lovers.

Lobel, Anita. ***Nini Lost and Found***

When Nini-cat ventures out her back door, she finds a whole new world that is "really, really nice." But as she goes deeper into the woods, and night falls, she realizes that home is pretty nice, too.

Mayor, Sally. ***A Pocketful of Posies***

Manor brings a fresh take to traditional nursery rhymes with her illustrations, stitched together from fabric, beads, and other objects.

Rumford, James. ***Rain School***

Imagine that part of starting school each year was actually building that school! In this African village, the students do just that.

Stead, Philip. ***A Sick Day for Amos McGee***

When their caring zookeeper Amos doesn't show up one day, his animal friends decide to pay him a visit.

Stein, David. ***Interrupting Chicken***

Papa tries to read Chicken a bedtime story, but Chicken just can't help adding his own flourish to each book Papa starts.

Underwood, Deborah. ***The Quiet Book, The Loud Book***

Underwood's cute and furry cast of characters demonstrate the myriad kinds of quiet, and the many types of loud.

Willems, Mo. ***We Are in a Book***

Mo Willems does it again; this time, Elephant and Piggie discover, much to their excitement, that they are indeed in a book. But what will happen when the book ends??

Winter, Jeanette. ***Biblioburro: A True Story from Columbia***

Recounts the true story of a devoted man and his steadfast burro team, Alfa and Beto, who traveled into the remote villages of rural Colombia to bring treasured library books to eager young readers.

Authors to Explore

Donald Crews

Drawing on his background as a graphic artist, Donald Crews accompanies his simple stories about trains, trucks, school buses and planes with bold, colorful illustrations. If your little reader likes anything that goes, make sure to introduce him or her to these books.

Eric Carle

Nobody does animals like this iconic author/illustrator. Try one of his famous books like *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, or some of his lesser-known gems like *10 Little Rubber Ducks* or *Head to Toe*.

Lois Ehlert

In stories such as *Growing Vegetable Soup* and *Snowballs*, Lois Ehlert explores nature through colorful collage illustrations and spare text.

Denise Fleming

Fleming employs an unusual technique called pulp painting to create her color-saturated illustrations of adorable children and animals. Many of her books focus on nature, such as *Time to Sleep* or *In the Tall Tall Grass*.

Kevin Henkes

Kevin Henkes has that midas touch both as an author and illustrator; everything he does comes off beautifully. He has written and illustrated so many beloved books for children, but for PreK-K, his simple ones such as *Kitten's First Full Moon* or *Old Bear* are the best.

Grace Lin

Grace Lin draws on her Chinese-American background to write and illustrate wonderful stories about simple joys and everyday things; a Dim Sum meal, flying a kite, or the unfortunate result of sneezing during a haircut.

Anne Rockwell

Anne Rockwell writes and illustrates nonfiction treasures about everything from apples and pumpkins to fire trucks.

Rosemary Wells

Author and illustrator Rosemary Wells has created some of the best-loved characters in children's literature. Don't miss her Max and Ruby or McDuff series, as well as her Yoko and Mother Goose books.

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Take a Look: Picture Books

Alborough, Jez. ***Where's My Teddy?***

When Eddie goes searching for his lost teddy in the dark woods, he comes across a gigantic bear with a similar problem.

Banks, Kate. ***The Night Worker***

Every night, Alex asks to go to work with his father, a construction worker on the late shift. Finally, Papa gives Alex a hard hat, and together they "head quietly into the night."

Burningham, John. ***Mr. Gumpy's Outing (series)***

When Mr. Gumpy takes his boat for an outing, it gets more and more crowded with children and animals who want to join him, until the inevitable occurs.

Daly, Niki. ***What's Cooking, Jamela? (series)***

Jamela is responsible for fattening up the chicken intended for Christmas dinner, but instead she gives it a name and makes it her friend.

Dorros, Arthur. ***Abuela***

While riding on a bus with her grandmother, a little girl imagines that they are carried up into the sky and fly over the sights of New York City.

Dunrea, Oliver. ***Gossie (series)***

When Gossie's cherished red boots go missing, she looks high and low for them. In the end, she finds the boots and a new friend.

Elya, Susan Middleton. ***Bebe Goes Shopping (series)***

Rhyming text describes a trip to the grocery store for a Mama and her baby boy. Includes Spanish words.

Feiffer, Jules. ***Bark, George***

George's mother tries to teach him how to bark like a proper dog, but it takes a trip to the doctor to find out what is really going on with the strange noises George is making.

Fox, Mem. ***Whoever You Are***

A book about children all over the world that celebrates our differences and our similarities whoever we are.

Gravett, Emily. ***Orange, Pear, Apple, Bear***

A plump brown bear adds a humorous touch to this charming book about shapes, colors, and sequence.

Graham, Bob. ***Max***

Max, the young son of superheroes, is a late bloomer when it comes to flying until he is inspired to save a falling baby bird.

James, Simon. ***Baby Brains (series)***

Baby Brains is so smart he joins a space mission while he is still in diapers! But is he really ready for his first space walk?

Katz, Karen. ***The Colors of Us***

Lena and her mom observe the variations in the color of their friends' skin comparing them to foods and things found in nature.

McMullan, Kate. ***I Stink! (series)***

A big city garbage truck makes its rounds consuming everything from apple cores and banana peels to leftover ziti with zucchini.

Nakagawa, Chihiro. ***Who Made this Cake?***

An army of little people and their fantastic baking equipment make a delicious birthday cake for a truck-loving little boy.

Nolen, Jerdine. ***Thunder Rose***

Unusual from the day she is born, Thunder Rose performs all sorts of amazing feats, including building fences, taming a stampeding herd of steers, capturing a gang of rustlers, and turning aside a tornado.

Russo, Marisabina. ***The Line Up Book***

Sam's mother repeatedly calls him for lunch, but Sam is too busy to come right away (sound familiar?). Parent and child will recognize themselves in this sweet little story.

Seeger, Lauren. ***First the Egg***

Bright illustrations show the transformations of animals and objects, such as a seed to a flower, paint to a picture, and a caterpillar to a butterfly.

Sharmat, Mitchell. ***Gregory, the Terrible Eater***

Gregory's parents don't know what to do with him; he won't eat perfectly good garbage like the other goats. On the advice of Dr. Ram, they decide to slowly introduce him to a balanced diet.

Simont, Marc. ***The Stray Dog***

On picnic in the country, a family befriends a wonderful dog they name Willy. When it's time to go home, they worry that maybe Willy doesn't belong to anyone. Will they ever see him again?

Sis, Peter. ***Fire Truck***

Matt loves fire trucks, and one morning when he wakes up, he is a fire truck--right down to his hoses, hooks, and ladders.

Steig, William. ***Pete's a Pizza***

When Pete feels miserable because rain makes it impossible to play ball outdoors, his father finds a fun indoor game to play with his son.

Step toe, John. ***Baby Says***

A baby and big brother figure out how to get along.

Taback, Simms. ***Joseph Had a Little Overcoat***

A charming book about a resourceful man and his shrinking coat.

Tucker, Kathy. ***Seven Chinese Sisters***

When a dragon snatches the youngest of seven talented Chinese sisters, the other six come to her rescue.

Wells, Rosemary. ***Bunny Cakes (series)***

Max wants to help Ruby with Grandma's birthday cake, but his well-meant interference gets him banned from the kitchen. Good thing he knows a really good mud pie recipe ...

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Willems, Mo. ***Knuffle Bunny (series)***

A routine trip to the laundromat turns into an action-packed adventure when Trixie, too young to speak words, realizes that something very important is missing, and struggles to explain that to her father.

Williams, Vera B. ***More More More Said the Baby***

Enjoying the tickles, kisses, and unfettered affection showered on them by grownups, three children cry out for "more more more!"

Yolen, Jane. ***How do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight? (series)***

Mother and child ponder the different ways a dinosaur can say goodnight, from slamming his tail and pouting to giving a big hug and kiss.

Beginning Reading Books

Capucilli, Alyssa. ***Biscuit (series)***

A little yellow dog always wants one more thing before he'll go to sleep.

Eastman, P.D. ***Are You My Mother?***

A baby bird emerges from his egg to find himself alone in his nest and sets out on an amusingly confusing journey to find his mother.

Haskins, Lori. ***Ducks in Muck***

The author uses a few simple words to tell a cute little story about a duck escape from some marooned trucks.

Meister, Cari. ***Tiny Goes to the Library (series)***

Tiny the Dog is a big help at the library when his owner takes out too many books to carry home.

Thomas, Shelly Moore. ***Good Night, Good Knight (series)***

A Good Knight helps three little dragons who are having trouble getting to sleep.

Willems, Mo. ***My Friend is Sad (series)***

When Gerald the Elephant is sad, Piggie is determined cheer him up, but finds after many tries that it only takes the simplest thing to change Gerald's mood.

Too Good to Miss: Classics

Burton, Virginia Lee. ***The Little House***

The little house was built in the country, but gradually the city moves closer and closer.

Cooney, Barbara. ***Miss Rumphius***

The life story of Miss Rumphius, who finds a way to make the world a more beautiful place, just as her grandfather told her to.

Dr. Seuss. ***The Cat in the Hat***

Two children sitting at home on a rainy day are visited by the Cat in the Hat who shows them some tricks and games.

Isadora, Rachel. ***Ben's Trumpet***

Ben wants to be a trumpeter, but plays only an imaginary instrument until one of the musicians in a neighborhood night club discovers his ambition.

Keats, Ezra Jack. ***Peter's Chair***

When Peter discovers his blue furniture is being painted pink for a new baby sister, he rescues the last unpainted item and runs away.

Kraus, Robert. ***Leo the Late Bloomer***

Leo is not reading, or writing, or drawing, or even speaking, and his father is concerned. But Leo's mother is not. She knows her son will do all those things, and more, when he's ready.

Lionni, Leo. ***Swimmy***

A little black fish in a school of red fish figures out a way of protecting them all from their natural enemies.

McCloskey, Robert. ***Blueberries for Sal***

Little Sal and Little Bear both lose their mothers while eating blueberries and almost end up with the other's mother.

Rathman, Peggy. ***Goodnight Gorrilla***

When Gorilla steals the keys from the zookeeper one night, he and his animal friends follow him home and try to snuggle up for a good night's sleep.

Slobodkina, Esphyr. ***Caps for Sale***

A band of mischievous monkeys steals every one of a peddler's caps while he takes a nap under a tree.

Waber, Bernard. ***The House on 88th Street***

A family moving into a new house discovers in their bathtub a talented crocodile named Lyle, who soon becomes an important part of the family.

Wood, Audrey. ***The Napping House***

At the napping house, everyone is sleeping until a wakeful flea causes a commotion with just one bite.

Zion, Gene. ***Harry the Dirty Dog***

Harry, a white dog with black spots, loves to get dirty. But when he gets so dirty that he becomes a black dog with white spots, will his family recognize him?

Folklore & Mythology

Aardema, Verma. ***Borreguita and the Coyote***

In this funny trickster tale from Mexico, a little lamb uses her clever wiles to keep a coyote from eating her up.

Bryan, Ashley. ***Beautiful Blackbird***

The colorful birds of Africa ask Blackbird, whom they think is the most beautiful of birds, to decorate them with some of his "blackening brew" in a story of the Ila people.

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Emberley, Rebecca. ***Chicken Little***

A fresh, fun, and delightfully illustrated retelling of the classic story of Chicken Little, who sets off quite a panic when she thinks the sky is falling when an acorn knocks her on the head.

Pinkney, Jerry. ***The Little Red Hen***

Jerry Pinkney's fresh illustrations give new life to this old tale of the hen who must bake bread herself, without the help of her fellow farm animals.

Tolstoy, Aleksei. ***The Gigantic Turnip***

A tale from Russia about a turnip that is too big to be picked, even by an entire barnyard of animals, until a surprisingly strong little mouse steps up to save the day.

Get Real: Nonfiction

Aliki. ***Feelings***

Aliki's lovely exploration of the different feelings we all experience.

Barton, Byron. ***Building a House***

A simple introduction to the steps involved in constructing a house.

dePaola, Tomi. ***Charlie Needs a Cloak***

Charlie definitely needs a cloak to replace his ragged old one the sheep have been munching on. We get to watch him go through the whole process of making one, from sheering the sheep, to sewing the last stitches.

Cowley, Joy. ***Chameleon, Chameleon***

Up-close photographs and text capture the many moods and colors of chameleons as they hunt for food, search for a new home, brave dangerous strangers, and even make friends.

Floca, Brian. ***Lightship***

Lightships were floating beacons where lighthouses could not be built. Through all sorts of weather, the lightship in this book shines its light and holds its place, guiding other ships to safety.

Gibbons, Gail. ***Ice Cream***

This basic introduction to everyone's favorite frozen treat is perfect summer reading!

Isadora, Rachel. ***Sophie Skates***

This window into the life of a young skater introduces readers to the sport.

Jenkins, Steve. ***Move!***

Steve Jenkin's uses his signature cut-paper illustrations to demonstrated how different animals get from point A to point B.

Karas, G. Brian. ***On Earth***

Karas's illustrations shine in this basic exploration of earth science concepts, including the earth's rotation, the seasons, weather patterns, and day and night.

Lunde, Darrin. ***Hello, Bumblebee Bat***

Meet the bumblebee bat, a tiny bat about the size of a bee! Through a series of questions, we learn about the bat's characteristics, habitat, and habits.

Simon, Seymour. ***Trains***

With Simon's trademark striking photographs, he surveys the past and present of one of kids' favorite vehicles.

Life Stories: Biography

Adler, David. ***America's Champion Swimmer: Gertrude Ederle***

The compelling story of Gertrude Ederle, who catapulted to fame after becoming the first woman to successfully swim the English Channel.

Brown, Don. ***Ruth Law Thrills a Nation***

Through his words and water-colors, Don Brown brings to life the record-breaking flight of a daring woman pilot, Ruth Law, from Chicago to New York in 1916.

Martin, Jacqueline Briggs. ***Snowflake Bentley***

Wilson Bentley's passion for snow led him to invent a camera that could photograph the tiny flakes before they melted. He went on to capture thousands of snowflakes on film in his native Vermont.

Rappaport, Doreen. ***Martin's Big Words***

A brief, moving biography of one of America's great heroes, accompanied by striking illustrations.

Winters, Kay. ***Abe Lincoln: The Boy Who Loved Books***

Abraham Lincoln was a book fiend, and this biography tells how he used books to change his life, and how he, in turn, changed the world.

A Way with Words: Poetry

Ahlberg, Janet & Allan. ***Each Peach Pear Plum***

Have fun finding Tom Thumb, Cinderella, and the Three Bears in the illustrations that accompany this rhyming story.

Crews, Nina. ***The Neighborhood Mother Goose***

In this modern Mother Goose, Crews sets the familiar rhymes in her Brooklyn neighborhood.

Field, Eugene; Giselle Potter, ill. ***Wynken, Blynken, and Nod***

A classic lullaby poem about three fishermen who try to catch the stars in nets of silver and gold.

Hillenbrand, Will. ***Down by the Station***

Join these mischievous, playful, and sleepy baby animals on their way to the children's zoo. You'd better hurry, though ... they can't be late to greet the first busload of children!

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