

SUMMER READING 2017

Public Schools of Brookline, Massachusetts



Entering 4-5 List



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
Colleen Carney, Heath School
Paula Ewenstein, Baker School
Teresa Gallo-Toth, Runkle School
Amanda Kretschmar, Pierce School
Jennifer Lauchlan, Upper Devotion School
Kathy Moriarty, Lawrence School
Anne Reid, Driscoll School
Julie Seifert, Devotion 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

DK. ***The Elements*** **

Created in association with the Smithsonian, this highly visual introduction to the 118 chemical elements catalogs them by type while explaining each element's properties, atomic structure and presence in everyday objects.

Frost, Helen. ***Applesauce Weather*** *

A special fall apple ritual—along with some inventive storytelling—brings a family together as they grieve the loss of a beloved family member.

Jenkins, Steve. ***Animals by the Numbers*** *

Fascinating animal facts presented in amazing graphics, from the talented author/illustrator Steve Jenkins.

Levy, Debbie and Elizabeth Baddeley. ***I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark*** *

Get inspired by this biographical picture book of Supreme Court justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who has spent a lifetime disagreeing: disagreeing with inequality, arguing against unfair treatment, and standing up for what's right for people everywhere.

Lin, Grace. ***When the Sea Turned to Silver*** **

Pinmei, a storyteller's granddaughter, must find the Luminous Stone that Lights the Night to rescue her grandmother, who has been kidnapped by the Tiger Emperor.

Medina, Juana. ***Juana & Lucas*** **

A young girl from Colombia loves playing with her dog and resists boring school activities, especially learning English. When her grandmother tells her about a special trip the family has planned where knowing English will be important, she has a change of heart.

Sloan, Holly. ***Short*** ***

While others may see Julia as short for her age, after performing in a summer production of *The Wizard of Oz*, she realizes just how big she is on the inside, where it counts. Filled with humor and tenderness, this is an irresistible story of self-discovery and of the role models who forever change us.

Steptoe, Javaka. ***Radiant Child: The Story of Young Artist Jean-Michel Basquiat*** **

This 2017 Caldecott winner presents the early life and achievements of Jean-Michel Basquiat, a modern art master who rose to fame in the 1980s. It shows how as a boy he "saw art in all things" and used his unique collage-style paintings to convey the dynamic energy of life in New York City.

Tonatiuh, Duncan. ***The Princess and the Warrior A Tale of Two Volcanoes*** *

A bold and beautifully illustrated adaptation of the ancient Aztec story of love and loyalty that explains the origins of two volcanoes in Mexico: Iztaccíhuatl and Popocatepetl. Included is an author's note and a glossary of words of Nahuatl origin that have become part of Spanish as it is spoken today.

Weeks, Sarah and Gita Varadarajan. ***Save Me A Seat*** ***

Joe and Ravi don't think they have anything in common -- but soon enough they have a common enemy (the biggest bully in their class) and a common mission: to take control of their lives over the course of a single crazy week.

Listen to This: Books for Families to Read Aloud

Birdsall, J. ***The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy (series)*** ***

When the four Penderwick sisters arrive at Arundel cottage for their summer vacation, they each find that their own adventure awaits. This is the first installment in the series that has become a modern-day classic.

Burnford, Sheila. ***The Incredible Journey*** ***

A young Labrador retriever, a bull terrier and a Siamese cat set out through the Canadian wilderness. Together, the three house pets face starvation, exposure, and wild forest animals as they attempt to make their way home to the family they love.

Juster, Norton. ***The Phantom Tollbooth*** ***

A journey through a land where Milo learns the importance of words and numbers provides a cure for his boredom.

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

The heartwarming true story behind the London Zoo bear that inspired the character of Winnie-the-Pooh.

Sweet, Melissa. ***Some Writer! The Story of E. B. White*** ***

A beautifully illustrated biography of the author of *Charlotte's Web* told through personal letters, photos, and Melissa Sweet's own artwork. Read after *Charlotte's Web* to learn the story behind the book.

White, E. B. ***Charlotte's Web*** **

This classic novel of friendship, love, life, and death tells the story of Wilbur, a little pig whose life is spared with the help of his friend Charlotte, a spider who lives in the barn.

Take a Look: Picture Books for Older Readers

Bell, Cece. ***EI Deafo*** ***

An autobiography in the form of a graphic novel. Cece Bell grew up needing two hearing aids. To cope with that challenge, she imagined herself a caped superhero named "EI Deafo." In this book she writes about the funny and challenging things that happened to her. This 2015 Newbery Honor book will make you laugh along with the author.

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Brown, Don. ***Henry and the Cannons*** *

Presents an illustrated account of bookseller Henry Knox's heroic contributions during the Revolutionary War, describing how he dragged fifty-nine cannons to Boston across 225 miles filled with danger and hardship.

Burleigh, Robert. ***Edward Hopper Paints His World*** *

This beautifully illustrated book provides a detailed biographical portrait of one of the great painters of the 20th century, Edward Hopper. His story as an artist is one of determination and resilience. Even when no one wanted to buy his paintings for a long time, he pursued his childhood dream of being a painter.

Freedman, Russell and Peter Malone. ***Boston Tea Party*** *

Recounts the colonists' stand to control their own destinies, detailing the protest meetings at Old South Church, the defiant act of dumping the tea into the harbor, and the reaction from the British.

Hale, Dean and Shannon Hale. ***Rapunzel's Revenge*** **

Fans of Calamity Jack will enjoy this twisted version of Rapunzel. Rapunzel teams up with Jack the Beanstalk in a quest to free her mother and the kingdom from the evil queen. Beautiful graphic illustrations and the witty text combine for a compelling story.

Jeffers, Oliver. ***Once Upon an Alphabet: Short Stories for All the Letters*** *

Not your average alphabet book, this offering gives each letter its own quirky story. Kids will enjoy the offbeat sense of humor of these alphabet tall tales.

Van Allsburg, Chris. ***Jumanji*** *

This book is about two bored boys left on their own for an afternoon, find more excitement than they bargained for in a mysterious and mystical jungle adventure board game.

Woodson, Jacqueline. ***Each Kindness*** **

When Ms. Albert teaches a lesson on kindness, Chloe realizes that she and her friends have been wrong to make fun of and exclude a new classmate.

Too Good to Miss: Classics

Bredsdorff, Bodil. ***The Crow Girl: The Children of Crow Cove (series)*** *

Crow-Girl lives happily with her grandmother in a cove far from any neighbors. When her grandmother dies, Crow-Girl buries her and leaves to make her way in the world. Taken in by a greedy woman who demands her labor and steals her belongings, Crow-Girl eventually escapes and finds new friends with troubles and talents of their own. She goes on to create her own family from those whom she befriends and grows to love.

Cleary, Beverly. ***Ramona the Brave (series)*** * Ramona Quimby has to deal with her mother's new job and a teacher who does not understand how hard it is for Ramona to grow up.

Enright, E. ***The Saturdays (Melendy Quartet series)*** ***

The Melendy Quartet has a Independent Saturday Afternoon Adventure Club and readers vicariously experience all of their fabulous adventures.

Kipling, Rudyard. ***Just So Stories*** ***

This is a book with Inventive tales from Indian mythology will delight any reader.

Lewis, C. S. ***The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe (series)*** ***

Four English schoolchildren find their way through the back of a wardrobe into the magic land of Narnia and assist Aslan, the golden lion, against the White Witch, who has cursed the land with eternal winter.

Merrill, Jean. ***The Toothpaste Millionaire*** **

Sixth-grader Rufus Mayflower doesn't set out to be a millionaire, he just wants cheaper toothpaste! But when he makes and starts selling his own, the profits pile up.

Steig, William. ***Abel's Island*** **

Castaway on an uninhabited island, Abel, a very civilized mouse, finds his resourcefulness and endurance tested to the limit as he struggles to survive and return to his home.

Taylor, Sydney. ***All-of-a-Kind Family (series)*** ***

Glimpse into the everyday life of a turn-of-the-century tenement family. With the help of their loving parents, Ella, Henny, Sarah, Charlotte, and Gertie find fun in daily chores, visits to the library, and in venturing out into New York City.

Folklore & Mythology

d'Aulaire, Ingri. ***d'Aulaire's Book of Greek Myths*** **

This book is an introduction to the gods and goddesses of ancient Greece.

Husain, Shahrukh. ***The Wise Fool: Tales from the Islamic World*** **

This book retells the story of twenty-two Middle Eastern folktales about Mulla Nasreddin Hoca, a wise man remembered for his insightful and humorous stories.

Lin, Grace. ***Starry River of the Sky*** **

An innkeeper's young helper discovers that a visitor's stories hold the key to returning the moon to the Starry River of the Sky.

Morpurgo, Michael. ***Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*** *

When a mysterious green knight rides into King Arthur's court, interrupting a New Year's feast, he issues a challenge. Sir Gawain accepts and decapitates the green knight, only to see

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him pick up his severed head. The enchanted knight announces that Gawain must, on his honor, meet him on the next New Year's Day to receive the same blow.

Napoli, Donna Jo. ***Treasury of Greek Mythology: Classic Stories of Gods, Goddesses, Heroes & Monsters*** **

The tales of gods and goddesses such as Zeus, Aphrodite, Apollo, and Athena and heroes and monsters such as Helen of Troy, Perseus, and Medusa.

Get Real: Nonfiction

Applegate, Katherine and G. Brian Karas. ***Ivan: The Remarkable True Story of the Shopping Mall Gorilla*** *

Want to know the true story behind Katherine Applegate's Newbery Award winning *The One and Only Ivan*? Read this book to learn the extraordinary real story of Ivan, known as the Shopping Mall Gorilla, who lived alone in a small cage for almost 30 years before being relocated to the gorilla habitat at Zoo Atlanta.

Bishop, Nic. ***Nic Bishop Animals (series)*** *

This book introduces young nature enthusiasts to the beauty and diversity of lizards, in a volume that combines facts with full-page images and a double-gatefold spread.

Cherry, L. ***A River Ran Wild: An Environmental History*** *

An environmental history of the Nashua River, from its discovery by Indians, through the polluting years of the Industrial Revolution, to the ambitious clean-up that revitalized it.

Davies, Nicola. ***Tiny Creatures: The World of Microbes*** **

Find out how the smallest things on the planet do some really big jobs. This science picture book explores the fascinating world of the microbes that live in, on and around us.

Downer, Ann. ***Wild Animal Neighbors: Sharing Our Urban World*** *

Did you know that flying foxes are a problem in parts of urban Australia? Or that crows are a big nuisance in Tokyo? Each chapter in this book uncovers a wild animal species that has moved into an urban neighborhood. The author suggests ways that people and animals can peacefully coexist.

Hearst, Michael. ***Unusual Creatures: A Mostly Accurate Account of the Earth's Strangest Animals*** ***

Which animal can be found at the top of Mount Everest, 10,000 feet under the sea, and in your backyard? Which animal poops cubes? Which animal can disguise itself as a giant crab? These fascinating facts and hundreds more await curious minds, amateur zoologists, and anyone who has ever laughed at a funny-looking animal. Read the book, then watch the PBS Digital series.

Jenkins, Steve. ***The Top of the World: Climbing Mount Everest*** **

Ever dream of climbing the tallest mountain in the world? This book details everything you need to know about Mount Everest with Steve Jenkins' signature cut-paper illustrations.

Silvey, Anita. ***Untamed: The Wild Life of Jane Goodall*** ***

Ever since she was a child, wandering the English countryside with her stuffed chimpanzee Jubilee, Jane Goodall knew she wanted to learn about animals. This biography uses fascinating details and beautiful photographs to follow her life through a childhood full of unusual pets and outdoor adventure, to her time in Africa living with and studying the chimpanzees of Gombe.

St. George, Judith. ***So You Want to Be An Inventor?*** *

Did you know there's a bowling alley in the White House? That Teddy Roosevelt practically kept a zoo at the White House? That the first George bush hated broccoli? A collection of fun facts about U.S. presidents, from George Washington to Bill Clinton.

Tarshis, Lauren. ***I Survived True Stories (series)*** **

You've read the fiction *I Survived* series books. Now try true stories of some of the most destructive disasters of all times including floods, tornadoes and blizzards.

It Could Happen: Realistic Fiction

Barrows, Annie. ***Magic in the Mix (series)*** **

Life seems to be back to normal for the "newly twinned" sisters Miri and Molly (from the first books in the series, *The Magic Half*) until their magical house sends them on a new time-traveling adventure to the Civil War.

Blume, Judy. ***Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing (series)*** **

Peter, who is tired of having to keep mischievous two-year-old Fudge out of trouble, discovers that his pet turtle is missing.

Cavanaugh, Nancy J. ***This Journal Belongs to Ratchet*** **

This is a great choice for fans of diary style books. Homeschooled by her mechanic-environmentalist father, eleven-year-old Rachel "Ratchet" Vance records her efforts to make friends, save a park, remember her mother, and find her own definition of "normal."

Davies, Jacqueline. ***The Lemonade War (series)*** **

Normally buddies, brother and sister Evan and Jessie find themselves at odds over trifles and increasingly determined to earn more money than the other before school starts.

DiCamillo, Kate. ***Raymie Nightingale*** ***

Hoping that if she wins a local beauty pageant her father will come home, Raymie practices twirling a baton and performing good deeds as she is drawn into an unlikely friendship with a drama queen and a saboteur. The girls each come to another person's rescue in unexpected ways.

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Gino, Alex. **George** ***

When people see ten year old George, they think they see a boy. But she knows she's not a boy. She knows she's a girl. With the help of her best friend, George sees an opportunity to let the world know who she really is through her class's performance of the play Charlotte's Web.

Levy, Dana Alison. **The Misadventures of the Family Fletcher (series)** ***

This laugh out loud series relates the adventures of a family with two fathers, four adopted boys, and a variety of pets as they navigate school, summer vacations, and grumpy neighbors.

Lombard, Jenny. **Drita, My Homegirl** **

When ten-year-old Drita and her family, refugees from Kosovo, move to New York, Drita is teased about not speaking English well, but after a popular student named Maxine is forced to learn about Kosovo as a punishment for teasing Drita, the two girls soon bond.

Look, Lenore. **Alvin Ho: Allergic to Girls, School, and Other Scary Things (series)** **

A boy in Concord, Massachusetts, who loves superheroes and comes from a long line of brave Chinese farmer-warriors, wants to make friends, but first he must overcome his fear of everything.

Martin, Ann M. **Rain Reign** ***

Rose Howard is a fifth grader who loves homonyms. That's why she names her dog "Rain" because it has an interesting homonym: "reign." When Rain runs away during a tremendous storm, Rose has to break out of her usual routines to find her. An adventure that will make you laugh and cry and wonder what you'd do if faced with the difficult decision that Rose faces.

Perkins, Mitali. **Rickshaw Girl** **

A young Bangladeshi girl longs to help her struggling family in hard times. But the role of women in her society limits her. Will she have to dress as a boy in order to help?

Life Stories: Biography

Abdul-Jabbar, Kareem. **What Color is My World: The Lost History of African-American Inventors** **

This book identifies African American inventors of many important scientific and technological advances. This well-designed book includes profiles of many inventors with foldouts and flaps to lend reader interest.

Aldrin, Buzz. **Reaching for the Moon** **

An illustrated account of astronaut Buzz Aldrin's life and the determination and experiences that led him to be part of the first mission to land men on the moon.

Andrews, Troy. **Trombone Shorty** **

This biography of child prodigy New Orleans native "Trombone Shorty" is all the more amazing because of Bryan Collier's award winning illustrations.

Barton, Chris and Don Tate. **Whoosh!: Lonnie Johnson's Super-Soaking Stream of Inventions** *

Budding engineers and inventors will be inspired by this biography of Lonnie Johnson, an engineer at NASA who is best known for inventing the Super Soaker water gun.

Byrd, Robert. **Electric Ben: The Amazing Life and Times of Benjamin Franklin** **

Robert Byrd documents Franklin's numerous accomplishments, from framing the Constitution to creating bifocals.

Calkhoven, Laurie and Patricia Castelao. **Women Who Changed the World: 50 Amazing Americans** **

Get inspired by meeting fifty of the most influential and inspirational American women who had a lasting impact on our nation and the world.

Davidson, Margaret. **Louis Braille: The Boy Who Invented Books for the Blind** **

Blind at the age of three, Louis Braille created a system of reading for the blind when he was fifteen.

Krull, Kathleen. **Marie Curie (Giants of Science series)** **

Marie Curie is the focus of this scientific biography from the outstanding Giants of Science series. The narrative places Curie both in the context of her time period and her discipline as she makes ground-breaking discoveries in physics and in chemistry.

Lee, Paula. **Sixteen Years in Sixteen Seconds** *

Sixteen seconds: the moment of a three-and-a-half somersault dive. Sammy Lee overcame formidable odds to become an Olympic diving champion in 1948.

McDonough, Yona Zeldis and John O'Brien. **Who was Louie Armstrong? (Who Was? series)** **

This biography of singer, songwriter, and jazz musician Louis Armstrong chronicles his childhood in New Orleans and rise in the entertainment industry. This series, also known as "Big Head Books", this series offers entertaining biographies of trailblazers, legends, innovators, and creators throughout history.

Out of This World: Fantasy & Science Fiction

Applegate, Katherine. **The One and Only Ivan** **

Poignant story of Ivan the gorilla and his friends at a decrepit animal show and how he uses his talent to save them. Lyrical writing and gorgeous illustrations combine to make this Newbery winner a must read. To learn more about Ivan, read

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Applegate's true story of this remarkable gorilla, listed in the non-fiction section.

Christopher, John. ***The White Mountains (series)*** **
Long ago, the Tripods, huge, three-legged machines, descended upon earth and took control. Now people unquestioningly accept the Tripods' power. They have no control over their thoughts or their lives, but for a brief time in each person's life, in childhood, he is not a slave. For Will, his time of freedom is about to end unless he can escape to the White Mountains, where the possibility of freedom still exists.

DiTerlizzi, Tony. ***The Field Guide (Spiderwick Chronicles series)*** **
When the Grace children go to stay at their Great Aunt Lucinda's worn Victorian house, they discover a field guide to fairies and other creatures and begin to have some unusual experiences.

Eager, Edward. ***Half Magic (series)*** ***
Faced with a dull summer in the city, four children suddenly find themselves involved in a series of extraordinary adventures after one of them discovers an ordinary-looking coin that seems to grant wishes.

Foxlee, Karen. ***Ophelia and the Marvelous Boy*** ***
A story of an unlikely heroine named Ophelia who doesn't believe in anything that can't be proven by science. She and her sister Alice are still grieving for their dead mother when their father takes a job in a strange museum in a city where it always snows. On her very first day in the museum Ophelia discovers a boy locked away in a long forgotten room. He is a prisoner of Her Majesty, the Snow Queen, and he has been waiting for Ophelia's help.

Graff, Lisa. ***A Tangle of Knots*** **
This fast-paced fun novel combines a lost suitcase, talents, and recipes in a fantasy which is compelling read. Many characters with their own stories are brought together or woven together with a satisfying conclusion.

Holm, Jennifer L. ***The Fourteenth Goldfish*** **
Eleven year old Ellie is surprised when a new student in her class turns out to be her grandfather, a scientist who has found the secret to eternal youth! Grandpa Melvin is a cranky, bossy addition to the family. Ellie tries to keep his true age a secret while helping him to get back into his laboratory. Part realistic fiction, part science fiction, this funny novel is a real page-turner.

Ibbotson, Eva. ***Which Witch?*** ***
Deciding that he wants a son to carry on his tradition of Loathing Light and Blighting the Beautiful, the Great Wizard Arriman announces a competition among the witches of Tadcaster, one of whom will marry him.

Levine, Gail Carson. ***The Princess Tales (series)*** **
Readers will recognize elements of classic fairy tales in these humorous new versions.

Mlynowski, Sarah, Lauren Myracle, and Emily Jenkins. ***Upside Down Magic (series)*** **
In a world of elite magic academies, weird and wonderful things happen when you're sent off to public school . . . and put in the Upside-Down Magic class. A hilarious and heartfelt series about a group of magical misfits.

Stephens, John. ***The Emerald Atlas (Books of Beginning series)*** ***
Fantasy lovers will enjoy this amazing tale featuring 3 siblings, Kate, Michael, and Emma. They travel unhappily from one orphanage to another until one fateful day. They open a door and find a mysterious green book and are transported to magic land. They travel back and forth in time in this fast paced book. Will they uncover the secret of the evil queen and save the world?

Page-turners: Mystery & Adventures

Babbitt, Natalie. ***The Search For Delicious*** ***
When the court can't agree on a meaning for the word delicious in the King's dictionary, young Galen is sent out to poll the kingdom and has unexpected adventures.

Butler, Dori Hillestad. ***The Buddy Files: The Case of the Lost Boy (series)*** **
Meet King, loyal dog detective, while searching for his mysteriously lost human family, Buddy the dog is adopted by another family and helps solve the mystery of their missing boy. Dog lovers will appreciate this series.

Gibbs, Stuart. ***Spy Camp (Spy School series)*** ***
School may be out for summer, but top-secret training continues for aspiring spy Ben Ripley and so does the danger. Will Ben be able to manage the threats from SPYDER, an enemy spy organization, keep his cover and his cool?

Grabenstein, Chris. ***Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library (series)*** ***
Lucky Kyle wins a coveted spot as one of twelve kids invited for an overnight sleepover in his town's new library, hosted by Mr. Lemoncello and riddled with lots and lots of games. But when morning comes, the doors stay locked. Kyle and the other kids must solve every clue and figure out every secret puzzle to find the hidden escape route.

Hale, Bruce. ***The Chameleon Wore Chartreuse: From the Tattered Casebook of Chet Gecko, Private Eye (series)*** **
When hired by a fellow fourth-grader to find her missing brother, Chet Gecko uncovers a plot involving a Gila monster's revenge upon the school football team.

Klise, Kate. ***Dying to Meet You (43 Old Cemetery Road series)*** **
Children's book author I. B. Grumply gets more than he bargained for when he rents a supposedly quiet place to write for the summer. His problems include a grumpy ghost and an abandoned 11 year old.

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Konigsburg, E. L. ***From the Mixed-up files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*** **

This is the story of Claudia and Jamie who run away from home to New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art and find themselves in the heart of a mystery.

Milford, Kate. ***Greenglass House*** ***

It's the winter holidays when the story begins and so, although Milo's family runs an inn, Milo is expecting fewer guests and a real vacation. He's surprised and disappointed when, one after another, guests begin to arrive despite a wild winter storm. Each guest tells a story that is somehow connected to the Greenglass House and, instead of relaxing, Milo finds he has several mysteries to solve.

Webb, Holly. ***The Case of the Stolen Sixpence: The Mysteries of Maisie Hitchins (series)*** **

Junior sleuth Maisie Hitchins, who lives in Victorian London, uncovers a mysterious plot involving an abandoned dog, stolen money and sausages, and a bicycle chase.

Wells, Marcia. ***Eddie Red Undercover (series)*** ***

Sixth grader Edmund Xavier Lonnot, codename "Eddie Red," has a photographic memory and talent for drawing anything he sees. When the NYPD is stumped by a mastermind art thief, Eddie becomes their secret weapon to solve the case.

Wood, Maryrose. ***The Incurable Children of Ashton Place: The Mysterious Howling (series)*** ***

Set in 19th-century England, the novel tells the story of 15-year-old Penelope Lumley. A newly hired governess to Alexander, Beowulf, and Cassiopeia. Previously raised by wolves, the three children are now the trophies and property of the shady Lord Fredrick of Ashton Place. Humorous antics and a climactic cliff-hanger ending will keep you turning pages and clamoring for the next volume.

Yang, Gene. ***Secret Coders (series)*** *

An entertaining new graphic novel series that combines logic puzzles and basic programming instruction with a page-turning mystery plot.

Play Ball!: Sports Books

Barber, Tiki. ***Go Long! (Barber Game Time books series)*** **

When Coach Spangler leaves at the start of their second year of junior high school, thirteen-year-old twins Tiki and Ronde wonder if his replacement, history teacher Mr. Wheeler, can coach the Eagles to another winning football season.

Gutman, Dan. ***Baseball Card Adventures: Roberto & Me (series)*** ***

Stosh travels in time to meet Roberto Clemente, legendary ballplayer and humanitarian.

Jamieson, Victoria. ***Roller Girl*** **

A graphic novel adventure about a girl, Astrid, who signs up for roller derby only to find out that her best friend is going to

dance camp instead. As their friendship is tested, Astrid discovers her own strengths and interests. For fans of Raina Telgemeier's *Smile*.

Maddox, Jake. ***Gymnastic Jitters (series)*** **

Dana and the rest of the Raiders gymnastics team believe that hard work and practice are the way to win, so how will they fare against the Superiors, a team with a reputation for dirty play and cheating?

Shang, Wendy Wan Long. ***The Great Wall of Lucy Wu*** ***

Eleven-year-old aspiring basketball star and interior designer Lucy Wu is excited about finally having her own bedroom, until she learns that her great-aunt is coming to visit. Lucy will have to share a room with her for several months, shattering her plans for a perfect sixth-grade year.

Stabler, David & Horner, Doogie. ***Kid Athletes*** **

When all-star athletes were growing up, they had regular-kid problems just like you. Baseball legend Babe Ruth was such a troublemaker, his family sent him to reform school. Football superstar Peyton Manning was forced to dance the tango in his school play. *Kid Athletes* tells these stories and more with full-color cartoon illustrations on every page.

Tavares, Matt. ***Growing Up Pedro*** *

The life of Red Sox hero Pedro Martinez is explored in this illustrated biography. From a childhood in the Dominican Republic to Fenway Park and the Cy Young Award follow his amazing story.

Way Back When: Historical Fiction

Avi. ***The Secret School*** ***

Ida and her classmates decide to keep their one-room schoolhouse open in secret after it is closed by the school board.

Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker. ***The War That Saved My Life*** ***

Ada and Jamie are living in London during World War II. Nine-year-old Ada has never left her one-room apartment. Her mother is too humiliated by Ada's twisted foot to let her outside. So when her little brother Jamie is shipped out of the city to escape the war, Ada doesn't waste a minute—she sneaks out to join him. So begins a new adventure of Ada, and for Susan Smith, the woman who is forced to take the two kids in.

Bruchac, Joseph. ***Talking Leaves*** **

A story about fathers and sons and the legendary Sequoyah's significant work on the development of the Cherokee language. With an authentic voice, Bruchac weaves in details of Cherokee customs and the Cherokee Nation

Hill, Kirkpatrick. ***The Year of Miss Agnes*** *

Ten-year-old Fred (short for Frederika) narrates this story of school and village life in Alaska during the year that Miss Agnes arrived as the new teacher.

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Hitchcock, Shannon. ***Ruby Lee and Me*** **

When a formerly segregated North Carolina town hires its first African-American teacher in 1969, two girls, one black, one white confront the prejudice that challenges their friendship.

Hoberman, Mary Ann. ***Strawberry Hill*** *

Ten-year-old Allie's family moves from urban New Haven to rural Stamford, Connecticut, in the midst of the Great Depression.

Lai, Thanhha. ***Inside Out & Back Again*** ***

"No one would believe me but at times I would choose wartime in Saigon over peacetime in Alabama." For all the ten years of her life, Ha has only known Saigon: the thrills of its markets, the joy of its traditions, the warmth of her friends close by and the beauty of her very own papaya tree. When the Vietnam War reaches her home, the family flees to America and the transition is difficult. This beautiful novel in verse conveys the pain of the adjustment.

Larson, Kirby. ***Liberty*** **

Set in New Orleans in the 1940's, this is the moving story of a young boy who, with a dad fighting in Europe and a sister working at the Higgins Boat factory, longs to have a dog of his own.

Lowry, Lois. ***Number the Stars*** ***

In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.

MacLachlan, Patricia. ***Sarah, Plain and Tall (series)*** *

When their father invites a mail-order bride to come live with them in their prairie home, Caleb and Anna are captivated by their new mother and hope that she will stay.

Ryan, Pam Munoz. ***Riding Freedom*** **

Disguised as a man her whole life, Charley Parkhurst became an expert horse rider and a legendary stagecoach driver at a time such things were outlawed for women.

Sepahban, Lois. ***Paper Wishes*** ***

It's 1942, after the attack on Pearl Harbor, and Manami and her family are Japanese American, which means that the government says they must leave their home by the sea and join other Japanese Americans at a prison camp in the desert. Manami is sad to go, but even worse is that they are going to have to give her dog, Yujiiin, to a neighbor to take care of. Students who love historical fiction or dog stories will enjoy this book.

Tarshis, Lauren. ***The Shark Attack of 1916 (I Survived series)*** **

Chet Roscow is fascinated by news accounts of the great white shark said to be attacking people along the New Jersey shore not far from his home, but when he goes swimming in Matawan Creek he discovers the truth of the stories.

Williams-Garcia, Rita. ***One Crazy Summer*** ***

Eleven-year-old Delphine and her two younger sisters spend the summer of 1968 in Oakland, California to visit their mother. While the girls hope to go to Disneyland, their mother sends them to a day camp run by the Black Panthers. The girls learn much about their family, their country, and themselves during one truly crazy summer.

Just for Fun: Humor

Angleberger, Tom. ***Strange Case of Origami Yoda*** **

Meet Dwight, a sixth-grade oddball, he does a lot of weird things, like wearing the same T-shirt for a month or telling people to call him "Captain Dwight," but Dwight does one cool thing; he makes origami. One day he makes an origami finger puppet of Yoda and that's when things get mysterious. Origami Yoda can predict the future and suggest the best way to deal with a tricky situation. His advice actually works, and soon most of the sixth grade is lining up with questions.

Atwater, Richard. ***Mr. Popper's Penguins*** **

The unexpected delivery of a large crate containing an Antarctic penguin changes the life and fortunes of Mr. Popper, a house painter obsessed by dreams of the Polar regions.

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

What happens when you are known as the best prankster in your class but then move to a new school? Worse yet, what can you do when you find out your new school already has a well-known prankster? Answer: join forces as The Terrible Two, pull off the ultimate prank together, and become friends along the way. Fans of Diary of a Wimpy Kid will enjoy this book!

Becker, Suzy. ***Kate the Great (series)*** *

Meet 5th-grader Kate Geller, a sassy flute-playing artist, who comes up with an original way to redefine friendship. Kate faces a challenge when her mother asks her to be especially nice to Nora, a classmate and fellow flute player who is sometimes mean.

Cleary, Beverly. ***The Mouse and the Motorcycle (series)*** **

Ralph and Keith enjoy hilarious mouse-and-boy adventures in this series by a beloved author.

Ignatow, Amy. ***The Popularity Papers (series)*** **

Two fifth grade girls are preparing for middle school and they are determined to discover the secrets of popularity. Lydia and Julie pass notebooks back and forth reflect on their adventures through writing and color pictures. Laugh out loud funny.

Lowry, Lois. ***The Willoughbys*** ***

The four Willoughby children set about to become "deserving orphans" after their neglectful parents embark on a treacherous around-the-world adventure, leaving them in the care of an odious nanny.

Entering 4 - 5

Peirce, Lincoln. ***Big Nate (series)*** **

Cartoon and prose combine for a winning combination in all the Big Nate books. Nate hates school and is always having some misadventure or trouble that makes for plenty of laughs.

Pennypacker, Sarah. ***Waylon! One Awesome Thing*** *

Waylon, who you might know from Pennypacker's Clementine books, is a boy with the mind of a scientific genius. But it's impossible for him to concentrate on his inventions when he is trying to understand his older sister and deal with changes among his friends at school.

Spratt, R. A. ***The Adventures of Nanny Piggins (series)*** ***

When Mr. Green, a stingy widower with three children he cannot be bothered with, decides to find a nanny for his children, he winds up hiring a glamorous ex-circus pig who knows nothing about children but a lot about chocolate.

Tashjian, Janet. ***My Life As a Book*** ***

Twelve-year-old Derek spends summer vacation learning important lessons even though he does not complete his summer reading list. Cartoons created by the author's son illustrate the text.

A Way With Words: Poetry

Giovanni, Nikki. ***Hip Hop Speaks to Children: A Celebration of Poetry With a Beat*** *

Compiler Giovanni states "Poetry with a beat. Hip Hop Speaks to Children is a delightful and enlightening collection of poetry from various poets.

Kennedy, Caroline. ***Poems to Learn by Heart*** **

This diverse collection of over 100 poems cover all topics and emotions with beautiful illustrations by Jon Muth. Caroline Kennedy's reflections about the selection of poems enhances the reading.

Levine, Gail Carson. ***Forgive Me, I Meant to Do It: False Apology Poems*** **

Inspired by William Carlos Williams's famous poem, "This Is Just to Say," a collection of apology poems imagines how tricksters really feel about the mischief they make.

Lewis, J. Patrick. ***National Geographic Book of Animal Poetry: 200 Poems with Photographs that Squeak, Soar and Roar!*** **

This book combines photography with lyrical text celebrating the animal world, in a compilation that includes works by such poets as Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost and Rudyard Kipling.

Prelutsky, Jack. ***Pizza, Pigs, and Poetry: How to Write a Poem*** **

Poet Jack Prelutsky starts each chapter of this book with a scene from his own life which inspired a poem. He then shares a poem he created and gives readers tips for writing poems of their own.

Rosen, Michael J. ***The Cuckoo's Haiku: And Other Birding Poems*** *

In sparse and graceful words, poet and birder Michael J. Rosen captures essential characteristics of more than twenty commonly seen North American birds.

Wardlaw, Lee. ***Won-Ton: A Cat Tale Told in Haiku*** *

Won-Ton's story is told in haiku. This title shows that poetry can be fun, free, and immediate, even as it follows traditional structure.

Wissinger, Tamera Will; illustrated by Cordell, Matthew. ***Gone Fishing: A novel in verse*** **

In this novel told through poems, nine-year-old Sam loves fishing with his dad. So when his pesky little sister, Lucy, decides to join their fishing trip, he is not happy. A fun story filled with anticipation, family humor, and sibling rivalry.

Worth, Valerie. ***All the Small Poems and Fourteen More*** *

These small poems celebrate ordinary things. In lines of one or two words, Worth captures the essence of a thing, and with her keen observations, makes us see it sharp and fresh.

Books on Summer Math Calendar

Adler, David. ***Fraction Fun***

A basic introduction to the concept of fractions. This book takes the fear out of math and puts the fun back in.

Miller, Marcia and Martin Lee. ***40 Fabulous Math Mysteries Kids Can't Resist***

Humorous, reproducible math mystery stories will give your math sleuths a chance to have fun while practicing important math problem solving skills.

Neuschwander, Cindy. ***Amanda Bean's Amazing Dream***

Amanda loves to count everything, but not until she has an amazing dream does she finally realize that being able to multiply will help her count things faster.

Pinczes, Elinor. ***A Remainder of One***

When the queen of the bugs demands that her army march in even lines, Private Joe divides the marchers into more and more lines so that he will not be left out of the parade.

Tang, Greg. ***The Best of Times***

Simple rhymes offer hints on how to multiply any number by zero through ten without memorizing the multiplication tables.

Tang, Greg. ***The Grapes of Math***

Illustrated riddles introduce strategies for solving a variety of math problems in using visual clues.

Notes

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