

Reading Makes Me HAPPY!



A. Ward Spaulding Elementary School
Recommended Book Lists
and Reading Activities
Summer 2014

"The more that you read, the more things you will know.
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."
— Dr. Seuss

Here are the top book picks from our classroom teachers and our library media specialist. Remember, students can choose any books for summer reading. We hope you enjoy many of the books on the lists and find other exciting books at the library during the summer. So choose a book and get reading! Remember *reading makes us happy!*

How to Choose a Good Book

1. What makes a good book is your child's reaction to it!
2. Look for books that:
 - * Rhyme
 - * Have predictable stories and repeated phrases
 - * Have colorful illustrations
 - * Extend personal experiences
3. Look at the cover and read the summary on the back of the book. Does it sound interesting?
4. Ask your friends, brothers or sisters if they have read this book or other books by this author. Did they enjoy reading this book or books by this author?
5. Look through the book. Do the illustrations, photographs, and print make you think that you would enjoy reading this book?
6. Open the book to any page. Read it carefully. Can you easily understand and discuss what's going on?



Grade Level Favorites

Preschool Favorites

Bear Snores On -Karma Wilson

Duck On A Bike -David Shannon

Mouse Paint -Ellen Stoll Walsh

The Doorbell Rang -Pat Hutchins

Cock-a-doodle-doo Barnyard Hullabaloo -Giles Andreae

Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed -Eileen Christelow

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? -Bill Martin, Jr.

How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight? -Jane Yolen & Mark Teague

The Little Mouse, The Red Ripe Strawberry, and The Big Hungry Bear
-D. and A. Wood



Kindergarten Favorites

Blueberries for Sal -Robert McCloskey

Swimmy -Leo Lionni

Bedtime for Frances -Russell Hoban

Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile -Bernard Waber

A Pocket for Corduroy -Don Freeman

A House for Hermit Crab -Eric Carle

Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse -Kevin Henkes

Mister Seahorse -Eric Carle

Pancakes for Breakfast -Tomie DePaola

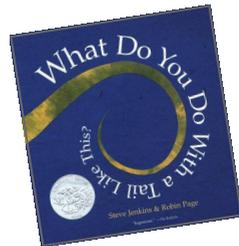
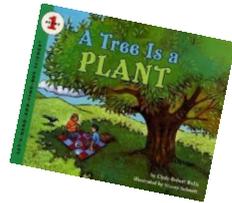
My Five Senses -Aliki

Truck -Donald Crews

A Tree is a Plant -Clyde R. Bulla

Little Bear -Else H. Minarik

What Do you Do With a Tail Like This?-
Steve Jenkins



First Grade Favorites

Knuffle Bunny -Mo Willems

The Giving Tree -Shel Silverstein

The Extrordinary Egg -Leo Leoni

Koala Lou -Mem Fox

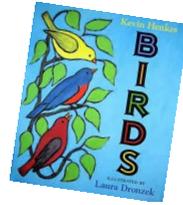
Crysanthemum -Kevin Henkes

Birds -Kevin Henkes

Dear Mr. Blueberry -Simon James

Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon -Patty Lovell

All the Places to Love -Patricia MacLaughlin



Second Grade Favorites

Love You Forever -Robert Munsch

Practically Perfect Pajamas -Erik Brooks

Chester's Way -Kevin Henkes

No Roses for Harry -Gene Zion

Green Eggs and Ham -Dr. Seuss

Benny: An Adventure Story -Bob Graham

The Berenstain Bears and The Spooky Old Tree -

Stan & Jan Berenstain

The Important Book -Margaret Wise Brown

Ants National Geographic Reader Level 1



Third Grade Favorites

Horrid Henry -Francesca Simon

Smarter than Squirrels -Lucy A. Nolan

Bed, Bats, & Beyond -Joan Holub

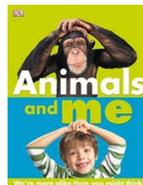
Jake Drake, Class Clown -Andrew Clements

Animals and Me -Marie Greenwood

Maybelle in the Soup -Katie Speck

Strong Man: The Story of Charles Atlas -Meghan McCarthy

Puppy Power -Judy Cox



PreK-First Grade Popular Authors

Tedd Arnold	Pat Hutchins
Frank Asch	Holly Keller
Jan Brett	Steven Kellogg
Marc Brown	Leo Lionni
Eric Carle	Bill Martin
Janell Cannon	Susan Meddaugh
Nancy Carlson	Robert Munsch
Lauren Child	Laura Numeroff
Eileen Christelow	Margie Palatini
Doug Cushman	Peggy Parish
Donald Crews	Anne Rockwell
Doreen Cronin	Cynthia Rylant
Tomie DePaola	Dr. Seuss
Lois Ehlert	David Shannon
Lisa Campbell Ernst	Janet Stevens
Nian Falconer	Nancy Tafuri
Denise Fleming	Mark Teague
Mem Fox	Bernard Waber
Don Freeman	Nancy Wallace
Mother Goose	Rosemary Wells
Kevin Henkes	Mo Willems
Mary Ann Hoberman	Jane Yolen
Syd Hoff	Harriet Ziefert

Pre-K-First Grade Popular Series by title and author

Amelia Bedelia—Peggy Parish

Arthur—Lillian Hoban

Arthur—Marc Brown

Bad Kitty—Nick Bruel

Biscuit—Alyssa Capucilli

Buzz Beaker—Cari Meister

Clifford—Norman Bridwell

Cork and Fuzz—Dori Chacona

Curious George—H.A. Rey

Digby and Kate—Barbara Baker

Fancy Nancy—Jane O'Connor

Frog and Toad—Arnold Lobel

I Spy—Walter Wick

Little Bear—Else Minarik

Olivia—Ian Falconer

Pigeon—Mo Willems

Poppleton—Cynthia Rylant

Rainbow Magic—Daisy Meadow

The Tiara Club—Vivian French

Tiny—Cari Meister

Frogs and Friends—Eve Bunting

Tuggs and Teeny—J. Patrick Lewis

Where's Waldo? - Martin Handford

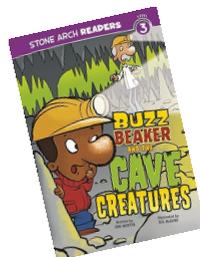
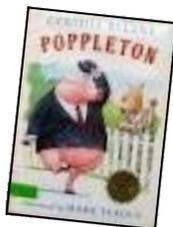
Mr. Putter and Tabby—Cynthia Rylant

Minerva Louise—Janet Morgan Stoeke

Miss Bindergarten—Joseph Slate

Minnie and Moo—Denys Cazet

Short Tales: Furlock and Muttson Mysteries—Robin Koontz



Second and Third Grade Popular Series by title and author

- Absolutely Lucy*—Ilene Cooper
- Amber Brown*—Paula Danziger
- Bailey School Kids*—Jones and Dadey
- Bones*—David Adler
- Boxcar Children*—Gertrude C. Warner
- Capital Mysteries*—Ron Roy
- Clementine*—Sara Pennypacker
- Fairy Realm*—Emily Rodda
- Flat Stanley*—Jeff Brown
- Gooney Bird Greene*—Lois Lowry
- Henry and Mudge*—Cynthia Rylant
- Horrible Harry*—Suzy Kline
- Humphrey*—Betty Birney
- Ivy and Bean*—Annie Barrows
- Jigsaw Jones*—James Preller
- Junie B. Jones*—Barbara Park
- Katie Kazoo*—Nancy Krulik
- Little House on the Prairie*—Laura Ingalls Wilder
- Magic Tree House*—Mary Pope Osborne
- Mr. Putter and Tabby*—Cynthia Rylant
- Moxy Maxwell*—Peggy Gifford
- Park Pals*—Johanna Hurwitz
- Puppy Place*—Ellen Miles
- Ricky Ricotta*—Dav Pilkey
- Sister Magic*—Anne Mazer
- Milo and Jazz*—Lewis B. Montgomery
- Time Warp Trio*—Jon Scieszka
- A to Z Mysteries*—Ron Roy
- Andy Shane*—Jennifer Jacobson
- Ballpark Mysteries*—David A Kelly
- Buddy Files*—Dori Hillestad Butler
- Cam Jansen*—David Adler
- Charlie and Lola*—Lauren Child
- Dinosaur Cove*—Rex Stone
- First Kids Mysteries*—M. Freeman
- Kickers*—Rich Wallace
- Gus and Grandpa*—C. Mills
- Hiro's Quest*—Tracey West
- Houndsley and Catina*—J. Howe
- Iris and Walter*—Elissa Guest
- Jenny Archer*—Ellen Conford
- Judy Moody*—Megan McDonald
- Just Grace*—Charise Harper
- Kitty Korner*—Ellen Miles
- The Littles*—John Peterson
- Max and Zoe*—Shelly S. Sateren
- Mercy Watson*—Kate DiCamillo
- Nate the Great*—Marjorie Sharmat
- Pinky and Rex*—James Howe
- Rainbow Magic*—Daisy Meadows
- Secrets of Droon*—Tony Abbott
- Skippyjon Jones*—Judith Schachner
- Sly The Sleuth*—Donna Jo Napoli
- The Zack Files*—Dan Greenburg

Mrs. Heffernan's Picks for Reading and Listening

Pre K—Grade 1

20 Big Trucks in the Middle of the Street by Mark Lee

Count the trucks getting stuck in a traffic jam in this rhythmic read-aloud sure to draw in kids who love everything on wheels.

The Bear's Song by Benjamin Chaud

Papa Bear wakes up to find his son missing, and his search leads him to an opera house and a command performance.

Buddy and the Bunnies in Don't Play with your Food! by Bob Shea

A monster named Buddy is determined to eat some cute little bunnies, until they prove to be more enjoyable as playmates.

The Day the Crayons Quit by Drew Daywalt

When Duncan arrives at school one morning, he finds a stack of letters, one from each of his crayons, complaining about how he uses them.

Digger Dog by William Bee

Digger Dog loves to dig up bones, the bigger the better. But for the biggest bone in the world, what will Digger Dog need? The biggest digger in the world, of course! All through the story, the diggers get bigger, the hole gets deeper, and there is a fantastic fold-out surprise at the end!

Duck, Duck, Moose! by Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen,

Duck and Duck busily prepare for a party, while their housemate, Moose, only gets in the way.

Eat Like a Bear by April Pulley Sayre

Follows a bear from the time she emerges from her den in April after four months without food, through months of eating fish, ants, and huckleberries, to midwinter when the arrival of two cubs interrupts her long winter's rest. Includes facts about brown (grizzly) bears of the Yellowstone National Park/Glacier National Park region.

Everyone Can Learn to Ride a Bicycle by Christopher Raschka

A father teaches his daughter all about bicycle riding, from selecting the right bike to trying again after a fall.

Extraordinary Jane by Hannah E. Harrison

Jane the dog doesn't have a unique talent in the circus like the rest of her family, until the ringmaster discovers what is truly special about her.



Firefly July: A Year of Very Short Poems

An illustrated collection of classic short poems by Emily Dickinson, Langston Hughes, Charlotte Zolotow, and others.

Henny by Elizabeth Rose Stanton

Henny, a chick with arms, discovers the benefits of being different.

How to be a Cat by Nikki McClure

Cut-paper illustrations and single words of text show a kitten's attempts to imitate an adult cat's mastery of such skills as stretching and stalking.

How to Hide a Lion by Helen Stephens

Iris understands that grown-ups are afraid of lions, but when she finds one in her playhouse she knows he is kind so she keeps him hidden from her parents for as long as possible.

In New York by Marc Tolon Brown

Takes readers on a tour of New York City.

In the Wild by David Elliott

A woodcut-illustrated collection of poems that celebrates wild animals.

The Little Mermaid: A Pop-Up Adaptation of the Classic Fairy Tale

by Robert Sabuda

A retelling of the classic story about the little mermaid who trades her legs and her voice for a chance at a soul and a life with the prince she has fallen in love with.

Mr. Wuffles! by David Wiesner

Mr. Wuffles ignores all his cat toys but one, which turns out to be a spaceship piloted by small green aliens. When Mr. Wuffles plays rough with the little ship, the aliens must venture into the cat's territory to make emergency repairs.

My Bus by Byron Barton

One bus, plus one bus driver, plus ten bus riders, and lots of bus stops equal a busy day of driving, riding, flying, and sailing for everyone.

Sophie's Squash by Pat Zietlow Miller

On a trip to the farmers' market with her parents, Sophie chooses a squash, but instead of letting her mom cook it, she befriends it and names it Bernice.

The Sunhat by Ward, Jennifer Ward

Rosa has a wonderful hat that fits her just right, but when the wind blows it away the hat shelters a wide variety of desert creatures from a storm.



Tippy-Tippy-Tippy, Splash! / (The Continuing Story of "Muncha! Muncha! Muncha!") illustrated by **G. Brian Karas** by Candace Fleming
Surfs up for a bunch of mischievous bunnies and one frazzled farmer in this beach-time read-aloud adventure.

Train by Elisha Cooper

Board a commuter train in New York, then follow the journey west and see the stations, the scenery, the different types of trains, and all the people who travel and work on the railroad system.

Water in the Park: A Book about Water & the Times of the Day

by Emily Jenkins

Relates how the water in a park is used in different ways throughout the day by the human and animal inhabitants of a neighborhood.

What's your Favorite Animal? by Eric Carle

Fourteen children's book authors and artists use illustrations and personal stories to share details about their favorite animals.

Grades 2-3

The Adventures of a South Pole Pig by Chris Kurtz

Flora the pig ditches the sedentary life on the farm for an adventure in Antarctica, where she escapes the knife and lives her dream of pulling a sled with a team of dogs.

The Animal Book: A Collection of the Fastest, Fiercest, Toughest, Cleverest, Shyest--and Most Surprising--Animals on Earth

by Steve Jenkins

Contains illustrations of and facts about three-hundred animals.

Bad Kitty Drawn to Trouble by Nick Bruel

Author/illustrator Nick Bruel tries to explain to the reader how to write a story, but Bad Kitty is not at all happy about the plot, which has her going on a turnip diet to lose weight. Includes a recipe for roasted turnips.

Beneath the Sun by Melissa Stewart

Explores how wild animals survive the heat.

Journey from your neighborhood to a field where an earthworm loops its long body into a ball underground, to a desert where a jackrabbit loses heat through its oversized ears, to a wetland where a siren salamander burrows into the mud to stay cool, and to a seashore where a sea star hides in the shade of a seaweed mat.

Bluffton: My Summers with Buster by Matt Phelan

The year is 1908 and a troupe of vaudeville performers has arrived in sleepy Muskegon, Michigan, to spend the summer. Young Henry Harrison is fascinated with the animals and performers, but mostly with a slapstick performer his own age named Buster Keaton, who is also a master prankster and loves to play baseball.

Eye to Eye-How Animals See the World by Steve Jenkins

In his latest eye-popping work of picture book nonfiction, the Caldecott Honor-winning author-illustrator Steve Jenkins explains how for most animals, eyes are the most important source of information about the world in a biological sense.

Following Papa's Song by Gianna Marino

As two whales swim together through the big ocean, Little Blue has many questions for Papa, especially ones about the long migration.

Flora & Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures by Kate DiCamillo

A girl named Flora and a squirrel named Ulysses, whose life was saved by Flora after he was involved in an incident with a vacuum cleaner, team up to use Ulysses' superpowers to conquer villains and protect the weak.

Fortunately, the Milk by Neil Gaiman

While picking up milk for his children's cereal, a father is abducted by aliens and finds himself on a wild adventure through time and space.

Going Places by Peter H Reynolds

Rafael has looked forward to the Going Places contest and builds his go-cart from a kit in record time, but his neighbor, Maya, has a much more interesting and creative idea for her entry and Rafael decides to help.

The Great Art Treasure Hunt: I Spy Red, Yellow, and Blue

by Doris Kutschbach

A collection of classic paintings with search-and-find picture puzzles.

A Home for Mr. Emerson by Barbara Kerley

A biography of American author Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Journey by Aaron Becker

A young girl, having escaped from her loneliness through a door she drew on her bedroom wall, is captured by an evil emperor and must find a way to escape.

Locomotive by Brian Floca

Details what the first passengers experienced as they traveled West on the transcontinental railroad in the summer of 1869.

2014 Caldecott Award Winner

Mrs. Noodlekugel and Four Blind Mice by Daniel Manus Pinkwater
When Mrs. Noodlekugel's four mice make a terrible mess with cookie crumbs at tea, she decides to take them on the bus to visit the eye doctor and invites Nick and Maxine to come along.

Mysterious Patterns: Finding Fractals in Nature

by Sarah C Campbell

A photographic introduction to shapes and fractal patterns in nature.

The Mystery of Meerkat Hill : A Precious Ramotswe Mystery for Young Readers by Alexander McCall Smith

Eight-year-old Precious Ramotswe becomes friends with siblings Teb and Pontsho and their pet meerkat, Kosi, and when her new friends' cow goes missing, she decides to help out by finding it.

No Dogs Allowed by Stephanie Calmenson

Best friends and dog lovers Kate and Lucie live in apartments where dogs are not allowed, but a pair of unusual necklaces they find in a thrift store allow them to become dogs whenever they wish.

Parrots Over Puerto Rico by Susan L Roth

A combined history of the Puerto Rican parrot and the island of Puerto Rico, highlighting current efforts to save the Puerto Rican parrot by protecting and managing this endangered species.

Superworm by Julia Donaldson

Superworm's bug friends attempt to free him from the clutches of Wizard Lizard who, having heard of Superworm's wondrous and heroic deeds, captures him and forces him to dig for treasure.

The Two and Only Kelly Twins by Johanna Hurwitz

Identical twin sisters Arlene and Ilene Kelly love being a pair, but when one sister gets sick and must go to the hospital they find out what it is like to be apart.

Weasels by Elys Dolan

A group of weasels plot to take over the world in their secret lab.

White Fur Flying by Patricia MacLachlan

A sad and silent nine-year-old boy finds his voice when he moves next to a family that rescues dogs.



Share the books you read this summer with a grownup! Choose at least **one** task to complete from the choices below!

Students entering first and second grade

Who is the main character?

What happened in the book?



Where did the book take place?

What was the lesson you learned from your book?

Make a list of new words you found while reading—ask an adult to explain the meaning of each word.

Read one book that gives you information and read one book that tells you a story. Explain how the books were the same and how they were different.



Read your story to a grownup. Use different voices to show when different characters are talking!

Choose your favorite picture from a book. Describe it to an adult. What does the picture tell you about the story?

Who was your favorite character out of all of the books you read this summer? Describe them or draw a picture.



Students entering third grade

Have a conversation about the books you read with a grownup! Choose one box to complete!



Who is the main character?

What happened in the book?

Where did the book take place?

Were there any problems in the story?

Be sure to use lots of details from the text when sharing your answers!!!



What was the lesson you learned from your book? Share the key details you learned!

Describe your favorite character out of all of the books you read this summer. What did they do in the story?

Make a list of new words you found while reading—put a check mark next to a word you found more than once—write down the meaning of words that received a check mark. You can ask an adult, consult a dictionary, or use a different tool to find the meaning of the words.

Give one of the characters in your story a voice. Write a journal from the point of view of one of your characters that shares the events in the story. Be sure to use first person.

First person: I just ate breakfast.

Third person: Amelia Bedelia just ate breakfast.



Read a fiction or non-fiction chapter book. Explain what chapter was your favorite and why. Be sure to share where the chapter fits into the text!

Watch an online video about a topic you read about.

Watch the video with a grownup and share with the grownup what new information you learned from watching the video about the topic of your book.



Here are some good videos about animals:

<http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/kids/>

Here are some good videos about sports and current events:

<http://www.timeforkids.com/photos-video>

You can also check out the online databases available through our school library!

This summer your child should:

- * Log the books they read at home on our school's Summer Reading Log.
- * At the start of the 2014-2015 school year your child will return their Summer Reading Log to their new teacher.
- * They will bring a favorite summer book to school by September 5, 2014.
- * Your child will be asked to participate in a classroom book discussion to share summer reading with new classmates.
- * This experience will provide your child with the opportunity to get to know new classmates and start the year off with meaningful literacy conversations.

All students who return their log and share their favorite book will earn a special reward!



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For online resources visit
<http://destiny.suffield.org>
