

READING IDEAS FOR STUDENTS WHO HAVE FINISHED 2ND AND 3RD GRADE

List compiled by Mrs. Sue Philhower LMS Oak Street School



Hey kids, check out the books by these awesome authors:

FICTION

Tony Abbott Tony is the author of the very popular **Secrets of Droon** fantasy series. (2)

David Adler You know about the **Cam Jansen mysteries** (2 and 3), but have you tried reading the **Andy Russell series** by Adler? Start this 6 book series with **The Many Troubles of Andy Russell**. (3)

Mary Jane Auch Read the humorous books in this series -**I was a Third Grade Science Project; Third Grade Spy; and I was a Third Grade Bodyguard!** (3)

Ben Baglio Join the crew of the Animal Ark Veterinary Clinic as they care for all kinds of interesting animals in the **Animal Ark** or **Animal Ark Pets** series. (3)

Lynne Reid Banks **Harry the Poisonous Centipede** and his fearless friend George climb up the drain pipe to the land of the Hoo-mins (humans) and George gets captured! Continue their exciting and daring adventures by reading **Harry the Poisonous Centipede's Big Adventure**, and **Harry the Poisonous Centipede Goes to Sea!** (3)

Annie Barrows Join two unlikely friends, **Ivy and Bean**, in five humorous novels starting with **Ivy and Bean; Ivy and Bean and the Ghost That Had to Go; and Ivy and Bean Break the Fossil Record**. (2)

Jim Benton **Franny K. Stein** is not your average girl – she's a mad scientist! This series is hilarious...(2) Also enjoy the **Dear Dumb Diary** series (3).

Betty Birney Humphrey the hamster, the class pet of Room 26, tells the story of his classroom adventures and his weekend visits home with various students! Start with **The World According to Humphrey**, then continue with **Friendship According to Humphrey**. There are more books in this enjoyable series too! (3)

Judy Blume **The Pain and the Great One series** captures the spunky sibling rivalry between an older sister (Abigail – 8) and her younger brother (Jake – 6)! Enjoy the crazy antics starting with **Soupy Saturdays with the Pain and the Great One** and **Cool Zone with the Pain and the Great One** to get started. Two more books round out the series. (2 and 3)

Pat Brisson Pat's early chapter books are a hit with kids – try **Bertie's Picture Day, Hot Fudge Hero, and Little Sister, Big Sister**. (2)

Jeff Brown Continue Flat Stanley's adventures with these chapter books – **Stanley in Space; Stanley, Flat Again; Invisible Stanley; Stanley and the Magic Lamp**. Now Stanley is going on **Worldwide Adventures** – enjoy **The Mount Rushmore Calamity** and **The Great Egyptian Grave Robbery!** (2)

Ann Cameron Meet Julian and his little brother Huey who tell many tales about their lives and troubles. How about the story about when Julian and Huey ate the lemon pudding that their father made especially for their mother! Oh no! Cameron has written many books about Julian's loving family and his best friend Gloria – begin with **The Stories Julian Tells; More Stories that Julian Tells** and read all the way to **Gloria Rising!** (2 and 3)

Beverly Cleary You can't pass up these oldies but goodies – try the **Henry Huggins** or **Ramona** series. (3)

Andrew Clements Read about Jake in the **Jake Drake** series. (2) Clements is wildly popular with the older students for his books such as **Frindle, The School Story, The Janitor's Boy, A Week in the Woods, The Report Card, Lunch Money**. Look for his newest book this summer: **Extra Credit**. (3)

Bruce Coville Want some humor, adventure, and fantasy? Try the **Moongobble and Me** series. Nothing much happens in the town of Pigbone until a magician named Moongobble and his talking toad move into the abandoned cottage on the hill and Edward becomes Moongobble's assistant! Read **The Dragon of Doom; The Weeping Werewolf; The Evil Elves; and The Mischief Monster**. (2)

Mark Crilley Blast into an action packed space adventure with Akiko, the earthling hero, and her sidekicks Gax, Mr. Beeba, Spuckler, Poog, and more alien creatures! These escapades begin with **Akiko on the Planet Smoo!** (3)

Alice Dalgliesh Go back in history as you read **The Courage of Sarah Noble** and **Bears on Hemlock Mountain**. Both books won the Newbery Honor Medal! (2)

Paula Danziger The **Amber Brown series** have been a favorite for years. Funny adventures of spunky Amber Brown and her best friend Justin keep kids hooked through the many books in this series. (3)

Roald Dahl Now that you have enjoyed many of Dahl's books in your class, try some more great reads! Challenge yourself to read **The BFG; Charlie and the Chocolate Factory; Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator; Matilda, James and the Giant Peach**, etc. (3)

Kate DiCamillo – Have you met Mercy Watson? These enjoyable books- **Mercy Watson to the Rescue** and **Mercy Watson goes for a Ride** - will tickle your funny bone! (2) The **Tale of Despereaux** (Newbery winner) and **The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane** are awesome! (3)

Michael Delaney Meet Amos, a hippopotamus that hires a tickbird to eat those pesky insects off of his body. So, Amoeba, the tickbird, makes herself at home! All of a sudden Amos has a bird's nest sitting on his head and the eggs are about to hatch! What's a hippo to do? Enjoy **Birdbrain Amos** and **Birdbrain Amos: Mr. Fun**. (2 and 3)

Frances O'Roark Dowell Science genius Phineas L. MacGuire (aka Mac) is featured in 2 books so far – **Phineas L. MacGuire...Erupts** (about an explosive science experiment) and **Phineas L. MacGuire Gets Slimed** (it's all about mold!) (3)

Betsy Duffey The hilarious books about Cody are a must-read – **Virtual Cody, Spotlight on Cody, Cody Unplugged**, and **Cody's Secret Admirer**. (2 and 3)

Anne Fine **Notso Hotso** is about Anthony the dog whose life at this moment is "notso hotso"! Then enjoy **The Diary of a Killer Cat** and **Return of the Killer Cat** (about the silly antics of Tiffy and his family). Fine also wrote the heartwarming stories titled **The Jamie and Angus Stories** and **Jamie and Angus Together Again**. (2)

Cornelia Funke **Ghosthunters series** – Nine-year old Tom learns how to be a ghost hunter from his grandmother's best friend and comes face to face with many interesting characters! Begin the series with **Ghosthunters and the Incredibly Revolting Ghost**. (3)

Ruth Stiles Gannett Elmer Elevator makes a trek to Wild Island where he meets and rescues a dragon in **My Father's Dragon**. Two other titles round out this terrific trilogy- **Elmer and the Dragon** and **The Dragons of Blueland**. (2 and 3)

Dan Greenburg Try to hilarious **Zack Files** series! Dan also writes the **Weird Planet** series – it's out of this world! (2 and 3)

J. C. Greenburg Wife of Dan Greenburg, she writes a great series called **Andrew Lost**, which combines exciting adventures with her scientific knowledge that makes for some great books! Begin with **Andrew Lost: On the Dog**. (2 and 3)

Stephanie Greene The **Owen Foote series** follows the interesting adventures of Owen Foote and his best friend Joseph. (2 and 3)

Dan Gutman **Weird School** (2) is filled with many wacky teachers and then **My Weird School Daze** continues the adventures into 3rd grade; and the "**Million Dollar**" books are a read hit with kids (3). Baseball fans will love the "trading card" adventures like **Babe and Me, Mickey and Me, Shoeless Joe and Me**, and the new installment – **Ray and Me**. (3).

Bruce Hale The **Chet Gecko** mystery series are a popular hit with kids. (3)

James Howe This versatile author has many options for his readers – try the easy reader series **Pinky and Rex** (2), the **Tales from the House of Bunnacula** (2 and 3) or the **Bunnacula** series. (3)

Elizabeth Singer Hunt Meet Jack Stalwart, code name: COURAGE. Jack is an ordinary kid who becomes a secret agent by night. Enjoy the **Secret Agent Jack Stalwart series** – **Destination: US; Destination: AUSTRALIA; Destination: FRANCE;** and **Destination: ENGLAND**. (3)

Johanna Hurwitz Enjoy the **Riverside Kids** series by reading such books as **Russell Sprouts**, **Rip Roaring Russell**. (2) Hurwitz has another great series about the Edison-Armstrong School with books such as **Class Clown**, **Teacher's Pet**, and **Class President**. Also try the **Pee Wee Tales**. (3)

Marcia T. Jones and Debbie Dadey OOOOOOH! Are you brave enough to enter the basement of Sleepy Hollow Elementary School – it's haunted!!! Join the adventures in the **Ghostville Elementary** series. Enjoy **Ghost Class**; **Ghost Game**; and **New Ghoul in School**. (2 and 3)

Brain James Arrrr! Welcome to **Pirate School** where Pete and his friends live aboard a ship named the "Sea Rat" and hope to become real pirates! Sail into this series by starting with **The Curse of Snake Island**. (2)

Jessica Scott Kerrin **Martin Bridge** books – another character who gets into lots of trouble. (2 and 3)

Dick King-Smith Dick writes whimsical animal fantasies like **Sophie's Snail**, **The School Mouse**, **Funny Frank**, **A Mouse Called Wolf**, **Harriet's Hare**, **Mr. Potter's Pet**, **Lady Lollipop**, **Clever Lollipop**, and many, many more! (3)

Abby Klein Look out! Don't miss the adventures of Freddy Thresher in the irresistible **Ready, Freddy** series. (2)

Suzy Kline Kline offers a variety of popular series such as **Horrible Harry**, **Song Lee**, (2) and **Herbie Jones**, and **Orp**. (3)

Nancy Krulik The **Katie Kazoo**, **Switcheroo** (3) series offers lots of fun when Katie wishes she were someone else. Now, she just turns into other people when she least expects it, and usually saves the day.

Mary Labatt Want funny, fast paced mysteries? Then try the **Sam the (Dog) Detective** series! (3)

Elizabeth Levy Try the **Invisible Inc.** mystery series where Chip, an invisible boy, and his friends solve various mysterious happenings. (2)

Loren Long and Phil Bildner **The Barnstormers** baseball series is about 3 kids, a mystery, and a magic baseball. Begin this series with **Game 1**, **Game 2**, and **Game 3**. Baseball fans will enjoy the baseball info found on the side of the pages. (3)

Lois Lowry Meet Gooney Bird Greene in these wonderful books about this eccentric second grader- **Gooney Bird Greene**; **Gooney Bird and the Room Mother**; **Gooney the Fabulous**; and **Gooney Bird is So Absurd**. (2 and 3)

Megan MacDonald Judy Moody and her little brother Stink appears in the **Judy Moody** series and **Stink** even has a series of his own. (2 and 3)

Simon Mason Enjoy **The Quigleys** – about an ordinary family, in an ordinary city, in an ordinary house...NOT! Also enjoy **The Quigleys at Large** and **The Quigleys, Not for Sale!** (3)

Colleen O'Shaughnessy McKenna These school-themed books are so enjoyable – try **Good Grief, Third Grade**; **Doggone, Third Grade**; and **Third Grade Stinks**. (2 and 3)

Kate McMullan Enjoy **The Dragon Slayer's Academy** as Wiglaf ventures off to become a dragon slayer, but he can't stand the sight of blood! (2)

Marissa Moss The **Amelia notebooks** are so cool...maybe start your own summer notebook with writing and pictures about your summer adventures? Enjoy **Amelia's Notebook**; **Amelia Writes Again**; **Amelia Hits the Road**, etc! There are many, many cool Amelia escapades to enjoy! (2 and 3)

Lisa Mullarkey The **Katharine the Almost Great** series by former school librarian Mrs. Mullarkey will capture your heart! Read **Katharine the Almost Great: Uses Her Common Cents**; **Major Mama Drama**; and **The Biggest Star by Far** to name a few in this 6 book series. (2 and 3)

My America Series A prelude to the Dear America series for older grades, "**My America**" is historical fiction written in a diary format by award winning authors. (2) More of a challenge – try the **My Name is America** diaries (for boys) and the **Dear America** diaries (for girls). (3)

Charles Odgen Twins **Edgar and Ellen** live alone, their parents are on an extended around-the-world vacation! The twins live in a grim house in Nod's Limbs overlooking a cemetery and they spend their time making the townspeople's lives miserable! Read about their antics in this series that begins with **Rare Beasts**, **Tourist Trap**, and **Under Town**. Enjoy the new Edgar and Ellen series called **Nodysey**. (3)

Sara Pennypacker Meet Clementine, the spunky girl who's ready to tackle third grade in **Clementine; The Talented Clementine**, and **Clementine's Letter**. Also enjoy a different series by Sara – **Stuart's Cape** and **Stuart Goes to School**. (2 and 3)

PJ Peterson PJ is the author of the **Dan** series – **I Hate Company**, **I Hate Camping**, and **I Hate Weddings**. (2 + 3)

Daniel and Jill Pinkwater **The Werewolf Club** books are cute – being in this club has never been so much fun! Just ask Ralf Alfa, Billy Furball, Lucy Fang, and Norman Gnormal. Also read the **Fat Camp Commando** series by Daniel Pinkwater. (2) Pinkwater also wrote **The Hoboken Chicken Emergency**, **Looking for Bobowicz**, and **The Artsy Smartsy Club**. (3)

James Prellar Mystery fans will enjoy the **Jigsaw Jones** mystery series! (2)

Emily Rodda **Fairy Realm** series and **Rowan of Rin** – fairies and fantasy, a great combination! (3)

Ron Roy You know him as the author of the **A – Z Mysteries**, but **The Capital Mysteries** are another top-notch series featuring kids sleuths KC and Marshall who solve mysteries in our nation's capital. Start with **#1 Who Cloned the President?** (2)

Cynthia Rylant Join the **Cobble Street Cousins** – Lily, Rosie, and Tess! Join them in their adventures together starting with **In Aunt Lucy's Kitchen** and **A Little Shopping**. (2 and 3)

Louis Sachar Marvin Redpost finds trouble everywhere in the popular **Marvin Redpost** series. Of course, readers can't miss the hilarious **Wayside School** stories! (2 and 3)

Angie Sage **The Araminta Spookie series** is a real scream...Araminta lives with her Aunt Tabby and Uncle Drac (who sleeps upside down!) in a haunted house while her parents are hunting vampires in Transylvania. Meet creepy character and spooky beings starting with **The Haunted House; The Sword in the Grotto; Frognapped: Vampire Brat; and Ghostsitters**. (2 and 3)

Jon Scieszka Jon is well known for his wacky picture books like **The Stinky Cheese Man**, **The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs**, and **Squids Will Be Squids**, but kids also love his **Time Warp Trio** series with tales such as **Knights of the Kitchen Table**, **Tut Tut**, and **See You Later, Gladiator**. (3)

Paul Stewart and Chris Riddell **The Far Flung Adventures** take you on amazing journeys as you begin with **Fergus Crane**, and then continue with **Hugo Pepper**, and **Corby Flood**. (3)

Geronimo Stilton The hot **Geronimo Stilton series** has 25 books to keep kids reading through the summer! These are library favorites! (2 and 3)

Wendelin Van Draanen Meet Nolan Byrd, a puny math whiz, who has a superhero deep inside of him! Look out, it's **Shredderman!** (3) Also enjoy Van Draanen's new superhero series – **The Gecko and Sticky**. (3)

Bill Wallace Bill's hilarious animal fantasies such as **Snot Stew**, **Totally Disgusting**, and **The Backward Bird Dog** will hook readers! (3)

Gloria Whelan Go back into history with such books as **The Indian School; Next Spring, An Oriole; Night of the Full Moon; Shadow of the Wolf**; and **Listening for Lions**. (2 and 3)

Ian Whybrow The **Little Wolf** series is a gem! (2 and 3)

Laura Ingalls Wilder These classic stories depict pioneer life wonderfully and shouldn't be missed. Start this nine book series with **Little House in the Big Woods**. Cuddle up and read this as a family! And then follow Laura's life through when she gets married and has her daughter Rose. (3) For the younger set, try the easier **Little House Chapter books**. (2)

Gina Willner-Pardo Meet Joseph Wolfgang Storch, he's known as **Spider Storch** to his friends. Third grader Spider is always in some dilemma so enjoy **Spider Storch's Teacher Torture** and **Spider Storch's Music Mess** to start. There are a number of funny installments. Every teacher has a Spider Storch in their class, for sure! (2 and 3)

NON-FICTION

Jim Arnosky Naturalist, author, and illustrator shares his up close and personal experience with nature in his terrific non-fiction books. Try **Beachcombing; Watching Waterbirds; Wild Tracks; Arnosky's Ark; All about Alligators; All About Sharks**, just to name a few. (3)

Gail Gibbons Gail has written **tons** of wonderful non-fiction titles for this age level! Try her books such as **Dinosaur Discoveries; Spiders; Knight in Shining Armor; Owls; Grizzly Bears; Soaring with the Wind: The Bald Eagle; Giant Pandas; The Vegetables We Eat; etc.** (2 and 3)

Jerry Pallotta Jerry has written many alphabet non-fiction books such as **The Navy Alphabet Book; The Dinosaur Alphabet Book; The Icky Bug Alphabet Book; and The Skull Alphabet Book.** Jerry also has written some (yummy) math books such as **Apple Fractions; The Hershey's Milk Chocolate Multiplying Book; and Twizzlers Shapes and Patterns.** (2 and 3)

Time For Kids (Level 3) Science Scoops series for young kids with easier text and awesome pictures! (2)

BIOGRAPHY

David Adler David's picture book biographies for young children offer a wonderful peek into the lives of famous people! Some of his biographies are about **Florence Nightingale, Lewis and Clark, Davy Crockett, Thomas Edison, Louis Braille, Sacagawea, and Helen Keller.** (2)

History Maker Biographies There is a large series of very appealing biographies for middle elementary kids! (3)

Time For Kids Biographies Another awesome biography series! (2 and 3)

FAIRY TALES

Both 2nd and 3rd graders enjoyed a fairy tale unit this year. Continue that interest by visiting **398.2**...and you'll be reading happily ever after!

POETRY

The Bernards Township Library has a large **poetry section**. Check out call number **811** and you'll have some poetry fun! (Hey, that rhymes!)

Parents –

These are just some suggested authors and series that kids love. There are so many more - the helpful staff in the Bernards Township Library Children's Room would be happy to further assist you!

This summer spend time browsing in the library with your child. Encourage your child to join the summer reading program- **Be Creative @ Your Library**. Have your child sign up for their very own library card!

Take time to enjoy reading together. You know, your kids are not too old to be read aloud to! Reading together makes for great family memories and can "hook" your children into a lifelong love of reading.

Going on vacation? Have you listened to **audio books**? What a great way to travel together! Have a great summer!