

Reading suggestions for students who have completed kindergarten and first grade:

Not only is summer reading an entertaining activity for kids and their families, but also it is a bridge from one school year to the next. Summer reading should be fun, not a “skill and drill” experience, so your kids should have lots of free choice when it comes to selecting books.

This list is intended as a starting point for your reading adventures. The children’s room staff at the public library can point out interesting titles for your child.

2009 Picture Book List compiled by Mrs. Rose, Cedar Hill School Library

Arnold, Tedd *Hurrah for Fly Guy!* zooms into the series *Fly Guy* which is a sure pleaser for beginning readers.

Bishop, Nic *Nic Bishop Frogs* Outstanding pictures of frogs in their habitat by a master photographer Combine with other fiction frog picture books like the Froggie series by London.

Bruel, Nick *Poor Puppy*, uproarious sequel to the *Bad Kitty* series, does double duty as an alphabet and counting book plus an introduction to alliteration.

Carlson, Nancy Enjoy stories about some of the most beloved animal characters in picture books: Harriet, George, and Louanne. The latest ones are *First Grade, Here I come!* and *Harriet’s Recital*.

DiCamillo, Kate *Louise: the Adventures of a Chicken* Barnyard hen Louise longs for adventure. Leaving home, she's captured by pirates, chased by a lion, and kidnapped at a bazaar. Beginning readers will enjoy DiCamillo's *Mercy Watson* series.

Elya, Susan Middleton With text mainly in English with some Spanish words incorporated into the English rhyme, *Tooth on the Loose* describes a little girl whose Tooth Fairy money will be spent on her Dad's birthday present. Her other stories that teach Spanish vocabulary are: *Bebe Goes Shopping, Oh No, Gotto Go!, F is for Fiesta*, and *Eight Animals* series.

Florian, Douglas *Comets, Stars, the Moon, and Mars* is a collection 20 poems which look at astronomy through the magnifying, clarifying lens of poetry. Don't miss his other poetry books with extraordinary art in the 811 section.

Frazer, Marla *A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever*, 2009 Caldecott Honor book, is a boisterous boy's story of a vacation with grandparents.

Freyman, Saxton *Knock, Knock!* Illustrated by Freyman and others, can be found in the joke and riddle section (818) and fosters your child's beginning sense of humor. Also, enjoy his art work and humor in *Food for Thought, How Are You Peeling?, Fast Food*, and *Dr. Pompo's Nose*.

Grey, Mini *Traction Man Meets Turbodog* In this sequel to *Traction Man Is Here*, Traction Man braves the evil bin things in order to save Scrubbing Brush, who had been thrown away by the little boy's father.

Henkes, Kevin In *Old Bear*, hibernation brings dreams of being a cub and of the changing seasons . Try his other engaging books to meet many adorable mouse characters .

Holabird, Katharine *Angelina, Star of the Show* pirouettes the *Angelina Ballerina* series to center stage.

Jenkins, Steve His *Sisters & Brothers : Sibling Relationships in the Animal World* uses cut paper collage and sibling relationships to provide the context for a presentation of some fascinating animal facts . Explore his bestiaries: *Actual Size*, *Prehistoric Actual Size*, and *Almost Gone*.

Lunde, Darrin *Hello, Bumblebee Bat* Colorful illustrations and simple text describe characteristics, habitat, and habits of this bat species. Match this with the following fiction picture books, *Stellaluna* by Jannell Cannon, *Bats at the Library* by Brian Lies, and *The Bat in the Boot* by Annie Cannon.

McMullan, Kate *I'm Dirty* features a backhoe loader as narrator. Readers of *I Stink* will love meeting this new machine with attitude. *I'm Bad* deals with a hungry TRex searching for food.

Palatini, Margie *Bad Boys Get Henpecked!* joins Palatini's collection of wacky works.

Pinkney, Jerry *Little Red Riding Hood* is one of the latest additions to this favorite folk tale. Contrast with other versions of LRRR written by Young, Hyman, Marshall, Sweet, etc.

Prelutsky, Jack *My Dog May Be a Genius: Poems* celebrates childhood and the wacky side of life. Discover all the poetry of this children's poet laureate.

Provensen, Alice *A Day In The Life of Murphy* will charm you into reading all of her other tales about life on the farm, *The Year at Maple Hill Farm* and *Our Animal Friends at Maple Hill Farm*.

Sayre, April Pulley A veteran science-book writer introduces the idea of the food chain in this attractive picture book, *Trout Are Made of Trees*.

Schulevitz, Uri *How I Learned Geography*, 2009 Caldecott Honor winner, is based on the author's childhood as a refugee during WW II.

Scieszka, Jon In the series *Ready-to-read. Level 1, Jon Scieszka's Trucktown* , the dynamic illustrations capture youngsters' attention and encourage independent reading. Sure to be popular with truck loving beginner readers. Other favorite picture books by him are: *The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs*, *Squids Will Be Squids*, *The Stinky Cheeseman*, *The Frog Prince Continued*, etc.

Stevens, Janet *Help Me, Mr. Mutt! : Expert Answers for Dogs with People Problems* Mr. Mutt is an advice columnist for dogs with people problems. All pictures books by the Stevens sisters are a delight.

Swanson, Susan Marie *The House in the Night* is the 2009 gold Caldecott Medal winner.

Willems, Mo *I Will Surprise My Friend!* and *I Love My New Toy* This year the prolific author has written and illustrated the fifth and sixth volumes of the *Elephant & Piggie* series for emergent readers which are stories of friendship and good intentions told entirely through easy-to-read speech bubbles.

Yolen, Jane *Here's a Little Poem* is an anthology of simple poems for young readers begging to be shared aloud, over and over. Also try any of Yolen's picture books, especially her *How Do Dinosaurs....*series.