



Summer Reading Suggestions 2011

Selected by: Marie Parker – North School
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PICTURE BOOKS (EVERYBODY BOOKS)

Black, Michael Ian. **A Pig Parade is a Terrible Idea** (2010)

Explains precisely why, although it may sound like a good idea, gathering hundreds of pigs to march in a parade through one's hometown is inadvisable.

Cuyler, Margery. **Guinea Pigs Add Up** (2010)

Mr. Gilbert brings in a guinea pig as a class pet, but it looks so lonely he brings another, and before long the class is getting an unexpected lesson in addition--and a very full cage.

DiCamillo, Kate. **Bink & Gollie** (2010)

Two roller-skating best friends--one tiny, one tall--share three comical adventures involving outrageously bright socks, an impromptu trek to the Andes, and a most unlikely marvelous companion.

Fleming, Candace. **Clever Jack Takes the Cake** (2010)

A poor boy named Jack struggles to deliver a birthday present worthy of the princess.

Hills, Tad. **How Rocket Learned to Read** (2010)

A little yellow bird teaches Rocket the dog how to read by first introducing him to the alphabet.

Horowitz, Dave. **Duck, Duck, Moose** (2009)

With no prospect of any friends around for the winter, Moose decides to travel south with Duck and Other Duck.

Lies, Brian. **Bats at the Ballgame** (2010)

Two teams of bats play an exciting nighttime baseball game.

Noll, Amanda. **I Need My Monster** (2009)

When Gabe, the monster that lives under Ethan's bed, goes on vacation, Ethan finds that the substitute monsters Gabe has sent just won't do, and wonders how he will ever fall asleep.

Novak, Matt. **The Everything Machine** (2009)

The people of Planet Quirk all have machines that do everything for them--including coloring their coloring books--but when the machines stop working, the people will have to learn to do for themselves.

Preller, James. **Mighty Casey** (2009)

The Delmar Dogs baseball team is terrible, especially Casey Jenkins, but with a little bit of faith in themselves, they finally manage to win a game.

Seder, Rufus Butler. **Waddle!** (2009)

Simple text and "scanimation" illustrations, which make figures appear to be moving, describe the motions of various animals such as a penguin, pig, elephant, and bear.

Stead, Philip Christian. **A Sick Day for Amos McGee** (2010)

Zookeeper Amos McGee, who is adored by all the animals, gets some unexpected guests while home sick one day.

Thomson, Bill. **Chalk** (2010)

A wordless picture book about three children who go to a park on a rainy day, find some chalk, and draw pictures that come to life.

YOUNGER READERS



Bergen, Lara. **Sophie the Awesome** (2010)

Third-grader Sophie Miller is desperate to stand out and gives herself a new name--Sophie the Awesome--but finds that living up to her declared awesomeness is not an easy task, especially when Toby Myers is around.

Bruel, Nick. **Bad Kitty vs. Uncle Murray: The Uproar at the Front Door** (2010)

Kitty's owners go away for a week, leaving Kitty and Puppy at home with Uncle Murray, who is driven to near madness by their antics.

Friedman, Laurie B. **Mallory in the Spotlight** (2010)

When Mallory gets the lead in the school play, she cannot understand why her best friend Mary Ann is not just as excited as she is, but eventually she finds out--and learns who her real friends are.

Knudson, Mike. **Raymond & Graham, Bases Loaded** (2009)

Fourth grade best friends Ray and Graham try to avoid the class bully, have fun with a substitute teacher, and get the attention of the girls they like while concentrating on winning the Little League Championships.

McDonald, Megan. **Stink: Solar System Superhero** (2010)

When Stink discovers that Pluto has been downgraded from a planet to a dwarf planet, he launches a campaign in his classroom to restore its status to that of a full-fledged member of the solar system.

Salisbury, Graham. **Calvin Coconut: Dog Heaven** (2010)

Fourth-grader Calvin creates a unique way to express his desire for a dog after his teacher asks him to write a persuasive argument about something he really wants.

OLDER READERS



- Clements, Andrew. **We the Children (Benjamin Pratt & the Keepers of the School series)** (2010)
Ben and his friend Jill find themselves in danger when they discover the secret history of their Massachusetts school and set out to derail a developer's plan to level the building to make way for an amusement park.
- Cottrell Boyce, Frank. **Cosmic** (2010)
Twelve-year-old Liam, who looks like he is thirty and is tired of being treated like he is older than he actually is, decides he is going to pose as the adult chaperone on the first spaceship to take civilians into space, but when he ends up in outer space with a group of kids and no adult supervision, he must think fast to make things right.
- Draper, Sharon M. **Out of My Mind** (2010)
Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.
- Korman, Gordon. **Framed** (2010)
Griffin Bing is in big trouble when a Super Bowl ring disappears from his middle school's display case, replaced by Griffin's retainer, and the more he and his friends investigate, the worse his situation becomes.
- Lowry, Lois. **The Birthday Ball** (2010)
When a bored Princess Patricia Priscilla makes her chambermaid switch identities with her so she can attend the village school, her attitude changes and she plans a new way to celebrate her sixteenth birthday.
- Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. **Emily's Fortune** (2010)
While traveling to her aunt's home in Redbud by train and stagecoach, quiet young Emily and her turtle, Rufus, team up with Jackson, fellow orphan and troublemaker extraordinaire, to outsmart mean Uncle Victor, who is after Emily's inheritance.
- Petersen, P.J. **Wild River** (2009)
Considered lazy and unathletic, twelve-year-old Ryan discovers a heroic side of himself when a kayak trip with his older brother goes horribly awry.
- Riordan, Rick. **The Lost Hero (The Heroes of Olympus – Book 1)** (2010)
Jason, Piper, and Leo, three students from a school for "bad kids," find themselves at Camp Half-Blood, where they learn that they are demigods and begin a quest to free Hera, who has been imprisoned by Mother Earth herself.
- Scieszka, Jon. **Spaceheadz** (2010)
Michael moves to a new school and learns that some of his friends are really aliens who have come to Earth in order to convince millions of kids to be Space Heads.
- Tashjian, Janet. **My Life as a Book** (2010)
Dubbed a "reluctant reader" by his teacher, twelve-year-old Derek spends summer vacation learning important lessons even though he does not complete his summer reading list.

NON-FICTION



Hill, Laban Carrick. **Dave the Potter: Artist, Poet, Slave** (2010)

Chronicles the life of Dave, a nineteenth-century slave who went on to become an influential poet, artist, and potter.

Jenkins, Steve. **Bones: Skeletons and How They Work** (2010)

Explores the details of human and animal bones, comparing the differences between the skeletal structures of various species, with several gatefolds that display the skeletons of many creatures.

Larson, Jennifer S. **What Can You Do With Money?: Earning, Spending and Saving** (2010)

Provides an introduction to earning, spending, and saving and discusses goods, services, and how people choose what to buy.

Lassieur, Allison. **Colonial America: An Interactive History Adventure** (2011)

The reader decides the course of a history adventure set in the American colonies in the 1600s and 1700s, featuring three story paths to follow, including that of an indentured servant traveling to Virginia, a young man considering his future as a sailor or soldier, and a boy who must choose sides in the revolution.

Voake, Steve. **Insect Detective** (2010)

Tells where to look for different insects, including wasps, ants, bees, beetles, and others, and provides illustrations and facts about each six-legged creature.

Yaccarino, Dan. **The Fantastic Undersea Life of Jacques Cousteau** (2009)

A pictorial biography of Jacques Cousteau, covering his adventures aboard "Calypso" with his team of scientists, diving equipment, and waterproof cameras, and work to protect the oceans from pollution.

POETRY



Archer, Peggy. **Name that Dog!: Puppy Poems from A to Z** (2010)

A collection of illustrated poems about dogs and their names.

Florian, Douglas. **Poetrees** (2010)

A collection of poetry and colorful drawings by American artist Douglas Florian in which he explores the world of trees in a humorous and whimsical manner.

Levy, Debbie. **The Year of Goodbyes: A True Story of Friendship, Family and Farewells** (2010)

Debbie Levy reveals the story of her mother's life in 1938, the family's last year in Germany before they escaped Nazi persecution, based on the poems, inscriptions, and drawings collected in twelve-year-old Jutta's autograph book, and describes Jutta's life in New York City.

Mavor, Salley. **Pocketful of Posies: A Treasury of Nursery Rhymes** (2010)

A collection of classic nursery rhymes, accompanied by illustrations of scenes made from fabric and cloth.

Peck, Jan. **The Green Mother Goose: Saving the World One Rhyme at a Time** (2011)

A collection of illustrated nursery rhymes for children that encourage eco-friendly habits, including poems about shopping with cloth grocery bags, Hickety, Pickety--the cage-free hen--and related topics.

Singer, Marilyn. **Mirror, Mirror: A Book of Reversible Verse** (2010)

A collection of short poems which, when reversed, provide new perspectives on the fairy tale characters they feature.

“Giving Wings to Children’s Dreams”