

Summer Reading Suggestions

Kindergarten & First Grade

Picture Books

Bedtime is canceled by Cece Meng (JE)

When a newspaper headline says that bedtime is canceled, children everywhere rejoice.

Boot and Shoe by Marla Frazee (JE)

Boot and Shoe are dogs that live in the same house, eat from the same bowl, and sleep in the same bed but spend their days on separate porches until a squirrel mixes things up.

Flabbersmashed about you by Rachel Vail (JE)

When Katie's best friend Jennifer plays with Roy at recess instead of with her, Katie is surprised and angry.

George Washington's birthday: a mostly true tale by Margaret McNamara (JE)

On George Washington's seventh birthday, he does chores, misbehaves, and dreams of a day when his birthday will be celebrated by all.

Golden domes and silver lanterns: A Muslim book of colors by Hena Khan (JE)

In simple, rhyming text, a young Muslim girl and her family guide the reader through the traditions and colors of Islam.

Knit your bit: a World War I story by Deborah Hopkinson (JE)

When his father leaves to fight in World War I, Mikey joins the Central Park Knitting Bee to help knit clothing for soldiers overseas.

Lemonade in winter: A book about two kids counting money by Emily Jenkins (JE)

Pauline and her brother John-John set up a stand to sell lemonade, limeade, and lemon-limeade one cold, wintry day, then try to attract customers as Pauline adds up their earnings.

Little cub by Olivier Dunrea (JE)

A young bear cub, who is alone in the world, and Old Bear, who is grumpy and tired of living alone, meet and discover what they have been missing.

Lucky ducklings by Eva Moore. (JE)

While following their mother through town, five little ducklings: Pippin, Bippin, Tippin, Dippin and Little Joe all fall into a storm drain.

Mice by Rose Fyleman (JE) Simple, rhyming text celebrates what is nice about mice.

Mossy by Jan Brett (JE)

Mossy, a turtle with a garden growing on her shell, is taken from her home and new friend to become an exhibit in a museum, until the director's niece, Tory, notices how sad Mossy is and helps arrange for her to go home.

Not your typical dragon by Dan Bar-el (JE)

When Crispin Blaze turns seven, he's expected to breathe fire like all the other dragons, but instead of fire, he breathes a host of unusual things.

Our big home: an earth poem by Linda Glaser (JE)

Describes the water, air, soil, sky, sun, and more shared by all living creatures on Earth.

Pete the cat and his four groovy buttons by Eric Litwin (JE)

Pete the cat loves the buttons on his shirt so much that he makes up a song about them, and even as the buttons pop off, one by one, he still finds a reason to sing.

Pirates at the plate by Aaron Frisch (JE)

Teams of pirates and cowboys, including such figures as Blackbeard and Wild Bill, inject rowdy adventure into America's pastime in this story about baseball and the imagination of youth.

Plant a kiss by Amy Krouse Rosenthal (JE)

One small act of love blooms into something bigger and more dazzling than Little Miss could have ever imagined.

Press here by Herve Tullet (JE)

Instructs the reader on how to interact with the illustrations to create imaginative images.

Princess & the peas by Caryl Hart (JE)

Refusing to eat peas even when her father disguises them in smoothies, shakes and cupcakes, Lily-Rose May is diagnosed with "princess-itus" and sent to live at a palace where princesses are given a certain perfect, and very unwelcome, kind of food.

Summer days and nights by Wong Herbert Yee (JE)

A little girl enjoys the activities of a warm summer day and night.

Tabby McTat, the musical cat by Julia Donaldson (JE)

Fred the street musician and his cat are "purr-fectly" happy, singing together all day long, until Fred gives chase to a thief and the two become separated.

Tell me about your day today by Mem Fox (JE)

This little boy loves to talk to his stuffed animals at the end of the day and share with them all the things that happened to him that day—and to hear about their day, too.

Yummy!: good food makes me strong by Shelley Rotner (JE)

Depicts children eating and preparing healthy food and provides tips for parents on choosing healthier options.

Readers

The Berenstain Bears: we love trucks! by Jan Berenstain (J.E.1)

Taking a driving trip with their family in Grizzly Gramps' pickup truck, the Berenstain cubs are amazed by the wide variety of trucks they see on their journey and learn about the important jobs that each vehicle performs.

Dixie and the school trip by Grace Gilman (J.E.1)

Sneaking onto the school bus when her human companion Emma embarks on a class trip to a dinosaur museum, Dixie the dog learns all about how real dinosaurs lived before accidentally mistaking dinosaur bones for doggie treats.

Let's go for a drive! by Mo Willems (J.E.P)

Elephant Gerald and Piggie want to go for a drive, but as Gerald thinks of one thing after another that they will have to take along, they come to realize that they lack the most important thing of all.

Mittens at school by Lola M. Schaefer (J.E.P)

Visiting school with his human friend Nick, Mittens, the curious kitten, resolves to see everything and explores the classroom while the students are away, a venture that gets Mittens into more trouble than he expected.

Monkey and Elephant get better by Carole Lexa Schaefer (J.E.1)

When best friends Monkey and Elephant both catch a cold, each tries his own method to make the other feel better.

Monster school: first day frights by Dave Keane (J.E.1)

Relocating to a new school where all of his classmates are monsters, everyday kid Norman finds his predictable world changing in very different and hilarious ways.

Penny and her doll by Kevin Henkes (J.E.1)

Penny instantly loves the doll her grandmother sends her, but finding the perfect name for her is a challenge.

A pet named Sneaker by Joan Heilbroner (J.E.1)

Sneaker, the snake, is not only a good pet for Pete, he becomes a good student at Pete's school and a hero at the public swimming pool.

There's a Fly Guy in my soup by Tedd Arnold (J.E.1)

When Fly Guy is not allowed in the restaurant with Buzz's family he follows his nose and ends up in the soup.

What a good kitty by Mercer Mayer (J.E.P)

Follows Little Critter's misadventures with a new pet kitty, who tangles up Mom's knitting, knocks over the trash and gets trapped high up in a tree before bravely protecting her family and hissing at a mean dog.

Graphic Novels

Benjamin Bear in fuzzy thinking by Philippe Coudray (J Graphic Novel)

Although he is a very serious bear, Benjamin Bear has a funny way of doing things, like drying dishes on a rabbit's back or sharing his sweater without taking it off.

Little Mouse gets ready: a Toon book by Jeff Smith (J Graphic Novel)

Little Mouse gets dressed to go to the barn with his mother, brothers, and sisters.

Patrick in a teddy bear's picnic and other stories: a Toon book by Geoffrey Hayes (J Graphic Novel)

The further adventures of Patrick, the little teddy bear, as he goes on a picnic with his mother, tries to avoid his nap, goes to the bakery to buy cookies, and contends with the bullying Big Bear.

Silly Lilly and the four seasons by Agnès Rosenstiehl (J Graphic Novel)

Follows a young girl named Lilly as she enjoys different activities during each season of the year, from dancing in the park in the spring to throwing snowballs in the winter.

Super crazy cat dance by Aron Nels Steinke (J Graphic Novel)

Follows a young girl as she shows a friend the super crazy cat dance.

Non-Fiction

Busy as a bee (Kingfisher Readers) by Thea Feldman (J595.799 F333b)

Introduces the life of bees, from pollinating flowers and collecting nectar to living in a hive, communicating with other bees, and making a colony.

Butterflies (Kingfisher Readers) by Thea Feldman (J595.789 F333b)

From the scales on their wings to their remarkable talent for camouflage, how they taste (with their feet!), how they eat, and their incredible transformation from caterpillar to butterfly, this book takes a fascinating upclose look at butterflies.

Catfish, cod, salmon, and scrod: what is a fish? by Brian P. Cleary (J597 C58c)

What is a fish? Stingrays, goldfish, sharks, and many other creatures are all fish! This book explains the traits that all fish have in common and help you determine which creatures belong in this water-dwelling group.

Create with Maisy by Lucy Cousins (J745.5 C839c)

Young Maisy fans are invited to join the intrepid mouse and her companions in a series of age-appropriate arts-and-crafts activities that utilize everyday household objects, from beads and buttons to pasta and pipe-cleaners.

Discovering starfish by Lori Jo Metz (J593.93 M568d)

Introduces starfish, discussing their physical characteristics, life cycle, and eating habits.

Famous cars by Melissa Abramovitz (J629.222Ab833f)

Provides simple information about such famous cars as Ecto-1, Doctor Brown's DeLorean, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, and the Batmobile.

Fine feathered friends by Tish Rabe (J598 R112f)

Dr. Seuss's Cat in the Hat introduces Sally and Dick to a variety of birds, from the ten-foot ostrich to the two-inch hummingbird.

Giant pandas By Gail Gibbons (J599.789 G352g)

An introduction to the physical characteristics, behavior, life cycle, and habitat of these endangered animals.

How do we know it is summer? By Molly Aloian (J508.2 A171hs)

Provides simple facts about summer, including why it gets hot, what animals and plants do, and how to have fun.

Mountain lions by Erika Shores (J599.752 Sh78m)

Simple text and full-color photos explain the habitat, life cycle, range, and behavior of mountain lions.

Mrs. Harkness and the panda by Alicia Potter (Jf599.789 P851m) Traces the story of a 1930's female adventurer who brought America its first panda bear.

Now & Ben: the modern inventions of Benjamin Franklin by Gene Barretta (J609 B275n)

Presents the life and accomplishments of Benjamin Franklin, one of the nation's most beloved figures, credited with introducing bifocals, daylight savings time, lightning rods, and the establishment of post offices.

Safari, so good! All about African wildlife by Bonnie Worth (J591.96 W899s)

Visiting Africa with the Cat in the Hat, Nick and Sally meet an amazing variety of animals including giant cats, elephants and giraffes while learning an array of interesting facts.

Seasons (Kingfisher Readers) by Thea Feldman (J508.2 F333s)

What do animals do in winter? What do people do in summer? This book covers a perennially popular topic—seasons of the year.

Trains by Thea Feldman (J385 F333t)

Explores the different environments in which trains can travel and discusses what they carry, how they run, and the people who work on the train.

Why oh why are deserts dry? By Tish Rabe (J577.54 R112w)

Taking Sally and Dick to explore the world's deserts, the Cat in the Hat shares lessons about how different desert regions vary from one another and how indigenous plants and animals have adapted to their extreme environments.